



eNews April 2026

Sacrificial Love

Jesus said: "And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars. See that you are not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet."

As the drums and clash of wars and potential wars echo around our globe, Autumn in Australia is a time where we pause to reflect on two events. ANZAC Day where we reflect on the sacrifices of those fought and died for us to maintain our way of life in Australia and Easter. Lent which leads into Easter is that time where we reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who was crucified on a cross, then rose from the dead so that we have a better way of living on earth and the hope of eternal life in the future.

It was Jesus who taught us that blessed are the peacemakers and spoke of laying down one's life for others. This is seen as the ultimate sacrifice demonstrating the highest form of love, reflecting a divine selfless attitude rather than one of selfish and naked ambition. When visiting the Commonwealth War Graves Cemeteries in France, Belgium and Netherlands, I have been struck by the Cross of Sacrifice which has a bronze



longsword affixed to it, this symbol links the sacrifice of sailors, soldiers and aviators with that of Christ. It does not glorify war but reminds us that there is a greater narrative and that to maintain peace requires sacrifice.



Peacekeepers are often called to walk into harm's way and at times make the ultimate sacrifice – not for their family or friends but for complete strangers and this is indeed an even higher form of sacrificial love.

Outside of war zones, we can live a sacrificial lifestyle where we practice selflessness daily, putting others needs first, being patient and forgiving, practice acts of service and use our time and energy for others. When the motivation is fully for the other, the amazing thing is that the return for us, is contentment, peace, quality mental health and greater spiritual awareness. As James states *Peacemakers, who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.* (3:18)

May you have a Happy and Holy Easter and reflective and peaceful ANZAC Day.

Godspeed

Steve Neuhaus, Chair MCF-A

With thanks to RAAF Chaplain Campbell, MCF-A has some 'Stations of the Cross' material you may like to use personally, or adapt for your MCF-A group this Easter. [This Easter you can reflect on Military 'Stations of the Cross', also with a Children's version - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia](#)

National Day of Prayer for Defence

Please spread the word! Events can be on Bases, ships, Churches, schools....

This year's National Day of Prayer for Defence has been scheduled on or around **Saturday 18th April 2026.**



MCF-A Small Groups, Church's, Bible Study groups, schools, and others are encouraged to host a prayer event, or pray over Defence in their group around this time. Groups of 3-4 praying in a home or workplace also most welcome! The MCF-A website will add groups and events so keep checking for up to date info - <https://mcf-a.org.au> *The generic prayer booklet you can adapt for your local area is also available from the website along with a promo video.*

Please email mcf.office@defence.gov.au for more information, or to register your event. (Names and locations can be 'by request' if info posted on the website.)

Welcome Events

Again, a huge thanks to everyone who hosted an MCF-A welcome event and/or attended a local event to promote MCF-A in your area. The MCF Office was thrilled to get these great photos from Chaplain Skipper and MCF-A Member Rep Geoff Robertson from the recent DMFS Welcome event in South Australia.





In case you missed these.....

Is this a donation from you?

BFS – Christian Finance, did you donate some money into the MCF-A bank account on 15th Jan with this as the subject line? The MCF-A would love to hear from you so they can allocate the donation to you so you receive your tax receipt at the end of June. Please use the 'get in touch' email address above. Thanks!

Also MCF-A have been getting a regular \$20 donation for over 18mths but don't know who from. Please contact the office if you've been donating and didn't get a tax receipt last year.

New MCF-A Small Groups

MCF-A is excited to announce some new or re-vamped MCF-A Small Groups for the start of 2026.

Note some details different to last eNews.

If you're not sure if there is a group near you, you can check it out here: [Small groups - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia](#) Contact the MCF Office if you'd like help starting a Small Group in your area or at your workplace.

Brindabella Park (ACT): Expression of interest (EOI) sought. Contact: stephen.moore20@defence.gov.au or CHAP dennis.park1@defence.gov.au

DSTG Edinburgh (Sth Aust): *Visitors welcome!* For meeting details contact: ken.smit@defence.gov.au

HMAS Harman (ACT): *Everyone welcome* every Tuesday 12-1300 Conference Room 445-G14 (behind main admin building). Contact Chaplain: martin.christensen1@defence.gov.au

HQJOC (NSW): EOI sought. Contact mcf.office@defence.gov.au

Larrakeyah Bible Study and Church Service (NT) – Larrakeya SGTs Mess Lounge Wednesdays 1800. *All nations (all ranks/services) welcome.* Commencing on 19th April at 1500hr there will be an **interdenominational Church Service at the Larrakeyah Ward Room** (in the attached Conference room – not at a Chapel) each Sunday - open to all local members, visiting ships, TSE and MRF rotations and any others visiting. (All ranks/service most welcome) Contact: luke.eglinton@defence.gov.au

Lavarack Barracks (Nth QLD): *All welcome* every Thursday at 12pm at the Geckos Centre (building next to BDE HQ). BYO lunch, tea and coffee supplied. Contact Chaplain: frances.maltby1@defence.gov.au

Majura Park (ACT): EOI sought. Contact: philip.watt1@defence.gov.au

Perth Area (WA): Anyone wanting to meet up from the wider Perth area, the **HMAS Stirling** group are looking to do this at a central location for people at **RAAF Pearce, all Perth Bases, and other areas** to join together for fellowship. Contact: darren.kemp3@defence.gov.au

Puckapunyal (VIC): EOI sought. Contact: kenneth.delamore@salvationarmy.org.au

RAAF Amberley (Sth QLD): *Now every week* on Thursdays, with the next gathering at lunch on 05Mar at the Chaplaincy Centre. Contact: amb.militarychristianfellowship@defence.gov.au

RAAF Richmond (NSW): EOI sought. Contact: jaycob.hardwick@defence.gov.au

Randwick Barracks: EOI sought. Contact Everyman peter.harvie1@defence.gov.au

Veteran's Hub Australia (Sth QLD): For **Veterans, their families and those in Defence**, EOI or to help get a group started please contact: Phil veteranshubaustralia@gmail.com

Army Chaplaincy Journal



The Australian Army Chaplaincy Journal 2025 edition – Fight the Good Fight is now available. You can view it here: [Royal Australian Army Chaplains Department | Australian Army](https://www.army.gov.au/royal-australian-army-chaplains-department) Or if you need a hard copy, email the MCF-A office with your name and best postal address and one can be sent to you. (limited copies available)

The MCF-A Office thanks the Army Chaplaincy office for some extra copies.

Other items.....

Free online Christian Study

Ridley Certificate – *free, lots of topics to choose from!*



Ridley Theological College is very excited to let you know that all subjects available for study through the *Ridley Certificate* are available at no cost. This means that **every** Christian has the opportunity to go deeper in their faith, grow in their understanding of God and the Bible, and get better equipped for ministry in whatever context they are in.

Thanks to the generous support of many donors, we are able to do this – making all Ridley Certificate subjects available for free for a limited time.

More information and subjects: [Ridley Certificate](#)

Have you posted or moved house? Are you deploying or away from home for a few months or longer?

Posted or moved, please update your details [HERE](#)

Deploying or on a long exercise? MCF-A would love to support and pray for you while you're away. Let us know at: mcf.office@defence.gov.au

Membership

[Membership](#) is free and **open to every Christian**. If you've not had an association with Defence or you don't identify as Christian you can be an associate member via the same link.

Donations

MCF is supported almost entirely through freewill donations by members and supporters. Please look at Supporting MCF in prayer, with your time, and through [financial support](#). (Direct debit preferred – details below the big green DONATE button on the webpage link) **Note that donations (over \$2) to MCF-A are tax deductible.**

Prayer requests

To put forward prayer points for inclusion in the calendar please email the MCF Prayer Coordinator [Daniel](#) or the MCF Office.

You can also send through **urgent prayer points** that are sent on confidentially to the MCF Prayer Warriors, OR to enquire about becoming an MCF Prayer Warrior, contact the MCF Office or Daniel.

Contacting the MCF Office

PHONE: 02 6132 7845

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

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