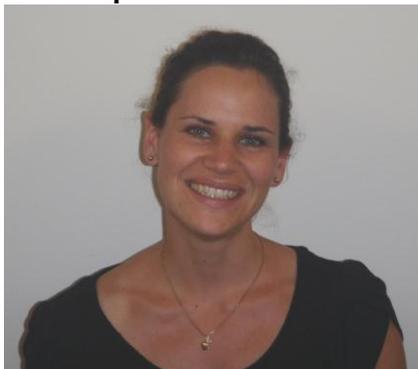


**National Schools Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program
Joseph's Parish Schools**



Hi my name is Allira Eppich and I work at the 3 schools of St Joseph's Parish under the National Schools Chaplaincy Program and Student Welfare Program (NSCSWP). I have just completed my fourth year in this role and am happy to say that the three schools have received funding for this program until the end of 2014. The title of my role has changed from Mission and Values Facilitator to Student Welfare Worker.

The following is a snapshot of some of the work I do in the three Parish School:

- Assist with school Mass and Liturgies, school assemblies, parent and teacher information evenings, Student Representative Council meetings, facilitate Sacramental Program, assist with orientation days for new students.
- Provide additional pastoral support to students by running programs such as Seasons for Growth; grief and loss program and assist students with the transition from the Primary Schools to the College.
- Assist with building community relationships by facilitating programs such as the Learning Assistance Program which engage community volunteers to work with students to enhance their schooling experience.
- Engage students in Social Justice Practices to foster a sense of 'other' and allow students to experience their potential to make a real difference in the lives of others. This includes groups such as Mini Vinnies at the Primary schools and St Vincent De Paul at the College and You Have A Friend street-outreach to community members.
- Provide opportunities to explore and practice faith and beliefs through school retreats and reflection days, school Mass and Liturgies, Parish Youth Mass and Sacramental Programs.

Some of the new programs and events I have been involved with this year are:

- Working with the Kinder teachers to create a Liturgy to welcome new kinder students and families into our school
- Assisting with implementation of a new Mentor Program where employers from the local army base volunteer their time to come into the schools to work with students.
- College: Have a Catholic Schools Youth Ministry class: I have been Assisting with planning and organising of the Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia (CSYMA) reflection days and facilitating students on a two-day CSYMA retreat.
- Assisting the CSYMA class to facilitate a Grade 6 reflection day, Youth Masses
- Attend and assist with Diocesan Year 12 school leaders retreat
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- Attend IGNITE Conference in Brisbane with Year 11 students, a four day Catholic Youth Conference
- Be part of the PROCLAIM meetings in which the Dioceses of Lismore is attempting to reengage the Parish community in the life of the Parish.
- Promote and assist with organising a two-day parish based retreat for Youth For Christ
- Organise Primary School fundraiser for College students going on Vietnam Mission trip

As part of the compliance accountability of this programme, parents and community members are encouraged to give the school feedback on the role and how it is operating in this school. Please feel free to email any comments to the school.