



eNews April 2022

For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

This year we find that Easter is just before ANZAC Day. Both speak of sacrifice, sacrificial love, duty, and death however only one speaks of Resurrection and Eternal Life. The time of Lent leads us to Easter and it is a journey that we should strive to go on each year spiritually to be renewed.



Unfortunately our society sees Easter as a time to have a holiday, to eat hot cross buns and Easter eggs and to do this all without acknowledging the origins of any of it. Hot Cross buns symbolize the sacrifice of Christ and Easter eggs new life. Holiday comes from the old English term *haligdaeg* for holy day, consecrated day, religious anniversary or Sabbath. It was a day of exemption from labour but not religious worship. Over the centuries it has come to mean a day off from everything.

So as we head towards Easter and then ANZAC Day, take some out time to reflect and meditate on the concept of Sacrificial Love and what that means to those around you in your family. As we take this time to reflect on a momentous event that happened nearly 2000 years ago let us look forward as a fellowship to how we can further God's Kingdom within Australia's Defence Community and our families. I commend to you to have a think about how you may be able to grow God's Kingdom in the Australian Defence Community by serving through MCF-A.

May you have a blessed, Christ centered and Cross shaped Easter.

Godspeed

Steve MCF-A Chair

Save the Date

Thursday 21 April, 2022 MCF will hold a Virtual Prayer gathering at 1230 AEST.

All are welcome to join in this event being broadcast on YouTube with prayers from around Australia and overseas.

More details and the link will be emailed out closer to the event.



MCF Small Groups

Spread the word about these small groups and feel free to contact the MCF Rep mentioned for more info if you or someone you know is in the area. ***You are welcome to attend even if just visiting the area or are on a course.*** (Only an indication of possible attendees, please contact Rep for time, location and other info. Send in details of your Small Group to be featured in next month's eNews.)



RAAF East Sale (All welcome) – adam.nickson@defence.gov.au

RAAF Wagga (Staff and family members) – matthew.coleman1@defence.gov.au

RAAF Williamtown (Wed lunch time - in person or via Skype – *all across Australia welcome to join in any week*) - samuel.hays@defence.gov.au

RMC (one for Staff, possible one for Cadets) – tracey.sutherland1@defence.gov.au or kenneth.delamore@aue.salvationarmy.org

Singleton (Staff + anyone on a course welcome) - timothy.baxter@defence.gov.au

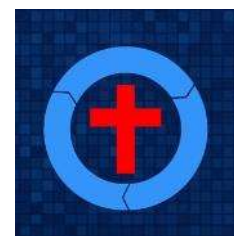
Online – everyone welcome to join (fortnightly 2015-2130 Sydney/Hobart time, next one 4 April) – scott.doran-sargent@defence.gov.au

MCF groups can be found here: [Small groups - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia \(mcf-a.org.au\)](http://Small groups - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia (mcf-a.org.au))

Army and RAAF Chapel online and Military Ethics Facebook page



Both Army and Air Force have a Facebook page where you will find their latest Chapel Services. While you're checking them out on your personal device why not sign up to their YouTube pages as well.



Facebook links: [Air Force Chapel Services](#) [Army Christian Services](#)

The [Association of Christian Conferences, Teaching and Services \(ACCTS\)](#), who turn 50 this year and are an MCF-A partner, now has a **Facebook page called ACCTS Ethics Ministry**. Mostly posting on Military issues, the administrators of this Facebook page out of the US are encouraging all interested MCF members from across the world to become involved and contribute to the issues raised by following the page.

If you would like to be more involved in their discussions and online meetings, contact [MCF-A Office](#).

Ukraine MCF update + donation info

Please find attached updates on Ukraine and Moldova which were sent through on 20 March. The situation is ever evolving, but there are good prayer points in the letters. If you would like to give a donation *directly* to the Ukraine MCF for their support of on the ground troops, their families and civilians by handing out Christian literature and essentials, please contact the [MCF Office](#) for details.

Graphic Designer assistance

Are you or someone you know a Graphic Designer or have an interest in this field and would like to help advise MCF-A in this area? The Exec are looking for someone (or a couple of people) to help advise them on various projects they're working on. For more info contact the MCF Office: mcf.office@defence.gov.au

Toward 2025 update

Thank you to those who gave feedback on the Toward 2025 MCF working document. There has been some minor adjustments to wording and you can find the updated document on the MCF website here: [About Us - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia \(mcf-a.org.au\)](#) MCF Exec are always happy for feedback, suggestions and help with anything they undertake. MCF is yours and the Exec are grateful for all the hard work by many over the years and look forward to building on this to grow God's Kingdom in the Australian Defence Organisation into the future.

Other items

Have you posted or moved house?

Please update your details [HERE](#)

Membership

[Membership](#) is free and **open to every Christian**. If you've not had an association with the ADF you can be an associate member. MCF is supported through freewill donations by members and supporters.

Please look at supporting MCF in prayer, with your time and through [financial support](#).

Note that donations (over \$2) to MCF are tax deductible.

Prayer requests

To put forward prayer points for inclusion in the calendar please email the MCF Prayer Coordinator Dr Brendan Pell: brendan.pell@defence.gov.au

You can also send through **urgent prayer points** (you can state they are confidential) that are sent on to the MCF Prayer Warriors or enquire about becoming an MCF Prayer Warrior by contacting Brendan.

Contacting the MCF Office

PHONE: 02 6132 7845

EMAIL: mcf.office@defence.gov.au You can also find us on Facebook, ForceNet and Twitter.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter please contact: mcf.office@defence.gov.au