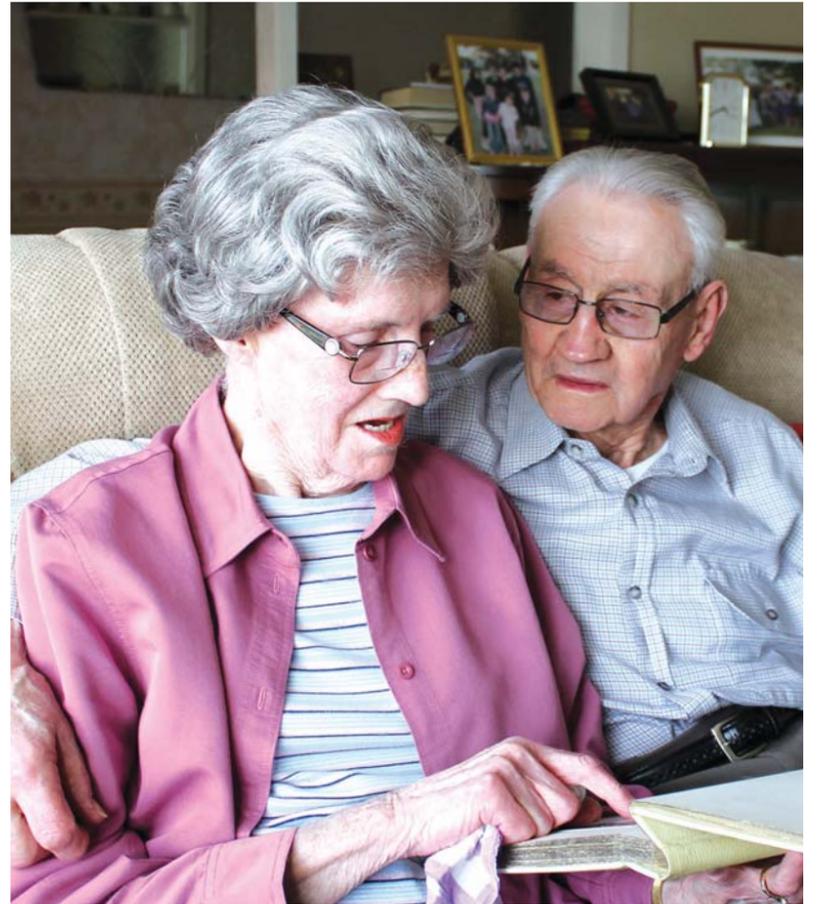




LOVE IS IN THE AIR: Giving each other a kiss at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral were married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries. They were among 300 religious brothers and sisters, and clergy and their families attending the annual Anniversaries Mass held on September 8. Photo: Tony Lewis

Love at first sight



MARRIAGE CELEBRATED: Mary Margaret and Nicholas Fingleton recall their wedding day almost 60 years ago as the Archdiocese last month marked anniversaries such as theirs with a special Mass.

He had "lovely eyes" and she "stood out" from the crowd.

It's a mutual attraction that will later this year have reached a 60-year milestone and was celebrated by the Adelaide Catholic community last month.

Mary and Nicholas Fingleton were among 300 couples, religious brothers and sisters, and clergy and their families marking significant anniversaries in marriage and religious life at the Anniversaries Mass celebrated by Adelaide Archbishop Philip Wilson on September 8 at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral.

The Warradale couple was married at St Patrick's Church, in Adelaide, on October 3, 1953. They met in their early 20s at the Irish Club dance held most Sundays in a hall on Pulteney St.

"There were quite a lot of people there that night," says 83-year-old Nicholas, a retired SA police sergeant. "A lot of young ladies. But she stood out for me and that was it."

Born in Dublin, Nicholas arrived in Adelaide as a young migrant in 1951 with an old school friend.

"We decided to come out looking for a new adventure."

Mary says she first noticed the young Irish man who was singing the night they first met, and subsequently was the cantor at Brighton Parish up until five years ago.

"I thought he had a lovely voice," says Mary, 82. "And he had lovely brown eyes."

She says 60 years of marriage has gone by too quickly. "We are very lucky," she says. "We are very fortunate to have each other. You look around and so many of our friends have lost a partner."

Mary says the success of the marriage has been working together raising a family of three children on a limited budget. Being resourceful together, she says, is a bonding experience.

"Mum and Dad have always been a steady influence not only on my life but on my sister and brother's lives," says eldest daughter Anne Spencer.

"Their great love and commitment towards one another has always been inspirational," she says.

"They have great faith and have been involved in the Brighton Parish for the majority of their married lives, which is an achievement in itself. As a family, we wish them many more years of happily married life."

Anne, her husband, and children, and her sister Margaret, her husband and children attended the anniversary Mass. The family, including eldest brother Jim, who lives in Sydney, with his partner and daughter also marked their parents' 60th anniversary with a special lunch on September 28.

Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide

archbishop's awards 2013



Archbishop Philip Wilson wishes to recognise with an award current or recent outstanding service by an individual in each of three categories:

- * For service to parish life within the Archdiocese
- * For service to the community of South Australia
- * For service to the education of young South Australians

The Archbishop welcomes and encourages your nominations of suitable candidates to assist his selections.

To assist the awards process, the nominee must also confirm that he/she is prepared to accept nomination.

Pre-selection panels will consider the nominations and advise the Archbishop who will make the final selection.

Each award recipient will be notified confidentially mid November and invited, along with the other nominees, to the Archbishop's Awards Garden Party on Saturday December 14. Award recipients will be presented to the Catholic community at the 11am Mass in St Francis Xavier's Cathedral on Sunday December 15.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from the Archdiocesan website at www.adelaide.catholic.org.au.

Nominations close October 28, 2013.

For more information please phone Robyn Carroll 8210 8220.

