

Brighton Catholic Parish



March 2022

Community Newsletter

No. 46/2022

Down Memory Lane..

Lately I have been reflecting on my journey of life. Constantly being aware more than ever before of God's presence in my life, and memories of growing up in the hill village back home. I invite you to walk with me as I share my story.

I grew up in an ordinary Kenyan family in the outskirts of Nairobi. My parents James and Priscilla Kyumu and with 5 siblings—Eva, Irene (late), Martin, Gabriel, & Patricia. I am the fourth born. No wonder I ask people too many questions even in the Church! By Kenyan standards then, we were a middle-class family.



Primary School

For 7 years, I spent my life running to school every morning, with my school bag strapped on my back. Can you imagine spending your early life of life running 5kms every day, 5 days a week. Probably the reason my physical structure has remained the same, regardless of the amount of food I consume!! These runs were never without mischief and adventure, and it was during these moments that we formed bonds with peers and most importantly, learnt to look out for each other. The rest of my early life was spent playing soccer and looking after my family's animals including cattle, goats, sheep and chickens.

Moreover, having 2 older sisters saved me from having to do household chores. I spent most of my free time quarrelling with my sister Eva who kept treating me like a baby well past 14 years of age!

High School

Those of us who have visited Kenya know how beautiful and scenic Mt Kilimanjaro looks. For 6 years, I lived at the foot of this magnificent mountain, the highest in Africa. Snow and cold breeze would greet me every morning. I guess this is why winter is never my cup of coffee.

My high school time gave me the foundation upon which my adult life is built. We had good strong Christian teachers who had deep influence on me. There was too much writing in the library and on the cold nights. How I wish we had computers!



Grown to manhood

As I was coming of age, it was imperative that I went through the traditional rite of passage that significant transition from boyhood to manhood. This was a time for exclusion and only carefully selected and respected elders were allowed to have access to us. My group was composed of 12 young men between the ages of 15 and 20. During this time young men are given instructions on the identity of the family and community. Also passed on were the values that hold a community together, respect, responsibility and sacrifice. I have kept connections with all the 12 to the present time.

Formation

This took 8 years. In each year we had 3 months holidays which 2 of those were spent with diverse Catholic families within my diocese. The tradition for seminarians staying with families was to help them with establishing relationships with families and, earning to adapt and engage. I started in 1988 with a class of 120 seminarians and later only 38 were ordained priests country wide. I wonder what happened to the rest.

Ordination

This day keeps playing in my mind over and over like a beautiful old song. Probably it was my happiest day in life. Now 25 years later, I still pray for the grace to continue trusting in the Lord. This day has fond memories of my mother. I miss her a lot.

Ministry

This begun with my birth and still

How can I repay God's goodness to me? 'I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.' (Ps 116). I still have questions and challenges but have never doubted my Vocation. Together let us continue to celebrate the life of our parish and spread the Good News. Your prayer and friendship is the oxygen that drives my ministry. Thank you all for being part of my life and please Keep it Up!

God bless you. Fr Michael



BIOGRAPHY—Fr Prathap Katta

I am Fr Prathap Katta SDM was born in 1982 to a pious couple called, Lourdushowry and Veronicamma, Vijayanagaram village and parish, Adilabad diocese, Telangana state, India. I was brought-up in a traditional catholic family with religious values. We are four children to our parents, all of us boys and I am the oldest one. I had my schooling in the catholic institutions. Soon after my schooling, I joined in the seminary called SDM [The Society of St. Eugene De Mazenod] in the year 1999 and was Ordained on 13th November, 2011. I did my priestly formation and studies: Philosophy at Kotagiri, Ooty, Tamil Nadu (state) and Theology at Janampet, Eluru, Andhra Pradesh (state). Since my ordination, I was assigned in various ministries. I worked as an associate pastor in different parishes and dioceses, and in the institutions. I speak languages like Telugu, English and Tamil.

I am very grateful to Archbishop and Church authorities of the Archdiocese of Adelaide, who gave me an opportunity to come over here to Australia and, to do my ministry and render my service to the people of God in the Archdiocese of Adelaide. Particularly I thank for the new appointment to Brighton Parish as an assistant to Rev Fr Michael Musyoka, the parish priest. I am privileged and delighted to live and do my ministry amidst you. I gratefully express my heartfelt thanks once again to the Parish priest and all the Parishioners of Brighton and Hallett communities for your lovely and warm welcoming. I assure that, I am always available to give my Pastoral care and Spiritual support to the parishioners entrusted to me with utmost care, commitment, respect, responsibility and devotion. May God continue to guide us to cherish His Love, Grace and Blessings.

THANK YOU!

Love and Prayers

Fr Prathap Katta



Fr Michael's 25th Anniversary of Ordination

Fr Michael's deferred celebrations will now be this Friday 18th March at the 12 noon Mass at Brighton.
Light refreshments to follow.
All are welcome.



From our Pastoral Worker

We are walking through the most solemn period of the liturgical year...it is a walk, through trials and temptations towards salvation. We witness the ultimate sacrifice of one person, Jesus Christ, for all human race that brought forth the biggest miracle we could ever imagine...Resurrection... and it is nothing but the unconditional love of God for all of us that made it possible. Our response to this love is sacrifice, prayer and various acts of love we do during this season of Lent.

As a parish, we go through a prayerful preparation of this season by attending Mass, receiving the sacrament of reconciliation before Mass on Friday and Saturday, participating in various Lenten reflection groups, praying through the Way of the Cross as a community every Friday after the mid-day Mass, donating essential items to the needy, supporting project compassion, volunteering our valuable personal time in various ministries and simply being there for each other in need. The generosity of the people in our parish is a great example of the way we reciprocate the love that was shown to us on Calvary.

We celebrated the presentation of sacramental candidates during the first weekend of March and would like to thank all the children and families who attended the celebration. We look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the end of March and ensure our prayers for each candidate who would go through the preparation towards full initiation. On another joyful note, we will have a special Mass to celebrate Fr. Michael's 25th Anniversary of ordination as a priest on Friday, the 18th March and look forward to see you there.

Finally, I would like to thank Fr. Michael, Fr. Prathap and the parish team and all the parishioners for embracing me into the parish community and helping me carry out my role here at St. Joseph's.

God bless you

Nirmanthi Rupasinghe



AROUND THE BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

As mentioned in the last community news the area behind the Activity Centre is a focus for this year. The Men's Group have taken down part of the fencing which will be used in the car park area. As you can see by the photo it is going to be a big project to clean the area up and create a great space for the parish to use.



The parish maintenance committee is a group of volunteers who meet regularly to assist in identifying maintenance issues and help to provide solutions to ground/building areas of concern. They are also very hands, but they are limited with their time. If anyone has any skills they would like to offer to the parish please contact me as any assistance with minor gardening/repairs would be greatly appreciated.

We have started the year with a few maintenance issues one being the altar lighting in the church. The work will be done in the near future. The air conditioning units in the admin building are getting older and are often in need of part replacements. If you see anything that is faulty or is creating a problem (eg lights not working, leaks, trip hazards etc) please contact me direct so that we can solve the problem as soon as possible.

A very BIG thank you to Keith Moorman for painting the stairwell in the St Teresa building. Painting the walls in a soft blue has completely changed the look – it is now fresh, clean and inviting. Keith you have done a fabulous job over the Christmas break. We really appreciate your hard work – thank you Keith.

As mentioned many times volunteers are a valuable asset to our parish, your time and talents are very valued and very much needed to support the parish. If you have an interest in supporting your parish by volunteering please contact the Parish Office. There are many, many ways to offer your time and talent – and be assured we value everyone.

The Columbarium area is looking lovely. There are still a few plots available – for further information about the Columbarium please contact the Parish Office.

Jenny McCabe Parish Business Manager



PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT

Greetings for 2022! The Finance Council officially resumed on 22nd February with its first meeting. One of the items we discussed was the Role of the Finance Council, using the Guidelines in the Archdiocesan Finance Manual. Our basic role is to support the Parish Priest in his responsibility and duty of care for the finances of the parish. Whilst a bit out of date, it gives a clear guide to financial practices in the parish and diocese.

The item taking up most time and attention was Forward Planning. Areas covered were: Planned Giving and Fundraising, property sales and rental, interest rates, changing parish needs, accommodation, asset and property management

and maintenance. From this came plans:

• for a group to look at the Planned Giving and

fundraising from parishioners, considering old and new approaches and methods.

- to look at the formation of a "think tank" or strategic planning group to assist us with a way forward over the next 5 years or longer, to maximise the benefits of our properties, land and investments and so provide for an ever changing parish.
- to allocate funding for a planned maintenance and upkeep programme to meet the challenge of aging buildings and plant, rather than piecemeal repairs when the unexpected happens.

The Profit and Loss Statement for the parish was also discussed. A full copy will be posted at the rear of the church for your perusal, but I've attached a brief summary of it here. Some points to be made are:-

- Planned Giving held up but the unpledged collection was down by over \$10,000.
- Interest reduced by \$2,000 but will drop another \$20,000 this year.
- The wages bill was actually under budget last year but the big difference to the previous year was made up by JOBKEEPER.
- Similarly there was no Co-responsibility levy required in 2020, but it returned last year and will be \$10,000 more this year. (Co-responsibility Fund is a levy from the Diocese based on our income, about half for Clergy Care and the other half for the Clergy Car Fund.)
- repairs and replacement costs of plant and equipment, mainly in the old school, were well over budget again.

With low attendances and restrictions on activities, this year will be another challenge. While the budget hasn't been finalised yet, it will be in deficit.

Our finances help keep the parish alive, active and caring. Please continue your valuable support.

John Sullivan Chairman.

Parish Library

We welcomed back an enthusiastic group of parishioners and friends to our library on Friday 4th February after our Christmas holiday break.

We are very aware that Covid restrictions, lockdowns and periods of isolation are making it difficult for some of our friends to join us.

Adelaide Fringe and festival activities of "Mad March" are also in full swing.

However we still continue to gather on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Erica is looking forward to introducing many of you on Fridays to the joys of playing Mahjong.

Scrabble, Sequence, and Rummykub are still enjoyed by many of us and we welcome the introduction of new games and activities.

So, as soon as you are free, come join us, borrow books and enjoy the company of a wonderful group of

friends and parishioners.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Regular fellowship attendance recommenced on Friday 25th February with a good turn out of some 25 blokes, breaking the COVID-enforced hiatus. The BBQ was again fired up and all the old specialties were welcomed back for the usual delightful lunch. Two nonagenarian birthdays were celebrated with the customary birthday cake. Candles were not provided as at ninety-plus birthdays it would have been too hard to accommodate! However, singing felicitations and rounds of applause made for a very happy moment.

Work on dismantling the sheet fencing at the interim shed site at the back northwest area of the church has begun so land scaping can start to create, perhaps, a more pleasant garden environment.

The veggie beds at the new premises have been kept alive by some of our diligent guys. Tomatoes, chillies, cucumbers, spinach, pumpkins and other produce are all still thriving. Folk are welcome to drop by and pick something to take home. Fellows, you are also welcome to just drop in on Tuesdays and Fridays 11 to 2pm. If you are feeling peckish, lunch is 'served' around 12 noon.

The Mary's

The Activity Centre certainly came alive with an energetic 'Along Comes Mary' Fringe show. Mary-Jane and Marianne (two parishioners) certainly entertained an enthusiastic audience with their fabulous music from the 50s, 60s and 70s. The Mary's celebrated a decade of sold out seasons at Adelaide Fringe. Thank you 'Mary's' for a great fun evening and celebrating in Brighton.





Christmas Choir

Chris Nell engaged a choir to sing 3 different Age Care Centres before Christmas. This was planned so that the residents may enjoy the Birth of Christ and the love and Pastoral Care we as Christians can share to the community that we live in. This ecumenism was enjoyed by Catholic and non-Catholics, we need to remember that at the time of Christmas all Christians have the availability to kneel at the manger and thank God for the special gift he has given us.





I was talking with a group of children, young children. They were asking me questions.

One child said:

'My grandpa died because he did not listen to grandma, he smoked'!

There were so many things that the children said to me. They can be so amazingly open!

My message to them was simple:

'God loves you! God will always love you. Nothing that anyone can do will ever stop God loving you'.

When asked by their teacher to say something after the experience, after I had left, they said: 'He cares.'

I was so touched by the honest, simple openness of these children.
I felt very much like a grandfather!

How important it is for children to hear about being unconditionally loved.

I encouraged them to remember in a hundred years time and indeed forever that they are loved like this.

Jesus said let the children come to me do not stop them.

Our message needs to be that we genuinely 'care', that we genuinely love.

The message of Jesus resonates with them.
A grandmother who loves her non-Baptised grandchildren was asked by them why she wore a cross and what it meant.

Said 'I will explain this to you one day, it is very important to me.'

That is all that she could say in her circumstance. Her love and the profession of how important that symbol was to her will help them be open to exploring what it is all about!

We all have a part in helping children come to Jesus!

How important and essential it is that our Church communities are the safest and best communities where children can flourish and thrive!

Fr Charles Gauci—Bishop of Darwin

Reflection for Lent

In the desert, Jesus could see the stars and thank the Father for them.

We are called out of the world in this season of Lent, so that we can give thanks too.

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In time, Jesus was called out of the dry desert to a busy life.

So too are we called to love and serve God in a busy life.

Let us live with hearts full of thanksgiving.

1. Give Thanks.

I thank God for this day, for my life, for all I am and have, and for His Word.

2. Pray for Light.

I ask the Father to let me see my day as the Holy Spirit sees it, and to show me what I need to see.

3. Find God.

I look at my day in the light of the Spirit.

I look back over the morning, the afternoon, and the evening.

Who talked with me or worked with me?

Did I get done what I meant to do or leave things out?

4. Anything Wrong?

Do I trust that God is with me when I fail? Where I was ungrateful, I repent and offer thanks.

5. What Now?
I look forward in hope.
What have I to do now?
What have I to avoid?

by Joseph A. Tetlow, SJ





THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS (SA) INC.

Brighton – Marion – Hallett Cove - Glenelg Branch

After a short break the local branch of the Knights resumed their monthly meetings on Wednesday 2nd February 2022 at the McAuley Room of the Parish Activity Centre.

At the meeting, National Secretary, Ian Fleetwood, outlined developments for the forth coming National Conference and the need to arrange probable speakers and assist with the main Conference Dinner. The need to increase membership was raised and Branch Chairman Rod Roach was pleased to accept Past Chairman Pat Hodgson's offer to be Development Officer to canvass membership. Incidentally, this is the same indefatigable Pat (phone number 0412 259 3210) who is mentioned in our weekly Parish Bulletin for collection of empty cans and bottles. This dedicated work has raised an average of over \$2000/- annually which the Knights

are happy to donate to Vinnies every year.

The last monthly meeting for 2021 was an open one on Wednesday 3rd November. It was attended by 12 members and Fr Michael and Sr Ali RSM. The Guest Speaker Chris Keane, a Maritime Lawyer, gave a very informative talk on the on the current limited ownership of the world's merchant shipping fleets

and the difficult conditions faced by crews on board these fleets. However, in Australian waters and ports, due to the strong presence of the Australian Seamen's Union, the conditions for crews were well safe guarded. He concluded his talk with many other interesting anecdotes encountered in the exercise of maritime law. A vote of thanks for the speaker was given by Peter Kay followed by the traditional end-of-year round of an aged port courtesy of Tony Schar. Branch Council at its meeting on 23rd February 2022

Branch Council at its meeting on 23rd February 2022 discussed possible fund raising events such as more Crazy Whist nights and regular Wine tastings and sales. This might have the additional benefit of greater community involvement. The question of a regular Chaplain was raised and Peter Kay accepted to follow up this matter with the Vicar General. Another on-going matter which concerns better contacts with youth in the parish through Antioch was also discussed.



The local Branch Annual breakfast "Breakfast on the Green" will be held on Saturday 2nd April 2022 at 8.30 am on the western side of the Activity Centre. All parishioners are welcome, but please phone Graham Workman on 0429 812 049 to indicate attendance so space requirements can be met.

The first Wednesday of the month meeting was held on 2nd March 2022. After regular items on the Agenda were processed, National Secretary, Ian Fleetwood, gave an update on events at the national level and some of the problems being faced due protocols involving the COVID virus.

This being another 'open meeting', business adjourned to welcome the Guest Speaker for the evening: the Hon David Spiers, Member for Black and SA Government Minister for the Environment and Water. In a most interesting, educative and often humorous talk David started with some personal details about growing up in his native Scotland and then moving to South Australia, settling in Hallett Cove. He took a degree in Law from Adelaide University and was a

Councillor for Marion Council before being elected to the seat of Bright in 2014. From Bright he moved in the last election to the seat of Black! And was appointed to his present Ministerial position in 2018. In his talk he went on to cover the work of his department and the extent and nature of their responsibilities with an overview of the demography geography and of electorate. It was surprising to realise the extent of government ownership of SA lands making the Minister, as David put it, the biggest landlord in the State. department's work on National Parks, Reservoir Parks, recreational reserves and

other environmental initiatives made for a very edifying overall narrative.

After the customary Vote of the Thanks, David, the Minister for Water, was presented with a specially processed bottle of Australia water, albeit fortified with the fruit of an Australian vine.





Lent 2022

Lenten Donations

During Lent we are looking for Donations for the homeless and those in need.

These donations will be distributed through Vinnies.

We are looking for donations of:

12th /13th March: Canned Foods eg Meat/ Fish/ Fruit/ Vegetables/Soup

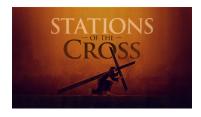
19th/20th March: Pasta / Pasta Sauce 26th/27th March: Laundry Products eg Washing Powder 2nd /3rd April: Breakfast Cereal 9th/10th April: Tea/ Coffee/ Biscuits



Lenten Themes

2nd Sunday of Lent: Faith Formation.
3rd Sunday of Lent: Go out into the world
4th Sunday of Lent: Draw others back to God's
presence

5th Sunday of Lent: Love the sinner but not the sin Palm Sunday: Welcome the new life in Christ.



Every Friday in Lent there will be Stations of the Cross after the midday Mass—please stay and join the adoration.

Reconciliation during Lent

Reconciliation is available before the midday Mass on Fridays ie 11.30am and before the 10am Mass on Saturdays ie 9.30am

Good Friday Reconciliation

Individual Reconciliation will be available after the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at approx. 12noon.

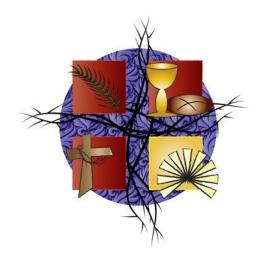




Anointing of the Sick Mass

Saturday 2nd April 10am at Brighton Friday 8th April, 9.30am at Hallett Cove

Easter 2022



Palm Sunday 9th/10th April

Masses: 6pm Saturday 8.30am & 10am Sunday

Holy Thursday

Mass 7.30pm

Good Friday

Liturgy of the Hours 10.30am Stations of the Cross starting and ending in the church 11am Individual Reconciliation to follow

Service 3pm

Easter Vigil—Saturday 16th April Mass 7.30pm

Easter Sunday

Masses 8.30am & 10am

Flowers for the Cross

If you have any flowers to decorate the church or the cross, please bring them to the church on Sat 16th April at 10am.

<u>Voluntering for Easter services</u>—sheets are in the folders in the foyer to volunteer for Easter—please write your name where you may be able to help out. Thank you.

Singing practice for Good Friday and Easter Vigil ceremonies will be held in St Joseph's church on Monday, 28th March, 7.45-9pm. New voices very welcome. Help us to celebrate Easter in a fitting manner.' Contact Jenny O'Brien (0437 184 103) with any queries.

God always precedes us

Earth's crammed with heaven, And every common bush afire with God; But only he who sees takes off his shoes.

Aurora Leigh (1856) Elizabeth Barrett Browning



Some believe that families bringing forward young children for baptism are probably not true people of faith. If they were, as some believe, then surely these families would attend Sunday Mass regularly.

Participating in the Sunday Mass is an undoubted blessing, always to be encouraged. Our longing to share the precious gifts of God that we so treasure is commendable. Yet God's grace unfolds in our world in many different, even surprising ways. It is not simply the case that more 'effective

evangelism' might compel these families to become regular Mass attenders. This is not a weak concession to the times that we live in: God has always worked in this way.

During his December 2021 trip to Athens, Pope Francis recalled the 1st century visit of St Paul to ancient Athens (Acts 17.16-34—well worth a read!). St Paul did not judge the pagan Greeks and insist that they come along to church with him. No, he accepted their religious spirit. He graciously dignified his hearers and welcomed the minute seeds of God in their own religiosity (a religiosity involving idols that deeply distressed St Paul). St Paul humbly engaged with these people. He acknowledged the desire for God hidden in their hearts and gently proposed (not imposed!) the amazing gift of faith through Jesus Christ. Is not something similar happening as parents bring their children forward for baptism in our parish?

Such an attitude is not spiritual laxity. Rather, it is mature faith—confident trust that appreciates the seeds of grace that God plants in people's hearts before we ever encounter them. God precedes us always, abundantly. The Holy Spirit always sows silently before we ever do. 'Earth's crammed with heaven, every common bush afire with God.' Let us pray to see this more clearly, so that we may know to take off our shoes on holy ground. To search for and respect, with a disposition of acceptance, the mustard seeds of faith that God surely plants. The families I encounter are never empty vessels awaiting my input. While I try to help them to appreciate the remarkable faith that they wish to share with their child, I also affirm what God has already begun to accomplish in them.

This attitude of welcome, hospitality and creating communion is different to a colonising drive to increase the size of the 'Catholic Club'. Instead, it is an attitude that deeply trusts that the 'Holy Spirit always does more than what we can see from the outside'—and that is enough. God is at work. I am but an assistant. I treasure these families—and they know it. They are Children of God passing on the faith to a new generation—invited to widen their faith as their children grow.

In St Paul's day, the majority who heard his preaching laughed at him and went away. Some few became believers. This is how God has always worked in salvation history. With meekness, Jesus continues to present the merciful face of God to the world. The Lord accompanies all in loving patience—and does so through us. *Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Deacon Tim Grauel

This article summarises a message of Pope Francis in his Address to Bishops, Priests, Religious, Consecrated Persons, Seminarians, Catechists at the Cathedral of St Dionysius in Athens on 4 December 2021.



PROJECT COMPASSION

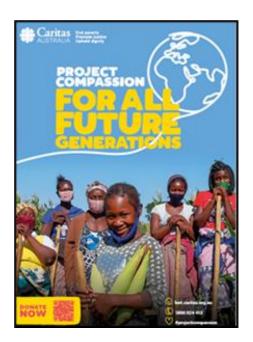
For All Future Generations

Yes – it's hard to believe we are already into Lent! During Lent we are encouraged to fast, to spend time in prayer and to give to charitable works (almsgiving). Project Compassion Is one way of responding to the call to give to charitable works.

Project Compassion has been established by Caritas, the International aid and development organization of the Catholic Church in Australia. During Lent, Caritas conducts an annual fundraising and awareness-raising appeal through Project Compassion.

The theme for Project Compassion in 2022 is **For All Future Generations.** It affirms that what we do today will impact the lives of generations to come. It invites us to: help end poverty, to promote justice and to uphold the dignity of those less fortunate than ourselves. We only have to watch the TV news each day to realize how fortunate we are here in Australia. These news stories touch our hearts and we wish we could do something to change the situations people are living in. Project Compassion provides us with that opportunity.

Caritas helps over 1.8 million people in Australia and overseas every year – walking hand-in-hand with those in crisis. The impact of COVID-19 has already sent so many people into poverty and it continues to take its toll, even two years since its emergence.



Donations to Project Compassion can be made by using the boxes and envelopes provided on the tables at the back of the church in the foyer. Envelopes can be returned in the usual collection boxes provided in the foyer. The boxes can be returned during the Easter ceremonies. Alternatively, you can bring your donations into the Parish Office.

If you would like to know more about the work Caritas is involved in in different countries, visit the Caritas website: www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion and click on Parish Hub. You will be encouraged with the stories and videos of people like:

Anatercia from Mozambique



Biru from India



Rosalie from the Democratic Republic of Congo



Janice from Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory



Shaniella from the Solomon Islands



'Your generosity is the pebble that allows Caritas Australia to create the ripples that will improve the livelihoods of vulnerable communities, supporting them to flourish and create opportunities for future generations to live to their full potential and thrive.' (Kirsty Robertson, CEO, Caritas Australia)