

ST PAUL'S ST CLARE'S

Bulletin Highlights

First Sunday of Lent ~ Year B

18th February 2018



Farewell to Bishop Peter Ingham



From L-R: Father Joe Nguyen (Camden), Father Mark De Battista (Picton), Father David Catterall (Oran Park), Father Sean Cullen (Bowral and Mittagong), Father John Whitty (Pastor Emeritus, Camden), Bishop Peter Ingham, Deacon Sam Gennaoui (Oran Park), Father Richard Green OSPPE (Moss Vale), Father Bernard Gordon (The Oaks), Father Michael Williams (Camden).

About 10 days ago, Bishop Peter visited Camden for the final time as the principal celebrant in a regional farewell Mass. The other parishes which also had a presence and representation were Moss Vale, Mittagong, Bowral, Picton, The Oaks and Oran Park. The Mass was very beautiful especially with the sacred music. And the Bishop delivered a heartfelt homily. At the conclusion of Mass, well over 100 people – many from the visiting parishes – came over to the Heritage Hall for light refreshments and a few brief formalities. Our kind regards are extended to Bishop Peter for a peaceful and healthy retirement.

Sacrament of Penance Programme

Personalised books are available for collection after all Masses this weekend. Before collecting the books, parents need to also complete a brief form and then collect another leaflet – which is a second version – to ensure that their children have been assigned to a workshop. Before the first workshop, which begins tomorrow Monday 19 February, parents are required to read the 'Parents Page' on page 3 and assist their children complete the home activity on page 4.

In further preparation for the workshops, parents are also asked to be punctual and turn off mobile phones. Infants or other children should only be brought along if they can remain quiet and settled. The workshops are most important for both children and parents, especially in terms of the way they share and discuss the contents of the book.

In past years, many families have found these programmes to be a wonderful way of sharing time with their children.



Over 55s ~ Meeting on 20th February

The next meeting of the Camden Over 55's group will be held this coming Tuesday 20 February in the Parish Meeting Room. All welcome to attend. For further enquiries, please contact Robyn on 0407 162 875.



Parish Mission Statement

Thanks to all who have responded so far. This has been an interesting exercise that has been unfolding over the past two years. More will be reported in coming weeks.



Ordination of Bishop-Elect, Most Reverend Brian Mascord

A bus will be departing John Street outside the Church on Thursday 22nd February at 4:30 PM to travel to the Wollongong Entertainment Centre. Boarding the bus will be from 4:15 PM.

It is expected to arrive about 5:30 PM but there's always a little added time for parking. Those attending will be invited to move to the parish's allocated seating from 6:00 PM. Mass begins at 7:00 PM and is expected to conclude soon after 9:00 PM. People will need to be back on board the bus by 9:45 PM for departure.

The bus has a capacity of 60 and, so far, 40 seats have been booked. The cost is \$15 per person. Please be mindful that the organisers may have allocated a fixed number of seats, possibly 50. This could vary according to demand from other parishes. Should be a great night with beautiful sacred music and bishops in attendance from across Australia. Organisers are expecting about 75 priests and 4,000 people.

Lent Event ~ 10 March

An Initiative of the Parish Pastoral Council

Another Lent Event is to be held on the Vigil to Laetare Sunday which is the Fourth Sunday of Lent. To have a complete experience of the Lent Event, our parishioners are invited to be present at the Vigil Mass and the walk rather casually to the Heritage Hall at about 6:00 PM with pre-dinner drinks for a 6:30 PM sit-down meal. Tables have about 9 or 10 parishioners. A per-person price of just \$15 includes a two-course meal with beverages. To make the evening even more interesting, members of the parish pastoral council again agreed there should be a few discussion topics.

As a matter of interest, one of the discussion topics at the most recent Advent Event in 2017 went as follows: *The football team is about to play in the grand-final with a good chance of winning. A strict curfew is imposed. But the two best players break the curfew midweek by having a good drink down at the local watering hole. They're caught. If they're stood down, the team's chances of winning are reduced enormously. What does the coach do? PS This is not a story about the NSW State of Origin Team.* Answers were very interesting!

