Students join Catholic community to remember John Paul II

Students from Catholic schools in western Sydney will join representatives from Catholic agencies, parishioners and dignitaries at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, to celebrate the life of Pope John Paul II this Thursday evening, 7 April, at 7.30pm.

Bishop Kevin Manning will preside over a Requiem Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Pope John Paul II. The Mass is an opportunity for the young people of the diocese to commemorate the great contribution the Pope made to the world’s youth.

Schools have also been conducting their own memorial and prayer services throughout the week.

“This is a significant and historical moment for our Catholic schools,” said Dr Anne Benjamin, Executive Director of Schools in the Parramatta Diocese.

“For our students it marks the death of the only Pope they have known and allows us to reflect on his contribution to the church.”

“As a great educator, John Paul II had a special tenderness for children and youth. He also had a deep and abiding love of intellectual pursuit of truth and a profound respect for teachers.

“Our Catholic school communities are grateful for his inspiring spiritual leadership. The Mass on Thursday evening will provide us with the opportunity to commemorate his life together as a diocesan family.”

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