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EASTER: LIVING GOD'S JOY

It was Mom's birthday and I was 12 years old. I made her a card that said "I love you mom!" and when I gave it to her I said, "Thank you for being my mom and for giving me life." She responded with a smile, saying, "It was a pleasure!"

Easter joy is living in gratitude for the gift of life, especially newborn life and life that has come at a great price. Easter joy is understood in a special way by those who know what it means to have life because of the sacrifice of others.

Easter is a joyful celebration of Jesus' life lived for others, given for others and which continues to live on in a new way. He lives on in a special way in the lives of all those who have followed in his path, some without even knowing it as seen in Matthew 25:31-40: "I was a hungry and you gave me food...". He is risen; let us rejoice and be glad!

I know that he lives when I see him in the people around me. It is not about religion. It is about a man, a person who shows us our true nature and mission as sons and daughters of a loving and compassionate God. For Catholics, we do this in a special way during the celebration of the Mass, the Eucharist (which by the way is the Greek word for "thanksgiving"). We remember Jesus and give thanks and praise to God for the gift of new life. His suffering and death was not in vain.

Easter joy is living in God's joy and finding ways to pass this hope and joy on to others. It is the joy of giving life. And after expressing our gratitude, I imagine God smiling and saying, "It is a pleasure!"

Your Parish Priest, Joseph Kanatt

St Patrick's Mass Times:

Mondays and Tuesdays 7am
Wednesdays 7pm
Thursdays and Fridays 7am
Saturdays 8am and 6pm
Sundays 7am, 9am and 6pm
1st Friday of month, Healing Mass
Fridays Exposition of Sacrament 7am-7pm
Saturdays Mass/Novena 8am
Rosary in the Chapel 9am

St Patrick's Weekly Activities:

Mondays 9am Adult Meditation
Mondays 3:15pm Children's Meditation
6:30pm Choir Practice
Tuesdays 8am Rosary in the Chapel
10:30am Charismatic Prayer Group
12:30pm Legion of Mary
7pm 1st & 3rd Tues every month
Together-in-Faith Prayer Group
Sundays 9am Children's Liturgy

IN OUR PARISH

Children's Liturgy



At the beginning of the year Fr Joseph decided to revisit the Liturgy of the Word with Children by inviting Sr Kari, member of the Diocesan Evangelisation Team, to give guidance and formation to the volunteer catechists.

After 9am Sunday Mass Sr Kari presented us with the Diocesan Guidelines for Children's Liturgy of the Word and assisted us in the process of planning the Lenten sessions. She supported the group with wise suggestions regarding rosters and the venue for gathering the children each week.

Children's Liturgy of the Word is a parish ministry and the initial five enthusiastic volunteers will need support. Parents are invited to encourage their young children (school age) to join the group at the beginning of Mass.

Each week during the 20-25 minutes that children are with the catechists, they participate in different modified parts of the Sunday liturgy. They have a gathering, a Penitential Rite, they listen to the Word, reflect, discuss and respond, make a simple Profession of Faith and participate in Prayers of the Faithful. Following this they re-join the assembly bringing the offertory gifts.

The purpose of adapting liturgical celebrations to make them more accessible to children must always be to gradually lead them to full conscious and active participation in the Sunday liturgical assembly. (From Brisbane Guidelines for Children Liturgy).

Sr Angela Sambusida FdCC

Sr Angela in her garden

A short Easter prayer

God made you and God made me,
He made the world for us to see.
God loves you and long ago,
He sent his Son to tell us so.

Jesus showed us many things,
To love and share and dance and sing.
To learn and pray, to help and care,
He promised he'd always be there.

He died but then came back to life,
Let's celebrate for he's alive!

Amen

Submitted by Erica Ng

http://www.living-prayers.com/events/easter_prayers.html#ixzz4bzx6hZA8

Easter Calendar

Palm Sunday April 8 & 9

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 7am, 9am and 6pm

Holy Thursday April 13

7pm Mass

Good Friday April 14

Stations of the Cross 10am

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3pm

Easter Saturday April 15

Easter Vigil Mass at 6pm

Easter Sunday April 16

7am & 9am Mass

No 6pm Mass

PARISH PROGRESS

The Granny Flat

Dear St Patrick's Parishioners,

Since 22nd February I feel so very blessed and proud that I am allowed to rent the Parish Granny Flat. Let me assure you that I could not be happier in my new accommodation. Initially I thought that the Granny Flat might be too small for me as I moved from a medium three bedroom house.

Well it is absolutely perfect for my needs and it is a very opportune time to sort out what I really need and what is clutter. So of necessity I've been downsizing and could not be happier!!! It is amazing what one accumulates over time and some decisions to let go of some things are more difficult than others.

Still I am starting a new life after losing my beloved husband Dave on 20th September 2016 and ever so slowly I am coming to terms with losing him and knowing that he has gone to God's care and a better place and that he no longer is suffering.

Fr Joseph was very kind and blessed the Granny Flat a day after I moved in and he did it so well. Thank you Fr Joseph!

After leaving an extremely volatile situation at my old address I now feel save and being away from all the memories, good and bad in the old house, I am starting to feel better every day.

Thank you for letting me rent the Granny Flat. My initial lease is for 12 months. What happens then we will have to wait and see?

Theresa Houghton, Parish Secretary



Fr Joseph blessing the Granny Flat, assisted by John Truelson

About the People of our Parish (and air-conditioning)

I've wanted to write this story about St Patricks and of the people in it for a long time, for Beenleigh is a great Parish, and filled with such a variety of people who do so much work in and around it, and that's what keeps turning the wheel of progress, for it never stops turning, and that's what keeps the Parish moving along, in so many ways and in various areas.

There are so many doing so much here, that there will be some, whom we will never meet, but they will know who they are, and that's all that counts. – Look to the many, many people who helped finance the two buildings the Parish House and the Presbytery where all future Priests will live, also the granny flat. What gracious and loving people we have, and they still continue to give.

The next step was to put in the air-conditioners into our church, as when the years go on it seems to get hotter as do our summers, so thank you to ALL for your contributions, whether by prayers or with finances for that particular event. I wish there was space big enough to put all the names of the many, many people down on paper. God Bless them ALL.

But of course we have a Priest, who is so clever in the way he gets people to say there YES! Only a few weeks ago he said to me, do you want air conditioners in the church and I said "Yes please". He said "Can you give me 5 dollars?" Well I thought how clever indeed, he only smiles and people are giving their Yes too.

I know for certain, all the names of the helpers will be written, but not on paper, but on the Heart of Jesus. May the Good Lord bless you all and place His heart in yours, for what you have done for the Parish of St Patricks Beenleigh. God loves you ALL and so do I.

Betty Graver

ST PATRICK'S DAY



Father Joseph celebrated a lovely Mass for St Patrick's Day, supported by the Parish choir led by Anne Tracy.

After Mass we shared a light supper with lots of different foods, Australian and Multicultural. South African chilli bites were a particular success.

Our church got its name back in 1875 when the old church was first consecrated. Most Catholics were Irish in those days and St Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. When the new church was opened in 1980, the old church remained and has been used by the Parish and school for different purposes until this day.

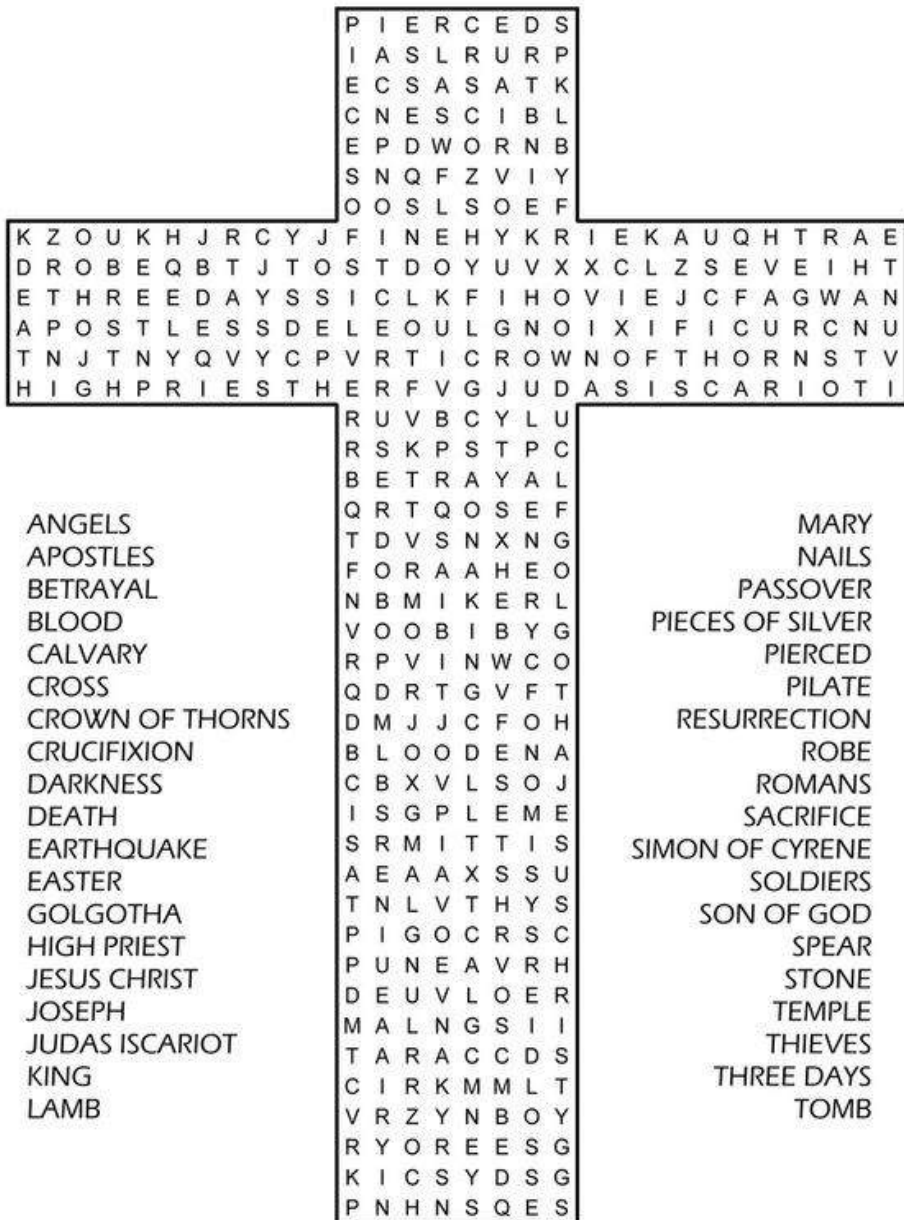


The old church stood in Yatala before being moved first to Wharf Street in Beenleigh and then to its current site. In the old days the congregation was part of the Parish (or Mission) of Logan. This huge parish was later divided, in 1892 and Beenleigh and Yatala became part of Southport Parish. In 1925 Beenleigh became part of Yeronga Parish and around 1943 Beaudesert Parish until finally in 1955 Beenleigh became its own, St Patrick's Parish.

Photos kindly supplied by Mary McBride. From top; St Patrick's picture in front of the lectern, Patricia and her friend enjoying supper, Tamara, Colleen and Angela relaxing in the kitchen and Fr Joseph with Anne Tracey.



Easter Word Search



ANGELS
APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
BLOOD
CALVARY
CROSS
CROWN OF THORNS
CRUCIFIXION
DARKNESS
DEATH
EARTHQUAKE
EASTER
GOLGOTHA
HIGH PRIEST
JESUS CHRIST
JOSEPH
JUDAS ISCARIOT
KING
LAMB

MARY
NAILS
PASSOVER
PIECES OF SILVER
PIERCED
PILATE
RESURRECTION
ROBE
ROMANS
SACRIFICE
SIMON OF CYRENE
SOLDIERS
SON OF GOD
SPEAR
STONE
TEMPLE
THIEVES
THREE DAYS
TOMB

UP-COMING FEASTS AND HOLY DAYS

April 26 St Mark, Evangelist

The second Gospel was written by St. Mark, who, in the New Testament, is sometimes called John Mark. Both he and his mother, Mary, were highly esteemed in the early Church, and his mother's house in Jerusalem served as a meeting place for Christians there.

April 28 St Peter Chanel

St. Peter Chanel was born in France in 1803. He entered the diocesan Seminary, but later joined the Marists and was appointed in 1836 to the mission of the New Hebrides and subsequently to the Island of Futuna. He was martyred in 1841. He is the patron saint of Oceania.

April 29 St Catherine of Siena

A Dominican Tertiary, St Catherine pacified the civil discords of her country and was largely responsible for the return of Pope Gregory XI from Avignon to Rome. She was imprinted with the sacred stigmata. She died in Rome in 1380 at 30 years of age.

May 3 Sts Philip & James, Apostles

St Philip, like Peter and Andrew, was from Bethsaida. He was crucified at Hierapolis in Phrygia where he preached the Gospel. **St James the Less** was a cousin of our Lord and a brother of the apostle Jude. He wrote one of the Epistles of the New Testament. He was hurled down from the terrace of the temple and clubbed to death.

May 13 Our Lady of Fatima

The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared six times to three shepherd children near the town of Fatima, Portugal between May 13 and October 13, 1917. She told them that she had been sent by God with a message for every man, woman and child living in our century. Coming at a time when civilization was torn asunder by war and violence, she promised that Heaven would grant peace to all the world if her requests for prayer, reparation and consecration were heard and obeyed.

May 24 Our Lady, Help of Christians – Patroness of Australia

This title of Mary is associated with the defence of Christian Europe, the north of Africa and the Middle East from non-Christian peoples during the Middle Ages. In 1572, the Islamic Ottoman Empire intended to invade Christian Europe. Pope Pius V called Christian armies from all over Europe to defend the continent and asked the believers to pray to Mary for protection. The defeat of the Turks was attributed to the intercession of Mary under this title.

May 26 St Philip Neri

He was born in Florence. Ordained a priest, he founded the Congregation of the Priests of the Oratory. He was noted for his zeal in converting sinners by means of the confessional. He died at 80 years of age in 1595, after having demonstrated many miraculous gifts.

May 27 St Augustine of Canterbury

St Augustine was sent by St Gregory the Great to England to convert the people to Christianity. At Canterbury he erected a monastery and there established his Episcopal See. He died in 604.

May 31 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This feast recalls the visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to her cousin Elizabeth shortly after the Annunciation; the cleansing of John the Baptist from original sin in the womb of his mother at the words of Our Lady's greeting; Elizabeth's proclaiming of Mary as Mother of God as "blessed among women"; Mary's singing of the sublime hymn, *Magnificat* which has become a part of the daily official prayer of the Church.



Anne Erbacher.

Weight Reduction Clubs

Woodridge

Wednesday 5.30 -8pm
St Pauls Catholic Church
Library
8 Talganda St
Woodridge
Contact: Kay Killeen
0421 774 806
wrewoodridge@gmail.com

Eagleby

Monday 9.30 - 11.30am
Eagleby Community Hall
Cope Avenue
Eagleby
Contact: Dianne Christensen
3807 3725
di-anne1022@hotmail.com

Mt Warren Park

Monday 6-15-8.15pm
Mt Warren Park State
School Staff Room
97-125 Mt Warren Blvd
Mt Warren Park.
Contact: Heather Jewel
3804 1046
hjadmin1@bigpond.com

Volunteering Opportunities

ST VINCENT de PAUL – ST PATRICK’S CONFERENCE – BEENLEIGH

Call Centre: Help one morning per week at our call centre where people come to us to receive assistance. We are open Mon to Fri between 9.00am and 1.00pm.

Call John Maksimas (55466630 or 0410602549) or Fay O’Toole (0407465478).

Bread Run: Pickup from Bakers Delight at the Loganholme Hyperdome on a Tuesday evening at 6.00pm. The bread is brought back to the Vinnies house, packaged and placed in freezers. The whole process takes less than 11/2 hours every five or six weeks.

Call Alan Battle (38040380 or 0423620726) or John Maksimas (55466630 or 0410602549).

ROSIES FRIENDS ON THE STREET

Rosies was established in 1975 and is a Catholic Charity of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Rosies offers acceptance and friendship to people who are marginalised within our community, through street visits *where we* socialise with our friends without prejudice; provide a cuppa and bite to eat; provide other basic support needs; and connect with services or support agencies. For more information: <http://rosies.org.au>

Centenary of our Lady of Fatima—May 13

This year is the 100th anniversary of Holy Mary’s historic appearance to three shepherd children at Fatima. Sister Lucia, the eldest of the children said: “She (Mary) told me that God is giving two remedies to the world; The Holy Rosary and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. On another occasion, Mary told a holy nun: “Nothing can please me more than the words of the Angel: ‘Hail, Full of Grace, the Lord is with Thee! Blessed art though among women!’.”

If we wish to be soldiers of Mary, we should recite those holy words—which came at the Annunciation from Almighty God Himself, through the mouth of the Archangel Gabriel— as often as we can. Ideally in a daily Rosary. Or even in a quick Angelus prayer. But a loving “Hail Mary!” is never wasted as it is always pleasing to Our Lady. And to Our Lord, who promised: “Whoever honours my Mother, Honours Me!”

Our Parish celebrates the Rosary as a scheduled devotion twice a week—at 7:30am on Tuesdays, and at 9am on Saturdays. Informal Rosaries are held most other weekday mornings.

From article by Cedric Wright



OUR SCHOOLS

Mother Teresa School Little Legends



Gold Coast Suns coach and players joined Year 2 students at Mother Teresa School to launch the Little Legends program

YEAR 2 students at Mother Teresa School, Ormeau, put some hard-hitting questions to players from the Gold Coast Suns at the launch of the AFL club's Little Legends program.

Suns players Tom Lynch, Peter Wright, Jarrod Witts and Brandon Matera and coach Rodney Eade shared a few of their secrets with the budding reporters during the Q&A session.

Questions included what they had for breakfast every day, how often did they train and what career would they have chosen if they had not made it as an AFL player?

Year 2 teacher Gina Lyons said the students were very excited in the lead up to the visit. She said they were ready with their questions well in advance of the players arriving.

"I think they did a beautiful job," she said.

"They were quite confident and I really liked their leading questions and the way they were able to communicate with our special guests."

Gina said the Sun's visit would be a great memory for the students, one they would carry with them throughout their lives.

"For some of them it might even inspire them to either become AFL players or maybe journalists," she said.

One of those budding journalists was Summer Henshaw, who asked a question about what the players did after they won a game.

"I had butterflies in my stomach when I stood up to ask my question," she said.

"They told me that they all gathered together in the dressing room and sang the club song."

To her delight, the players then asked the students to form a circle in the classroom and join them in singing the victory song, which they all sang with gusto.

"That was very exciting," Summer said.

Summer said she found the players very funny and very friendly. Suns ruckman Jarrod Witts was also game enough to lay on the floor so the students could measure his height (nobody was tall enough to measure him standing) and add the result to the class height wall.

The players and coach then signed balls, caps, and anything else put in front of them and later joined the students for a special cupcake made especially for the visit.

<http://www.bne.catholic.edu.au/news/Pages/Suns-visit.aspx>

OUR SCHOOLS

St Joseph's School Celebrations



*St Joseph Feast Day Mass.
Fr Joseph receiving a Children's Lectionary as a gift
from the school. Vice captains and Principal, Steve
Johnson.*



*Leadership Mass in St Joseph's school
Hall*

St Joseph's Young Leaders

Photos by Mary McBride

Mother Teresa School

Principal Mr Peter Kerrins
5549 5000

30/3 Holy Prayer Week
24/4 Parish Sacramental pro-
gram information session
25/4 Anzac Day March

St Joseph's Tobruk School

Principal Mt Stephen Johnson
3287 2798

28/4 Gala Day
3/5 Pacific X-Country
Liturgy every Thursday 9am
Sr Jenny cuppa Fri 8:30-9:30

Trinity College

Principal Mr Chris Raju
43325222

Student enrolments: call
tel:1300 753 276
Years 7-12 for 2017, 2018 and
2019.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

What is the purpose of the St Vincent de Paul Society?

The purpose of the Society is to fulfil two great Commandments; love of God and love of neighbour. Vincentians seek out God's needy, and assist them where they can. No need is too great or too small, for as we come close to those in need, we indeed come closer to God.

At the heart of what we do is "the sharing of ourselves, person to person, and the sharing of what we have....food, clothing, shelter, skills, advice etc." Our aim is to give people 'a hand up, not just a hand out' to help get them back on their feet, so they can decide on the direction of their lives. Jesus expects us to recognise Him in the down and out, those suffering from substance addictions and those who are most rejected by society.

Jesus said "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do something for these brothers and sisters of mine, you neglected to do it to me."

The recipients of Vincentian assistance are not causes or institutions, they are people who are loved and valued by God. So what are we prepared to do for others?

At this moment people less fortunate than ourselves urgently need your talents, your know-how, your concern and your love. By becoming a member of the Vincentian family, you will have an opportunity to put your faith into action and leave 'heart prints of kindness' by helping people in need personally, materially, socially and spiritually.

Are YOU interested in becoming involved with our society?

Are you a recent retiree?

Are you self employed but in the fortunate position of being able to spare at least one morning each week?

We would love people from the younger age groups to join our family. I fully understand that work commitments would pose a problem for the vast majority of our parishioners, but there may be some whose personal circumstances may allow them to become involved.

For more information contact Fay O'Toole 0407465478 or Veronica Ghidella 0413462233.

Winter Appeal 2017.

The Australia wide St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal will be conducted in our Parish on the weekend of 3rd/4th June. Collection envelopes will be available at all masses. Your financial support large or small will be greatly appreciated.

St Vincent de Paul Dinner.

This yearly event will be conducted on :

Friday 28th July - St Joseph's School Hall

We are looking forward to:

- # Some great food.
- # Entertainment from the youth in our area.
- # Chance to win some great prizes.
- # A very enjoyable evening, if last year is any indication.

John Maksimas, president



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER PHILIPPINES

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian lay-women's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year. Every year, worship service focuses on a different country and a specific theme.



St Patrick's was represented by the Filipino community and members from the Together-in-Faith prayer group at this event. The local event was hosted by the Uniting Church in Mt Warren Park. Next year it will be hosted by St Patrick's, a beautiful event for our church.

Pictures: Marian and Marleine with organisers, Luli, Linda and Marian preparing for their reading.

Submitted by Marleine Azar



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When a family experiences the heartache and difficulty of the loss of a loved one, funeral arrangements can be a stressful time for everyone involved. Organising for a prepaid funeral can lighten some of that burden and relieve your family in a time of sorrow.

Planning for the future is a prudent approach

Nobody likes to think about it, but the fact remains that we are only on this earth for a short time. Pre-arranging a funeral is no different from saving for a holiday or putting money away for an investment. Pre-planning a funeral is a logical and sensitive way to ensure your passing can be celebrated with as little stress possible on the ones who love you. Our professional and helpful funeral director can guide you in completing the appropriate paperwork – nothing morbid or sad, just like filling out a will – practical, sensible and easy.

Holy Cross Funerals can ensure you have the funeral you want

Many people have personal requirements or guidelines they would like their funeral to follow. Often this is something that's thought about in passing and not discussed with loved ones or family. Pre-arranging a funeral gives your family the ability to follow your wishes as they are outlined in your pre-arranged funeral documentation.

Sureplan Funeral Insurance



Sureplan has managed funeral funds since 1935 and understands what is required when a family loses a loved one. That is why Sureplan pays the funeral benefit within 24 hours of being advised as to the passing of a member as we know this relieves the financial stress for the family. In 1999 Sureplan launched a funeral savings fund called Sureplan Gold that had been designed specifically to cater for the needs of people who wanted to pre-fund their funeral.

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Visit our website: www.holycrossfunerals.com**


Holy Cross
FUNERALS



The friendly staff at Holy Cross Funerals assist families at the death of their loved ones, to ensure that the funeral rites are conducted with dignity and with love. For Christians, the funeral rites assist the family to farewell their loved one through worship, praise and thanksgiving for the gift of a life now returned to God, the Creator and the hope of the just. The Church, through the funeral rites, commends its beloved to God's merciful care and the celebration brings hope and consolation to the bereaved family and friends

*Burials *Cremations *Repatriations

*Pre- Arrangements *Funeral Bonds

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Email: info@holycrossfunerals.com

www.holycrossfunerals.com

The Parish Council

We have a new Parish Council and at our first meeting we established that the purpose of the council is to *"Enrich the community life by providing opportunities for parishioners and their smaller communities"*.

To this end the new Parish Council is looking to you the parishioners for suggestions to improve our parish. Please feel free to talk to any of the parish councillors about your ideas. We have a suggestion form you can fill in and return to us by placing it in the suggestion box in the Truelson Room or giving to one of the Parish Councillors.



From left Loa Su'a, Colleen Sheehan, Monica Boucek (chairperson), Vin Russell, Fr Joseph Kanatt, John Maksimas, Theresa Grieg (Deputy Chairperson), Peter Witham, Erica Ng (Secretary), Michael Zarate and Ken Maloney (inset).

There are four new Parish Council members:

Loa Su'a: Loa is a Eucharistic Minister, a member of the liturgy group, the parish choir and also leads her own music group. She has Samoan background and is a great supporter of our Multicultural Day.

Colleen Sheehan: Colleen was in the parish council in the early eighties and together with her husband John worked tirelessly for the church for many years. We are very lucky to have her back on the council.

Peter Witham: Peter and his wife, Irene, have three beautiful children, all born in the Parish and now attending St Joseph's. They greatly enjoy being part of the Parish and School life, but, like many Parishioners, find they have many commitments - school, sports, family, friends and Church - pulling them in different directions. Peter is keen to help us, as a Council and a broader Church community, make it easy for Parishioners to experience the benefits of being involved in this Community, even in these busy times.

Michael Zarate: A local resident in Beenleigh, Mike is also part of the choir and an altar server. His wife, Delia is a reader, a choir member and one of the leaders in Children's liturgy.

Thank you to all new councillors for taking up the challenge and to all remaining members for your commitment to the Parish

Monica Boucek, Chairperson