

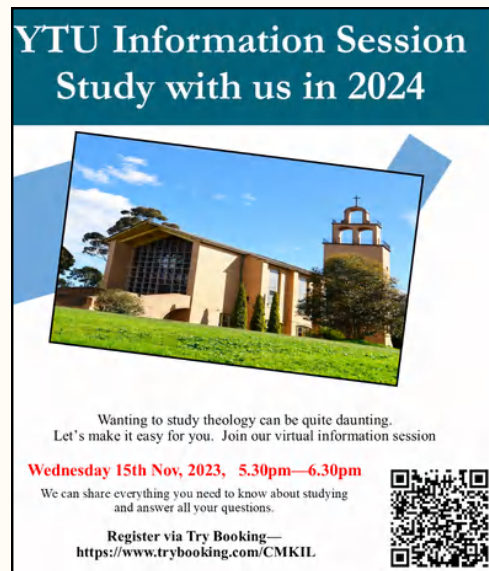
YTU Newsletter

Week 9 ● October 23, 2023

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Week 11! We wish you a new week with lots of joy and blessings!

YTU Information Session- Study with Us in 2024 Join us for a virtual information session about theological studies! Please refer to the attached poster for more details.



YTU Timetable for 2024 The YTU timetable for 2024 is now available on the college homepage. Visit YTU Timetable to explore the schedule and start planning your units for the upcoming year. Go to: <https://ytu.edu.au/timetable/>



Culture's Corner: Chinese Calligraphy Calligraphy is more than just writing; it's an art form that encompasses five distinct script styles - 'seal,' 'official,' 'cursive,' 'running,' and 'regular.' Each style has unique characteristics and historical significance. You can find Chinese calligraphy on scrolls, letters, and even rocks, playing a significant role in both traditional ceremonies and modern art. For more insights, check out this source: <https://ich.unesco.org/>

SRC Team - Last Chance to Join for Next Year We're happy to see the response to our call for joining the Student Representative Council (SRC) team next year. If you're still interested in contributing to the SRC, this is your last opportunity to sign up. Registration will close at the end of this week, so please email us at gustysiga@gmail.com to express your interest.

Tribute to Sr. Robyn Last week we farewelled Sr. Robyn with a beautiful funeral mass at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Bentleigh. If you missed Fr. Philip Malone's homily, you can read it below. It's a touching tribute to an amazing member of our community.

Wishing you a blessed and productive week ahead!

Pax Christi!

Hoa msc

Homily for Funeral Mass of Robyn Reynolds OLSH

Thursday 19 October 2023

During the final commendation in a funeral Mass we often sing 'welcome home', to express our faith and trust that, after we die, we will be received into our heavenly home by our gracious and loving God.

Today as we gather in shared sorrow for this funeral Mass, we celebrate that God has welcomed Robyn home - to rest gently and at peace in her heavenly home.

And we too welcome Robyn home - to her own country, to be with her family, her OLSH Sisters, her friends.

It was hardly a homecoming we expected, as we shared with Robyn preparing with all her usual boundless energy & enthusiasm, to travel overseas such a short time ago. And yet, knowing Robyn as we do, we can imagine her shrugging her shoulders and saying to God, 'oh, well, if that's what you want, then OK!

One way of expressing what today's liturgy means, is to call this a requiem Mass, indicating a time of rest, a time for rest. Robyn was about to begin a retreat in Ireland - her time for spiritual R & R, as part of her Sabbatical. And we know how much she was looking forward to this.



Now, in an extraordinary way her dying has become just what she wanted, a retreat - a sabbatical, a time of renewal; a time of rest for one whose whole life has been one of doing and giving for others - always with grace and generosity of spirit.

More commonly these days we call today's liturgy a Mass of thanksgiving. And indeed we have much to be thankful for.

Especially today we thank God for giving us Robyn; and we thank Robyn for all she has been and done for us. Those of us who are family, fellow religious, colleagues, friends, know well what this involves.



But also, from the tributes that have poured in from all over the world, we hear of the enormous difference Robyn has made to the lives & wellbeing of so many - as teacher, tutor, spiritual director, mentor, counsellor, and so often, simply being the someone who needed to be there. Our Gospel reading in action as we watched.

Before Jesus returned to the Father, he made two special promises to his followers.

'I am going to prepare a place for you in Heaven', he said, because I want you to be with me where I am'

Today we celebrate the fulfilment of this promise as we entrust our sister Robyn to God's safe keeping in heaven. But Jesus also promised, 'until that time I will be here with you in Spirit'.

And so we remember and celebrate, also, how in Robyn's life the second of those promises was also well and truly kept.

For during her life, Robyn and Jesus walked always hand in hand ... or as we express this in the Chevalier Family, Robyn was on earth the Heart of God.

For Robyn, her earthly journey is now complete – or better still, fulfilled

For us the journey continues, and indeed it is a sad time for us. The sense of loss of a loved one is heartfelt, so very deep and real. And yet Robyn is not lost to us. She remains with us in her love, in spirit. Indeed, unlimited now by time & place.

So, while we will miss Robyn dearly, hopefully we are content to let her go from here, committing her to rest in peace in the gentle hand of God.

'I have loved you with an everlasting love', God assures us, 'I have called you by your name, for you are mine'.

As we heard in our reading from the Song of Songs, God has confirmed this for Robyn in such a special and beautiful way ... 'My Beloved lifts up his voice, to say to me, 'Come then, my love, my lovely one come'.

An everlasting love indeed, for Robyn now to experience and enjoy.

Philip Malone msc
