

# Spirit award

Together, we can make a difference!



Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproxtion, representing Archbishop Hickey, congratulates Michelle Kar and Kyle Myint (head boy and girl) on receiving the "Spirit" award.

A special award is presented each year to the school and school community that demonstrates strong support for the Archbishop's LifeLink Day initiative held each June.

His Grace seeks to promote to Catholic school students, parents, teachers and staff:

The social service agencies operating in the Archdiocese of Perth, provide details and examples of the Church's response to people in need here in WA and encourage Catholic

youth to show their own support for people less fortunate, by encouraging some form of fundraising effort in each school.

The "Archbishop's Spirit Award" for 2002 was awarded to St Michael's Catholic Primary School, Bassendean.

At an assembly attended by students, teachers and many parents, the award was presented on behalf of His Grace by the Auxiliary Bishop of Perth, Don Sproxtion.

Bishop Sproxtion praised the efforts of the school for its commitment to helping people in need, and for promoting the work of the LifeLink supported agencies to the entire school community.

David Hunter, Principal of St Michael's said: "The students, parents, staff and teachers are thrilled to receive this personal award from the Archbishop."

"At St Michael's, we try to get everyone involved and send a message that when someone reaches out for help, we should all respond positively."

"Through the school newsletter, we gave details of each LifeLink agency and explained what they do. We also had a fantastic fundraising event that raised over \$2,400.00."

"St Michael's may be small in number, but we showed what can be achieved if we all work together".

His Grace hopes to raise \$55,000 from LifeLink Day this year.

# LIFELINKS

issue number 4



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the official newsletter of Lif eLink™

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## Bishop's go 'Live & Interactive' to Launch LifeLink Day



Archbishop Barry Hickey and Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproxtion were bombarded with questions from Catholic primary and secondary school students within the Archdiocese, when they launched LifeLink Day live over the Internet recently.

The two Church leaders answered questions from students in 'real-time' via a live video feed provided with the generous support of WestNet Internet Services.

The primary school students packed about 200 questions into their session from 9.30am to 10am and the secondary schools maintained a similar pace from 10.15am-11am.

Whilst exact numbers are not known, the potential audience was over 51,000 students from schools throughout the Archdiocese, and the whole world could tune in through the LifeLink website at [www.lifelink.com.au](http://www.lifelink.com.au). (A video relay is now available online)

Archbishop Hickey was the first Australian Archbishop to use the Internet in this way when he launched LifeLink Day in 2000, and it is believed that this was the very first time two Bishops have been broadcast interactive on the net simultaneously.

"The Archbishop is asking schools to take at least one day throughout the school year to remind students that LifeLink is a practical application of Jesus' teaching that the two great commandments are to love God, and love one another."

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# LifeLink Day LAUNCH

from page 1  
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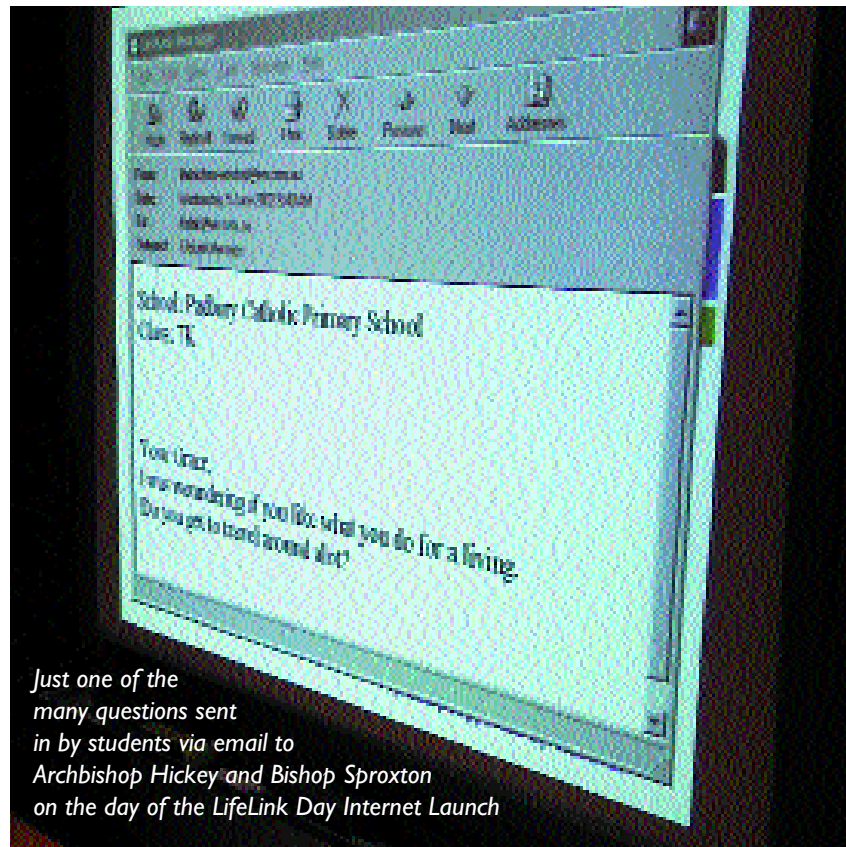
LifeLink Day launches the Archbishop's initiative to provide education to Catholic youth on the Church's response to need within the community and; to encourage young people to show their support by raising funds for the 12 LifeLink supported social service agencies.

Together, LifeLink supported agencies provide care and caring programs to over 48,500 West Australian families and individuals each year, and deliver services in excess of \$18 million.

Archbishop Hickey established LifeLink in 1992 as the fundraising and promotional arm for 12 Archdiocesan social service agencies. LifeLink seeks to inform, educate and provide financial support through various fundraising activities - every dollar raised is distributed directly and only to the agencies.

Schools have become highly creative in their fundraising and educational activities for LifeLink Day, which can be organised at any time of the school year. Many schools use LifeLink Day for the ongoing instruction about the need to respond to the Gospel message in practical ways.

When launching the initiative, the Archbishop is asking schools to take at least one



Just one of the many questions sent in by students via email to Archbishop Hickey and Bishop Sproxton on the day of the LifeLink Day Internet Launch

day throughout the school year to remind students that LifeLink is a practical application of Jesus' teaching that the two great commandments are to love God, and love one another.

Archbishop Hickey said: "We want you to learn to love one another and to grow up helping other people. The challenge of loving others is to love those who don't love us and those in need".

The children's questions covered a wide range of subjects, but with Confirmation in the offing in

most primary schools, there were some searching questions about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and preparation for the Sacraments.

When asked how best to prepare for Confirmation, Bishop Sproxton said: "Pray. Pray especially for an open heart to receive the Spirit. I urge you to study your lessons carefully in class, to take them home and talk about them with your parents and other family members".

(Photo's courtesy of The Record Newspaper)

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Article by

Tony Pietropiccolo  
Director, Centrecare and President, WACOSS



## CENTRECARE Building a Better Community



Leanne Shommen (Centrecare Cannington) and Bob Thomas (Dept Housing & Works) pictured at the official opening

In May, Centrecare opened a new centre in Cannington to serve the needs of the surrounding community.

The Centre, officially opened by Community Development Minister Sheila McHale, and blessed by Fr Tony Pires, will provide a range of accommodation and housing services for homeless people and Homeswest tenants facing eviction, support for youth at risk of offending, general counselling, and counselling and mediation for parents and teenagers in conflict.

Located at 22 Pattie Street, the centre is just a two-minute walk from Carousel Shopping Centre. The premises has five counselling rooms, offices, a conference room seating up to 50, and is designed for easy access for those with disabilities.

At a cost of \$756,000, Centrecare Cannington was partially funded thanks to a generous grant of \$386,000 from the Lotteries Commission of Western Australia.

Mr Tony Pietropiccolo, Director of Centrecare, said: "This is the first purpose built premises in Cannington, and we developed the Centre to meet the high demand for services from the region."

"Today, people talk comfortably to professional counsellors where once they may have discussed these same issues with family, neighbours and friends. They just don't seem to have the time to build the necessary community bonds, and so professional counsellors fill a very important social role."

"Over the past ten years, the numbers of people making appointments has more than doubled. This new centre is our investment in people, in helping to build a better community" he said.

Centrecare is a  LifeLink supported social service agency.

### Enthusiastic Support for Archbishop's Will Seminars

Parishioners have responded in large numbers to Archbishop Hickey's invitation to attend free "Will Preparation Evenings" throughout the Archdiocese.

At the Thornlie Parish in April, over 100 guests braved a very wet and windy night to take advantage of this opportunity, and by all reports, were very glad they did.

The information seminars are conducted by two experienced

and professional solicitors from Blakiston & Crabb Solicitors, who provide basic details on "what is required when drafting a Will", and make themselves available to answer personal legal questions.

This free service sponsored by LifeLink - is our way of "giving something back" to the parishes and parishioners who so generously support LifeLink throughout the year.

**The next seminar will be held on:**

Date: **Tuesday 3 September 2002**  
Time: Commencing at 7.30pm  
Venue: Floreat/Wembley Parish Centre  
47 Peables Road, Floreat.

**Reservations are essential, please contact Kim on 9223 1315 today.**

Everyone is welcome! *Tea and coffee will be served at the conclusion of the seminar.*