

ST PAUL'S

ST CLARE'S

Bulletin Highlights

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A

26 Feb 2017

World Day of Prayer ~ 3rd March at 10:00 am



Our parishioners are invited to an ecumenical gathering at St. Paul's Church this Friday 3 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. 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. 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.



Ash Wednesday ~ Day of Fasting and Abstinence

The eating of meat is prohibited and should not be substituted with, for example, gourmet seafood. All parishioners should most willingly embrace some kind of special discipline for the duration of Lent. 'Mortification' is not such a fashionable word in the 21st century. However, in instances where people have become too accustomed to satisfying bodily appetites, a little restraint and denial can have valuable spiritual and practical benefits.



Invitation to the Lent Event

At a meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council about 10 days ago, members were unanimous in recommending a **Lent Event** on Saturday 25th March. This is what happens – participants attend the 5:00 PM Vigil, and then after Mass walk to the Heritage Hall for pre-dinner drinks. All are invited to be seated at 6:30 PM for a brief presentation by Father Michael. Participants will be able to choose in advance the option of sitting at a table in which (a) ethical dilemmas will be discussed, or (b) Lenten reflections will be invited.

All this conversation takes place during the meal. Afterwards, a representative from each table will be invited to share thoughts with the whole gathering. This format was trialed very successfully for the Advent Event late last year. Tickets are just \$15 each and include a two-course meal and beverages. Please register interest at the parish office. Ideally, we would like our actively-involved parishioners to invite others. In our parish we need to foster a stronger **"Culture of Inviting"**.



Masses for Ash W. have been scheduled as follows
St Clare's Hall: 8:00 AM & 9:00 AM (w. children)
St Paul's 9:15 AM (with children) and 7:00 PM

Sacrament of Penance Programme

Many thanks to the overwhelming number of parents who have been so responsive to the requirements of the programme, especially in bringing the children to Mass.

If children are unwell on Sunday mornings, parents are asked to attend Mass in the evening with their children if their condition has improved over the day – which it often does. Holy cards will be distributed this weekend. Parents are asked to read page 10 and assist their children complete page 11 before the next workshop. Please be extra mindful of the exceptionally wise words from Pope Francis which are very perceptive and insightful. Many thanks.