

eNews November 2021

Remembrance Day reflection by Jacob Choi, MCF Chair

"We will remember them" – a phrase we whisper every year, is a nod to the fallen, those who have served in the past, and their families.

For Defence Christians, Remembrance Day falls a couple weeks before the Season of Advent commences – a reminder that Christ's ultimate sacrifice is complete, despite the fallen nature of the human race. This year's Remembrance Day might be more compelling in light of the end of Australia's military commitment to Afghanistan, especially for the 39,000 military personnel who deployed.



We rest assured in a greater peace, the kind that only Christ can offer which pervades any earthly challenge, generation or time scale. The act of remembering our soldiers, sailors and aviators who have walked before us is a reminder of the their values which sought to put a greater cause above themselves – be it country, the empire, their hometown or family.

As Australia emerges from lockdowns and COVID-restrictions, it's important for us to not only to look forward to gathering again for worship or Remembrance Day ceremonies. We look forward to Christ's coming with the Believer's Freedom (1 Corinthians 10) knowing that we can build up others in their knowledge of Christ and his ultimate sacrifice.

Defence Christians have an awesome privilege to convey this gospel as a bridge between Australia's recognition of sacrifice for country (Remembrance Day) and Jesus' laying down his life for humanity to be reconciled with God. I hope that we all take the opportunity with our co-workers, teams and families to lovingly share this bridge, knowing that Christ rose again to defeat death.

Defence Christians Dinners for 2021

South Australia – Adelaide on *Saturday 6 November* 2021, email <u>mcf.office@defence.gov.au</u> ASAP for details.

The 2021 Defence Christian Dinner Online might be over, but you can catch up on the highlights here: https://www.crowdcast.io/e/defence-christians

Despite the online format, and not having food to share together as a proper Dinner, we enjoyed MUSN Nii Anang's rendition of *How Great Thou Art* and the testimony of his sister, Australian athlete Naa Anang. As one of the main events which brings



together the Forum of Christian Military Ministries, the Defence Christians' Dinner Online sought to deliver an online event for Defence Christians' inspiration and networking, while moving away from slides and screen sharing to help lessen screen fatigue. Find out more about Naa's sports ministry work at Everlasting Crowns here: <u>https://www.instagram.com/everlastingcrowns/?hl=en</u>

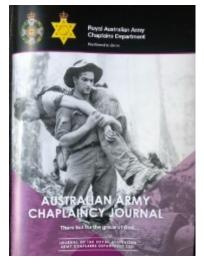
Jacob Choi – 2021 FCMM DCD Chair

Other important events

- The Australian National Prayer Breakfast will be streamed on Monday 8th November on YouTube, from 7:30-8:30am AEDT and AWST. A time to join together to pray for Australia and those in leadership. Please register for the YouTube link: <u>REGISTER</u> (flyer attached) Watch in your PJ's or why not host a viewing (per COVID restrictions)
- MCF-A will hold its Annual General Meeting on *Tuesday 9 November* from 12 noon, AEDT - there will be a call-in option. Emails have been sent to members with details. If you are an MCF member and didn't get the info - or are an Associate member or not an MCF member and would like to listen in please contact the MCF office.
- CHANGE OF DATE The next online, Corporate Prayer with MCF will on *Wednesday 1 December*, from 12 noon AEDT via Zoom. (Now not 10 Nov, as previously advertised)

Other items that may be of interest

Australian Army Chaplaincy Journal 2021 is out now and available online at <u>http://drnet.defence.gov.au/Army/DGCHAPA/Pages/Home.aspx</u> Hard copies are available from your local Army Chaplain - MCF Office have limited copies. (Please email your best postal address to <u>mcf.office@defence.gov.au</u>)



'This year's Army Chaplaincy Journal cover presents us with the striking image of CPL Allen MM, carrying an American soldier to safety. The image provides an underlying message, not easily understood on first glance, for in this case the very person depicted as courageous and strong was in fact the person in greater need of redemption than the wounded man he carried. The Journal submissions cross a broad range of topics, reflections and reviews, providing us with an opportunity to reflect more critically on issues confronting our world, in order to ask the right questions in our quest for the truth.'



The Military Christian Fellowship of Australia is a non-denominational registered tax deductible charity (ABN 47 812 823 572) that operates within the Australian Defence Organisation. Find out more at <u>mcf-a.org.au</u>

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