

**Tertiary  
Education**  
& Mature Study Annual  
See inside from P11



Clutching at a  
straw man in the  
face of rising

**jihadism**



P23

# THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

THE CHURCH. ALL OF IT.

OUR STORY BEGINS IN 1839 WITH THE AUSTRALASIAN CHRONICLE, CONTINUING WITH THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL IN 1850

P: (02) 9390 5400

F: (02) 9390 5401

www.catholicweekly.com.au

Vol 73, No 4747 • 19 October, 2014

**PRICE \$2**



60 years  
**Young**

Youngsters in brightly coloured costumes perform a traditional dance at the diamond jubilee celebrations of the Australian Catholic Chinese Community on 5 October.

PHOTO: PETER WONG

**Sydney's Chinese Catholics  
come together to celebrate  
their community's diamond  
jubilee – and a unique  
contribution to the Church in  
this city and nationally**

BY PETER ROSENGREN

**F**ood – lots of it. In fact, 16 courses of traditional Chinese dishes. Noise. Plenty of that, too, as more than 500 Chinese Catholics took over the Eight Modern restaurant in the Haymarket on the evening of Sunday, 5 October, a day after the Feast of St Francis. Infants scampered in every direction

throughout the evening as older children and teenagers dressed in brightly coloured traditional costumes presented a series of traditional dances and performances.

Throw in one Apostolic Nuncio, a handful of Franciscan friars together with a sprinkling of other religious and you've got one of the things the Chinese do best – a celebration.

In this case it was the diamond

jubilee of the Australian Catholic Chinese Community (ACCC), the oldest of the nation's organisations for Chinese Catholics.

When Fr Paul Smith OFM intervened late in the evening to inform the 500-plus guests that the Rabbits were on the verge of winning the NRL Grand Final rousing cheers, hoots, table-thumping and roars immediately erupted from several nearby tables.

Other tables just looked glum.

Not, admittedly, a scientific test, but it was a measure of how far Sydney's Catholic Chinese community has come in recent decades.

Sixty years ago Chinese and other Asians who migrated to Australia faced a completely different reality. Receptions then varied widely from goodwill and friendship on the part of a few to mere tolerance or even

CONTINUED P 4



**PRIESTS'  
RETIREMENT  
FOUNDATION**

YOU can support our retired priests by making a monthly pledge. A \$20 per month pledge equates to only 66c per day.

*They supported us, it's now our opportunity to care for them.*

www.pr.org.au | 1800 753 959 | 7/133 Liverpool St, Sydney, 2000



# Pray for brethren in China, says nuncio as Catholic



FROM P1 suspicion and resentment from many others.

A major early concern for Chinese Catholics in postwar Australia, as for many other non-European migrants, had been the abolition of the White Australia Policy which sought to limit migration to this country to people from predominantly European and British backgrounds.

Yet the ACCC's diamond jubilee celebration signalled more than just 60 years of building and maintaining the distinctive and unique contribution of Chinese Catholics to the Church in Australia.

The hooting rowdy tables roaring for joy at the Rabbitohs longed for victory and even the crestfallen disappointment at others signalled just how deeply immersed Australia's Chinese Catholics have become in their new country's life.

A similar point was made by Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Paul Gallagher earlier in the day as he congratulated the ACCC on its 60 years.

Since coming here two years ago he had been impressed by how the many ethnic groups, including Chinese Catholics, had been integrated into the Church in Australia, the archbishop said during his homily at the Asiana Centre, the ACCC's headquarters in Ashfield.



Archbishop Paul Gallagher concelebrates mass at the Asiana Centre in Ashfield with clergy, including the Franciscans who have been a permanent presence as an order in the life of the Australian Catholic Chinese Community. PHOTOS: PETER WONG

At the same time the witness of so many Chinese bishops, clergy, religious and laity to their faith over decades in their homeland was known and revered throughout the Catholic world, he told the hundreds of worshippers and clergy present for the celebratory Mass.

All the recent popes have urged Catholics to pray for the Church in China, including its unity and peace.

"In the name of the Holy Father I urge you to do the same," Archbishop Gallagher said.

Keeping the noisy festive crowd of all ages entertained for the evening were co-hosts May Lee and Anthony Lu, who deftly kept the show rolling as they introduced a variety of speakers and acts and called dignitaries up from the audience to draw the several raffles.

That the celebration occurred close to the Feast of St Francis was no accident either; joining the nuncio were several Franciscan friars, including Fr Paul Smith OFM, Franciscan provincial for Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Ma-

laysia, underscoring the continuous Franciscan presence since the beginning of the ACCC in 1954.

In fact, as celebrations and speeches wore on into the night it was clear that the Franciscan factor had been a vital one in the story of the ACCC's foundation and journey through the decades.

Fr Pascal Chang OFM, who died two years ago at the venerable age of 90 after a lifetime serving Chinese Catholics in Sydney, arrived with fellow Franciscan priest (later Bishop) Leonard Hsu OFM on 19

March that year to begin the mission. Both men (from Shandong province in northern China) were brilliant linguists: each spoke five languages, including Mandarin, and went on to learn a sixth, the dominant Cantonese dialect common to China's south and the first language of enormous numbers of Chinese migrants to Australia.

While Bishop Hsu stayed in Australia until 1965 it was Fr Chang who provided the longevity, starting early on by purchasing the Asiana Centre in 1963, with funds raised by the hard work of Chinese Catholics and a bank guarantee from the Franciscans, as home base for the community. The centre, which also operated as a hostel for Chinese students, served as a Mass centre until 1985 when the community's celebrations moved to St Peter Julian Eymard's Church, near Chinatown, after the foundation there of the Chinese Catholic Pastoral Centre. After a decade, Masses recommenced at the Asiana Centre and today there are three Mass centres serving the community, including St Dominic's Church, Flemington, where large congregations gather weekly. Masses are celebrated in Mandarin, Cantonese and English.

Not only did Fr Chang invite three women's religious congregations to Australia (the Sisters of St Paul of Chartres, the Sisters of Our

# Chinese Community celebrates its diamond jubilee



CLOCKWISE (from below right): The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Paul Gallagher, is pictured with clergy and religious at the diamond jubilee celebrations. Hosts May Lee and Anthony Lu keep the show moving. Entertainers sing up a mild storm. Fr Martin Low OFM presents a Franciscan confrere with a prize during the evening.



FACING PAGE (from far left): Servers lead the entrance procession into the chapel at the Asiana Centre in Ashfield as Mass begins for the ACCC's diamond jubilee. The chapel was filled to overflowing for the event. Guests arrive at the Eight Modern restaurant for a banquet celebrating the milestone. More than 500 guests enjoyed an evening of speeches, remembrance and entertainment.

Lady of China and the Sisters Oblates of the Holy Family) he also invited young Chinese priests to study in this country with a view to their return to teach theology in China. His dream of a retreat centre for the community was realised in 1991 with the opening of Francisville at Wiseman's Ferry.

"Even after he retired from pastoral work in 2003, he still dedicated himself to the training of priests from China, offering them scholarships," ACCC president Joseph Chow said at the time of Fr Chang's passing.

Fr Chang's legacy is considerable: there are several active Chinese Catholic youth chaplaincies at all of Sydney's public universities

while in recent years a number of mainland Chinese priests have based themselves at the Asiana Centre while studying at Australian Catholic University.

Australian-based Franciscan priest Fr Lucas Leung, now in retirement, also served the community for over three decades, and the late "irrepressible" Br Roger, a former magician, enthralled the community for 17 years with magic tricks, stories and humble service.

However, as Fr Paul Smith pointed out, while the Franciscan presence has been a constant (Fr Martin Low OFM began ministry as chaplain in 2007), Columban and Marist priests, together with diocesan clergy

and many religious Sisters, are part of the story as well.

But above all things it was an evening for celebration. "God has truly blessed [this] community over these past 60 years and you can see these blessings in your midst through your growth and the service that the community has given to the Church in the archdiocese of Sydney and beyond," he said as he wished the community well.

"As you tonight reflect on God's love bestowed on you over the past 60 years, may you continue to have faith and trust that he always walks with you and the next generations ... In the meantime, let us continue to pray for each other and always give praise to God."

Divine Word Missionaries

Celebrating World Mission Sunday

19 October, 2014

"I invite you to immerse yourself in the joy of the Gospel and nurture a love that can light up your vocation and your mission."  
(Pope Francis - World Mission Sunday message)

Visit us at [www.divineword.org.au](http://www.divineword.org.au) or follow us on Facebook [svdaus](https://www.facebook.com/svdaus) or Twitter [@svdaus](https://twitter.com/svdaus)

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC SUPERANNUATION INVESTMENT FUND

NEW AND CAROLE SAVED \$000s with financial planning advice.

After meeting with a financial planner at Australian Catholic Superannuation they sold their investment property and made tax-efficient changes to the way they invested into super. Tailored advice provided them substantial financial benefits and peace of mind.

To make an appointment to meet with a financial planner to discuss your circumstances and objectives just call us on 1300 658 776.

Visit [catholicsuper.com.au/nev](http://catholicsuper.com.au/nev) or call us on 1300 658 776

1300 658 776 | [www.catholicsuper.com.au](http://www.catholicsuper.com.au) | [www.facebook.com/catholicsuper](https://www.facebook.com/catholicsuper) | [www.twitter.com/catholicsuper](https://twitter.com/catholicsuper)

SOS Super Pty Limited ABN 74 004 792 037. AFSL 336154. BSC 10000014. Trustee of Australian Catholic Superannuation & Retirement Fund. AFS 14 000 002 023. FSC 100002100. This document is not intended to be financial advice. Therefore, you should consider obtaining independent financial advice before making any decisions about your benefits in the fund. The Australian Catholic Superannuation financial planning service is offered through an arrangement with Industry Fund Services Limited (AFSL 290511).

AV System Design & Integration | Installation & Programming | Product Training & Support | Equipment Hire & Production

**SOS** Providing Audio Visual Solutions for over 35 years...

Find out how you can web stream your next service/ceremony live and stay connected with your community...the world!

With the new **Roland VR-3EX** we can show you how!

**Roland**

SOS Communications 42 Belmore Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010 | P +61 2 9281 0077 | F +61 2 9281 0022 | [info@soscomms.net](mailto:info@soscomms.net) | [www.soundonstage.com.au](http://www.soundonstage.com.au)