



Join us for our first
Family Faith Celebration!
October 26, 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As Regional Manager at Pflaum, I am pleased to announce that, through the cooperation of the Diocese of Worcester, Pflaum will be hosting a Family Faith Celebration, that will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2019. This will be sponsored by Pflaum's parent company, Bayard, Inc. and its main brands (Pflaum, 23rd Publications, Creative Communications for the Parish, *Living Faith, Living with Christ, Catechist, and Catholic Digest*).

This celebration will encompass the talents of children from our parish and school communities and be a unique opportunity to joyously celebrate our Catholic Faith through song, prayer and movement. This celebration is not a concert but an opportunity for communal prayer, reflection, catechesis and celebration within the context of our Catholic identity and discipleship in today's world.

The diocese has been asked to participate in, and host this celebration on **Saturday, October 26 from 1-5pm in the Tsotsis Academic Building at Assumption College**. The event will include crafts and activities for families, the Family Faith Celebration noted above, and conclude with Mass at 4pm at Assumption College's Chapel of the Holy Spirit. Bishop McManus will be the celebrant.

As we prepare for this celebration over the coming months, students ages 7 to 12 will be actively involved in learning new songs written by teacher and composer, John Burland. These age-appropriate songs will assist in deepening understanding and building knowledge in Religious Education in an enjoyable, relevant and prayerful manner. All of the songs are based on Scripture and Church teaching, and together with prayer and movement will form the basis of our celebration.

A combined choir of students from parishes and schools of the diocese will also be joining with us for the celebration and Mass.

The celebration will be led by John Burland, National Music Consultant for Bayard, Inc.



John Burland is a teacher and composer who has been writing and recording religious music for children and adults for over twenty years. During this time, he has written and recorded over 200 songs and published fifteen music collections which are used extensively in school/parish communities across Australia, New Zealand, the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada.

John regularly works with children, parents and educators in school/ parish communities and educational institutions promoting catechesis and celebration through song, movement, prayer and story. He is a sought-after speaker, workshop leader and internationally published author in the area of music and catechesis.

For the past thirty years John has been working in Sydney Catholic Schools holding a variety of positions including Classroom teacher, Religious Education Coordinator, Assistant Principal and Acting Principal. John is currently the National Music Consultant for Bayard Inc and the Education Officer: Music & Liturgy for Sydney Catholic Schools, Australia.

If your child is interested in singing in the choir for the celebration and Mass, please go to Pflaum.com/FamilyCelebration for advance reservation. No prior choir experience is required. Further details regarding this special celebration will be available in the coming weeks.

We look forward to a wonderful day celebrating our Catholic Faith through the gifts and talents of the children from the Diocese of Worcester.

Christopher Adams

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ABOUT BAYARD, INC.: Bayard is the publishing arm of the Augustinians of the Assumption, the religious order that founded Assumption College. Bayard creates periodicals, books, and worship and devotional resources that are designed to inform and inspire, spread the Gospel, and continue the Catholic and Christian tradition of dialogue. It is best known in the United States as owner of Living with Christ, Living Faith, Today's Catholic Teacher, Catholic Digest, and Catechist magazine; Twenty-Third Publications; Creative Communications for the Parish; and Pflaum Publishing Group, publisher of Pflaum Gospel Weeklies.