



ST PAUL'S

ST CLARE'S

Bulletin Highlights

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A

29 Jan 2017

World Day of Prayer ~ 1st March at 10:00 am

Our parishioners are invited to an ecumenical gathering at St. Paul's Church on Friday 1 March at 10.00am. This particular gathering is an annual event that rotates among the main Christian churches in Camden. It was last held in our own parish about seven years ago. Many of our brothers and sisters from other Christian churches in Camden will be present. All are most welcome. Your presence would be doubly appreciated if you were also able to bring a plate of freshly baked cookies or perhaps a macadamia-nut slice or even something from Baker's Delight. Morning tea will be hosted in the Heritage Hall. Ilona and Tasha will be leading the music. Previous gatherings in our own parish have numbered about 60-70 people. So as a parish we need a good representation to be able to extend warmth and hospitality to our sisters and brothers from the other Christian denominations in our local area.



Pilgrimage to Rome ~ Update

The pilgrimage to Rome in August has become a kind of Bowral-Camden Combo. Initially about 20 people were needed to make the tour financially viable. So far across both parishes there are 32 people who have committed. From our own parish, this number includes six "definites" but does not include another five "possibles".

Because the level of interest has been larger than anticipated, there will now be two pilgrimages –one from the 10th to 17th August and another from the 17 to the 24th August. All accommodation is at Domus Australia. Father Sean and Father Michael will be on both tours and look forward to having two weeks in the eternal city.

Organisers from the Archdiocese of Sydney have advised that about 40 people would be very desirable. Accordingly, an invitation is extended to another eight people to come along. Many people who have already committed have indicated that they will add to their one week in Rome with an extra week elsewhere in Europe. So it all promises to be a most memorable and enjoyable time. If interested, please contact Father Michael or the parish office as soon possible.



Sacrament of Penance Programme

Families who have enrolled their children are reminded that the programme recommences next weekend with parents being required to nominate their preferences for the days and times of workshops.

One of the key objectives of the programme is to ensure that the children have a strong experience of Mass in our own parish. Accordingly, there is a requirement that they be present during all the weekends over the course of the programme. If the children are not feeling so well – which is not uncommon – please wait until the Sunday evening Mass before parents come by themselves. The kids mightn't be 100% in the morning but could improve throughout the day.

Canice's Kitchen, Elizabeth Bay

For well over a decade our parish has volunteered to be part of a Sunday roster at Canice's Kitchen in Elizabeth Bay. This voluntary commitment requires our parish to join with many other parishes across the Sydney region in taking responsibility for serving meals to homeless people in and around Kings Cross. The number of people varies from anywhere between 100 and 200.

Every effort is taken to make the Sunday lunch a little special. A trailer BBQ is actually towed from our local area. On arrival, our own team sets up work stations for the volunteers to prepare the lunch. So guests are offered a barbeque with all the trimmings. A typical lunch includes: tea, coffee, cordial and biscuits on arrival. This is then followed by sausages and onions cooked on the barbeque, sliced bread, tomatoes, cheese, lettuce, pineapple and beetroot. For dessert, there is warmed stewed apple and custard.

Our own parish has a solid core of workers who have volunteered since we started. However, there is now a need to recruit. So an invitation is extended to our parishioners to participate in this ministry. If interested in volunteering please contact the parish office during business hours. Currently our parish has been assigned two dates for 2017 – 26th March and 25th June. The roster runs from July to June each year so there will be more dates in the second half of the calendar year.