

ST PAUL'S ST CLARE'S

Bulletin Highlights

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

25th June 2017



This weekend brings to completion the Confirmation programme in the parish for 2017. It began with enrolments in early April and has been steadily gathering momentum over the weeks with a noticeably strong commitment from the overwhelming number of families. Thank you.

Organization throughout the programme has been of the highest standard, especially with operation of the various groups and workshops across the parish.

The new books have been very well received and feedback has been extremely positive. Parents are encouraged to continue bringing their children to Mass so as to further assist their spiritual formation and, in this way, invest seriously in their future happiness.



PILGRIMAGE TO ROME: A “Meet & Greet” luncheon has been organised in the Heritage Hall for Sunday 2nd July. Participants are invited to gather for about an hour from 12:30 PM. Father Sean and Father Michael will both be present to meet the pilgrims and to attend to a few minor formalities. The Sydney-based organizer of the tours, Mr Trevor Kenneally, will also be present to share information. It’s also understood that a large number of people will be travelling from the Southern Highlands for this auspicious occasion.

Apparently, the numbers travelling for the two pilgrimages – each for a week over two consecutive weeks – are very large with around 25-30 in each party.

In terms of the gathering on 2 July, beverages will be available upon arrival and followed by a light meal. The occasion also offers the opportunity for our own parish to return a little hospitality in response to the superb hospitality that has been provided on the many golf days that have been hosted over the years at Bowral and Mittagong.



Church Computer & Overheads Screens

The operation of our church computer to service the overhead screens has become an increasingly important part of Mass. With the words to prayers and sacred music on the screens, participation from among the many people in the congregation is noticeably better. And the words are, of course, especially useful for those who are not so familiar with the Church's sacred liturgy.

An appeal is again being extended to parishioners – especially from among our youth – to learn the rather simple procedure of providing this service. If interested, please contact Elizabeth during parish office hours or see Father Joe or Father Michael after Mass. If not so interested, still ring anyway. It won't cause any suffering.



Marian Movement of Priests

On May 8, 1972, Father Gobbi, an Italian priest from Milan, was on a pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal and was praying in the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima for some priests who had given up their vocations and were reportedly planning to rebel against the Roman Catholic Church. On that day he reported his first alleged communication from the Virgin Mary urging him to have confidence in the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to gather those priests that would be willing to consecrate themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and be strongly united with the Pope and the Catholic Church.

From this time, the Marian Movement of Priests (MMP) was established as an association of clergy and devoted laity. And it was from the MMP that meetings were held in which prayers were offered for priests & Catholics in general. These prayer meetings were called **Cenacles**.

The Vatican has not taken an official position on the many communications that Father Gobbi believes he has received from Mary. However, various cardinals have been members of the MMP which continues to meet regularly in Rome. Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass with Father Gobbi each year.

The three fundamental spiritual values of the MMP are formally expressed in Father Gobbi's circulars as: (1) personal consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, (2) unity & devotion to the Pope, and (3) leading the faithful to trust the Virgin Mary. The MMP places special emphasis on the power of praying the Holy Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration as effective means of strengthening the Church.



In our own parish members of the MMP have been meeting in cenacles for approximately seven years. Parishioners who are interested in the MMP are welcome to attend the Cenacle after 9.00am Mass on Wednesday mornings.