



ST PAUL'S

ST CLARE'S

*Bulletin Highlights*

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

*7th January 2018*

*With Gratitude*

This weekend brings to conclusion the beautiful celebrations of the Christmas season with the Nativity of Jesus, the Feast of the Holy Family and the Epiphany. It's been a time of warmth, prayer and generosity.

Throughout the course of the year, our parishioners have extended remarkable generosity to a succession of appeals across the course of the year.

And finally, as if enough had not already been given, many parishioners offered gifts to the local clergy with thoughts of gratitude and affection. On behalf of the clergy, many, many thanks.



*Over 55s ~ An Invitation*

The next meeting has been scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> February at 10:00 AM in the Heritage Hall. New members are always welcome and will be invited to sit at a table with others for morning tea.

The Parish Over 55s has a long history spanning a few decades and many of our senior folk from around the local area have enjoyed a wonderful sense of fraternity over many years. So for those who would like a little company, please come along.

It would also be a good idea to come to the 9:00 AM Mass beforehand for a little spiritual nourishment, and then take a leisurely walk across from the church! Our gatherings usually have about 20 people present, and sometimes more.



*Chapel Cleaning*

A few more volunteers to clean the chapel would be greatly appreciated. The commitment is for one occasion in each month, with cleaning taking approximately 45 minutes. The chapel actually receives quite a lot of pedestrian traffic as people pass into the big church. And the cleaning does make a very big visual difference. Please contact our parish office during business hours if able to assist. With thanks

## *Take a risk and give the gift of faith!*

In our parish, there is a team of volunteers that take a risk and step out in faith. State Government schools do not provide lessons that teach the basic message about Jesus, nor about our faith and the great adventure that life can be with God.

We were all given our gift of faith by someone, someone stepped-up for us so that we would know Jesus. Each week of the school year Catechists present 30-minute lessons using a step-by-step lesson plan that helps Catholic children understand their faith, grow in love and maturity, and learn what it means to be Catholic.

Take a risk and give the gift of faith. Become a Catechist teacher or helper today! For more information, please call 4222 2416 or ask our parish priest for more information.



### ~~~~~ *Handel's Messiah ~Postscript* ~~~~~

To add a final note to our last week's PCN about the Handel's "Messiah" oratorio in our church on 17 December, the eloquent concluding words by our MC, Tony Lo Cascio, should not pass unnoticed. They reflected so eloquently the quality of the entire evening and paid special tribute to the contribution made by the Orchestra, Choir and Soloists of the Latter Day Saints. Tony said, *"It's hard to describe how incredibly beautiful your music was tonight. It is humbling to be present at such an awe-inspiring event and a great privilege to hear such majestic and glorious tones heralding and celebrating the birth, life, death and resurrection of the Messiah. Thank you!"* Well Done, Tony!



### *Altar Society*

There is currently a six-monthly roster with a small group of very dedicated ladies. One more is needed. The idea is that one lady will wash and iron altar lined for the 4 weeks of a month and then have five months off.

Tuition will be provided as altar linen needs to be washed and iron quite meticulously. Please contact our parish secretary, Elizabeth, for more information, or if able to assist.



### *Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*

Mass will be offered at 9:00 AM on this Monday 8 January by Father Joe to celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. All are invited, please come along to celebrate the conclusion of Christmas.

## *Marion 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 (IHM) and to gather those priests that would be willing to consecrate themselves to the IHM 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.