



ST PAUL'S

ST CLARE'S

*Bulletin Highlights*

*Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A*

*30th July 2017*

*Parish Pastoral Council*

The most recent meeting last Wednesday had a special focus upon Father Joe's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. The committee entrusted with the various details were able to report that everything is developing according to plan. Our parishioners are invited to the celebrations with the 10:00 AM Mass on the 27<sup>th</sup> August followed by a three-course meal with beverages across the road in the Council Auditorium at 12 noon. There will be a few formalities that can be expected to be most interesting. The cost is just \$50/person, and all would be placed at a table in advance. 'Should be another wonderful event for the parish, as well as for Father Joe and for his many family and friends. Please ring the parish office for more information.



**PARISH PROJECTS:** At the beginning of the year, an amount of \$3.1m had been quarantined for the new church at St Clare's. A financial plan had been formulated to grow this amount at the rate of \$150,000 every six months.

Unfortunately, this plan may have been a little optimistic. However, after the first six months of 2017, the amount of \$3.1m had grown by \$100,000 to \$3.2m. With the continued financial commitment from parishioners, a total of at least \$3.3m is assured by the end of the year, and possibly more.

*With Gratitude*

Almsgiving is a form of holiness. And our parish has been blessed with so many genuinely charitable parishioners – and not just occasionally – but consistently over the long term. Many thanks are extended to the very large number of parishioners who continue to be so loyal, generous and committed to the parish. Holy charity is at the heart of parish life.

Our target was \$3.4 so every effort will be taken to try to achieve this goal. An architect will be commissioned once savings reach \$4m, hopefully within three to four years. When the finance plan was formulated late last year, there was an expectation that work on the church would begin in 2020. At this stage, it's not possible to be too exact. But parishioners are asked to continue to be seriously committed to try to achieve this timeline.

In terms of parishioners' contributions, and if in a stable and comfortable financial position, Father Michael's feels that from a rather modest income, his own monthly contribution of \$125/month may be helpful as a guide. Parishioners on a pension might find half that amount affordable. Many thanks!

## *Retirement Living*

Demolition is about to begin upon the old Camden high school at the lower end of John Street. The demolition is expected to take about three months. A new retirement complex will be built. Any parishioners who may be interested can ring 9252 5595.



## *Mass of Anointing*

Reminder to our parishioners, especially to those who are retired, that on the First Tuesday of each month at 9:00 AM, Father Whitty offers the Sacrament of Anointing during Mass to those in need of some kind of physical, emotional and spiritual healing. All most welcome.