



"Do not fear, for I am with you"
Isaiah 41:10

THE MOST REVEREND COLUMBA MACBETH-GREEN OSPPE D.D
Bishop of the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes

27th, July 2021

Dear Faithful

I am delighted to announce a new Catholic school for the community of Moama and surrounding areas and for the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes. Blessed Carlo Catholic College is planned to be a Kindergarten to Year 12 (K-12) school taking in its first intake of students in 2024.

Blessed Carlo Catholic College will be a school centred on the teachings and example of Jesus. Our students will be offered outstanding teaching and learning by staff who take the best of contemporary learning combined with tried and tested teaching methods.

The college is the first face to face school (there is an online school in Canada) to be named after Blessed Carlo Acutis - an Italian boy who died at the age of 15 and who was beatified by Pope Francis in October last year. It is an honour to name our school after such an inspiring young person who showed that children and teenagers can live lives devoted to God and to caring for those around them. All the students will be proud of their school name knowing that they too can live inspiring lives for others.

Blessed Carlo was especially known for using technology to spread the Gospel. With our young people so connected to technology today, he showed us how media can be used for the good of society. Like many youngsters in Moama, he was also an avid gamer who loved playing sports, especially football. He was utterly devoted to Our Lord in the Blessed Eucharist, setting up a website which presented the beautiful history of Eucharistic miracles. He once said, "Jesus is my great friend and the Eucharist my highway to Heaven". Our college will have at its heart a daily life of prayer and devotion to the Blessed Eucharist where all students will have the opportunity to build a deep friendship with Jesus. I couldn't think of a more uplifting or relevant role model for the young people of Moama.

I am thrilled with the plans that I am seeing for the new school where state of the art learning facilities will accommodate a variety of learning experiences that will embrace the tradition of the Catholic Church. Our aim will be to develop the whole person to their full potential - spiritually, academically, emotionally and physically. Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes is working very hard with the talented and creative architects and professionals at Clarke Hopkins Clarke. We have a beautiful 10 acre block of land in a central part of Moama on the corner of Lignum Rd and Kiely Rd. We are also grateful to Murray River Council for their strong support for our planned school.

The Moama area is the fastest growing part of our diocese and one of the fastest growing parts of regional NSW. I am delighted for Fr Richard Green OSPPE, the parishioners and the community of Moama that they will have a Wilcannia-Forbes Catholic school to serve their community. In addition, this is exciting news for surrounding towns such as Deniliquin and Mathoura. We invite families from St Michael's Parish School Deniliquin to consider Blessed Carlo Catholic College as an outstanding option for secondary schooling.

Unfortunately, the recent COVID-19 outbreaks in NSW and Victoria have delayed some planned face to face community consultation in Moama and Deniliquin. These consultations will occur as soon as it is possible to do so. Receiving feedback from these communities is very important to us. You may like to contribute to an online survey which can be accessed by typing in the following text or by clicking on in an online format: <https://bit.ly/blessedcarlo>.

In embarking on this project we are very respectful of all the schools in the Moama region and look forward to working with colleagues from other schools.

I ask that we all support this exciting new venture for our diocese and for the community of Moama. Please keep the development of Blessed Carlo Catholic College, the families of Moama and surrounding areas, and all those working on this project firmly in your prayers. We entrust this project to the care of Blessed Carlo Acutis and to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Yours in Christ



The Most Rev Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE DD
Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes

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