



ST PAUL'S

ST CLARE'S

Bulletin Highlights

The Nativity of John the Baptist

24th June 2018

John the Baptist was born to Zechariah and Elizabeth who were both well on in years.

At this time, the family was being visited by Mary who had only recently conceived miraculously with Jesus. John was exactly six months older.

So, for the benefit of those who like to plan in advance we're now exactly six months out from the Christmas Vigil



Morning Midweek Mass at St Paul's

Our parishioners are advised that from this coming Tuesday, midweek Mass at St Pauls will be celebrated in the big church which will be much warmer than the chapel. The air-conditioners will be switched on at 8:00 AM and turned off at the end of Mass. All our parishioners are invited to attend midweek Mass as a way coming more deeply into the presence of God in Word and Sacrament.



Parish Mission Statement ~ Background

Our Parish Pastoral Council has for a few years been discerning the value of a Parish Mission Statement. This has taken time, reading and discussion. Earlier this year a proposed parish mission statement was presented to all our parishioners in the weekly bulletin for assessment in the form of a survey. It was overwhelmingly endorsed.

Reasons for mission statements often vary. Some may be more concerned with stating unified goals, while others may be more of a business style with reference to purpose, scope, "product" and delivery. Others may provide emphases to various parish apostolates.

Mission statements need to be practical in nature. It would be nice to eradicate poverty in the world but that is far beyond the resources of a parish or even a national superpower. Rather than trying to eradicate poverty in the world, a mission statement may simply identify something more attainable like the delivery of groceries to needy families in the parish. Periodically, the objectives of a mission statement need to be assessed to ensure that the efforts of our parishioners are making a difference.

A mission statement should not change every few years. It should have a life span of at least five years and maybe even ten. It is envisaged that our own will be revisited in 2026. Our own parish pastoral council endorsed the following parish mission statement on 23rd May. It is also available on our website.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Established in 1859 and among the nation's first generation of parishes, the parishioners of St Paul's Camden embrace renewal and regeneration:

- A. by regularly contemplating the riches of Sacred Scripture, and by the frequent reception of Holy Communion and Absolution in the Confessional,
- B. by extending warmth, inclusion, and communion to all who want to participate in our sacred ceremonies in prayerfulness and reverence, and
- C. by a commitment to pastoral care and holy charity, producing a harvest of good works both within our own parish and far beyond.

With the grace of God, St Paul's aspires to provide a path of discipleship that is life-giving and life-changing.



Confirmation Programme 2018	Suburbs	Schools of Candidates		
<p>Our congratulations are extended to all the children and teenagers who will be celebrating their Confirmation this weekend. This most sacred experience is another pivotal moment in the further – and very significant – development of their spiritual formation.</p> <p>With the reception of the Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit, the Sacrament of Confirmation commissions the newly confirmed to bear witness to God with lives of genuine discipleship.</p> <p>Mums, dads & sponsors are encouraged to reflect upon their own Confirmation and – because of their adulthood – to an even deeper calling to genuine and enduring discipleship. Sunday Mass each week will always be a pivotal way of growing in the ways of the faith. Gratitude is extended to the wonderfully large majority of families who have been so supportive in recent months, and who have also been so responsive to the requirements of the programme. Much appreciated.</p> <p>Sincerely hope that all have had a positive experience of the programme, Sunday Mass, our parishioners, our sacred music and (dare we say!) our local clergy. And very special thanks to all our regular and dedicated parishioners for your supportive presence at Mass over the past few months.</p>	Camden	11	Austral PS	1
	Camden Park	8	Camden HS	3
	Camden South	10	Camden PS	2
	Catherine Field	2	Camden South PS	5
	Cawdor	2	Cawdor PS	1
	Cobbitty	4	Cobbitty PS	2
	Currans Hill	11	Currans Hill PS	1
	Elderslie	13	Elderslie PS	1
	Ellis Lane	4	Elizabeth Macarthur HS	1
	Grasmere	7	King Park PS	1
	Harrington Park	11	Lawrence Hargrave HS	1
	Kirkham	3	Mawarra PS	1
	Mount Annan	38	Mount Annan PS	3
	Narellan	6	Narellan Vale PS	1
	Narellan Vale	13	Oran Park Anglican	1
	Orangeville	2	Oran Park PS	2
	Razorback	4	Spring Farm PS	2
	Spring Farm	12	St Clare's NV	77
	Theresa Park	1	St Justin's OP	1
	Werombi	2	St Paul's Camden	66
Wedderburn	1	St Peter's Anglican	1	
Other	13	William Carey CS	1	
	178		178	
<p>Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety and Fear of the Lord.</p> <p>Fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Trustfulness, Gentleness, Self-control.</p>				

Catholic Enrichment Programme

Many people have come to a wonderful relationship with God through the Catholic Church. A programme began last week that assists people to know and understand more about the Catholic faith. The initial evening attracted about 20 people. The programme is designed for adults although older teenagers may also be enriched by attending.

An excellent resource book, entitled "***Evangelium – Sharing the riches of the Catholic Faith***" has been provided to guide participants through the programme. Should be a wonderful experience. Indeed, in the parish of Bowral in the Southern Highlands, about 30 people gather each week, many of whom are Catholic, who simply want to deep their knowledge of the Church's teaching. Please notify Elizabeth if interested in attending.