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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Catholic Education Week 2020 – Spirit of Catholic Education Awards**

Congratulations to all the Spirit of Catholic Education Awards (SOCE) nominees for 2020. There was a record number of nominations this year, 214 in Queensland with a total of 48 in our Diocese.

These awards are presented annually in conjunction with Catholic Education Week to recognise individuals or teams making an outstanding contribution to Catholic education in Queensland. This year's recipient was Jacinta Jensen, a school counsellor at Good Samaritan College, Toowoomba.

“Jacinta’s focus on each young person’s development and growth from when they enter the College to the moment they transition and beyond is untiring,” said her nominator for this year’s award, Liisa Hammond, Principal of Good Samaritan College.

“She designs and delivers social and emotional developmental programs that are effective in growing these skills in our young people and is highly responsive to their needs working with numerous outside agencies to ensure that the services required by each student and their families are met. She coordinates everything from health to accommodation, financial and educational services. She advises the students and their families of the support available to them and empowers them to gain the skills and knowledge required to thrive.”

Jacinta also spends her own time constructing and delivering food hampers, clothing and furnishings to those in need.

“Good Samaritan College would not be the success it is, without Jacinta's support, insight and willingness to always do more for those in the community,” said Liisa.

“Jacinta is a great example of the spirit of Catholic education in our College.”

Dr Patrick Coughlan, Executive Director: Catholic Schools announced Jacinta as the award recipient at the College’s Catholic Education Week celebrations. Jacinta will attend the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Excellence Awards dinner later this year where she will be presented with her award.

The following people are the 2020 SOCE Award nominees for the Toowoomba Diocese.  
 Congratulations everyone!

Mark	Baker	Assumption College	Warwick
Chris	Bartlett	Mater Dei Primary School	Toowoomba
Deborah	Callaghan	Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office	Toowoomba
Lisa	Cavanagh	St Monica's School	Oakey
Mark	Challen	St Mary's College	Toowoomba
Carly	Cooper	Assumption College	Warwick
Nicola	Crank	Mater Dei Primary School	Toowoomba
Pollyanna	Crawford	Sacred Heart Primary School	Cunnamulla
Therese	Cronin	St Joseph's College	Toowoomba
Petrina	Edser	St Joseph's College	Toowoomba
Emma	Farrow	St Mary's School	Goondiwindi
Russell	Fechner	St Thomas More's Primary School	Toowoomba
Kerrie-Anne	Fellenberg	St Joseph's College	Toowoomba
Chris	Gabbett	Mary MacKillop Catholic College	Highfields
Jennifer	Guild	St Mary's College	Toowoomba
Cara	Haigh	Sacred Heart Primary School	Cunnamulla
Maree	Harman	St Joseph's College	Toowoomba
Thomas	Hunter	Holy Name Primary School	Toowoomba
Thomas	Hunter	Toowoomba Catholic Kindergartens and Care	Toowoomba
Rohitha	Jayawardhana	St Mary's College	Toowoomba
Jacinta	Jensen	Good Samaritan College	Toowoomba
Marita	Lunney	Good Samaritan College	Toowoomba
Tim	Marsh	St Mary's College	Toowoomba
Eileen	McKay	St Thomas More's Primary School	Toowoomba
Mary	McLucas	St Joseph's School	Stanthorpe
Deborah	Mischlewski	St Joseph's College	Toowoomba
Jack	Muller	St Mary's College	Toowoomba
Deborah	Murphy	St Thomas More's Primary School	Toowoomba
Deidre	Murray	St Mary's School	Charleville
Peter	Muscat	Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office	Toowoomba
Kris	Naiker	Mary MacKillop Catholic College	Highfields
Rebecca	Nystrom	St Thomas More's Primary School	Toowoomba
Cate	Park-Ballay	St Joseph's College	Toowoomba
John	Parker	St Mary's College	Toowoomba
Louise	Pfingst	St Anthony's School	Toowoomba
Kellie	Pritchard	Mater Dei Primary School	Toowoomba
Hannah	Ramsey	Sacred Heart Primary School	Toowoomba
Bianka	Rookas	St Joseph's School	Chinchilla
Charden	Ruge	St Monica's School	Oakey
Katrina	Walton	Our Lady of the Southern Cross College	Dalby
Dorene	Warwick	St Joseph's School	Tara
Emily	Whiting	St Joseph's College	Toowoomba
Amanda	Wighton	St Joseph's College	Toowoomba
Jacinta	Willocks	Our Lady of the Southern Cross College	Dalby