



The Transfiguration Newsletter

Hello All,

Welcome to the first edition of Transfiguration!

With this publication, the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) provides a platform to inform our communities about things that are happening in our parish, areas that the PPC is focusing on and opportunities for engagement and help.

Although our email list in response to the pandemic has been a great blessing, we know that there are many people in our parish for whom we do not have any information, so cannot reach them. If you know anyone who would like the Parish to be in contact, or need support, or to be included in our community, please contact the office with details or ask them to.

From minimal contact collections, wiping down of pews after each mass, signing in and sanitiser, only sitting in the yellow dot seats, zoom PPC meetings and zoom meetings with families with children for sacraments, things in 2020 have looked quite different and presented a number of challenges.

The PPC has continued to meet on the first Thursday of the month. We drafted to develop the Parish Council Guidelines and rules of governance. We have continued our work on tasks from the Pastoral Plan written in 2018, and continue to implement strategies that support our goals of A Place for All, Prayerful Encounter with Jesus and Each Other, and To Give Hope and to Reach Out in Love.

The Baptism Group meets with candidates for Baptism and their families once a month,

Children's Liturgy has continued to grow, The Parish Centre Committee has morphed into the Hospitality Group which provides wonderful enhancement for events held in the Parish Centre. An extension of our PPC goals has been the opportunity to belong to our wider Diocesan community through a group of Parish Pastoral Chairs which was born of the pandemic and provides a forum for sharing ideas on strengthening our communities, what works, what hasn't. It is wonderful to feel connected.

In December the PPC hosted gatherings to celebrate and acknowledge the work of those who fill Ministries/rosters in the Parish.

Our first task in February will be the stepping down of some members and renewal of the PPC. The current members have served two years and some positions will become vacant early next year. I urge you to think about your ability to serve on this important council. At the start of the year we will announce the date for a night of discernment and in the meantime you are very welcome to approach any current PPC members and ask about the role and requirements.

I wish all of you a prayerful and reflective season of Advent as we move with deliberation to the Birth of our Lord and I wish you and all your families and carers and loved ones a very Happy and Holy Christmas.

Jane Hunt
Chairperson PPC
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Archbishop Visit



We had the pleasure of having Archbishop Christopher Prowse celebrate mass in September, followed by morning tea with many parishioners.

Talking Series

This year, in a socially distanced manner of course, the PPC has conducted our first talk with Dr. Bruce Stevens in October and Anne Kirwan in November. This will be the beginning of what we hope will be an ongoing series of talks on a wide variety of subjects.



The first talk for 2021 is already locked in! If you have any topics of interest you would like addressed or a speaker you feel others would like to hear please contact us.

Floriade

Floriade was reimagined this year with the annual spring celebration moving from its traditional home in Commonwealth Park to various places across Canberra. Check out



our beautiful geranium blooms at both churches.

Parish Groups & Hospitality

The Parish has around twenty different groups with volunteers offering assistance to the Parish Priest in running the Parish. These groups range from Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Baptism Preparation, Gardening, Church Cleaning, Liturgy, Acolytes, Readers, Communion to Sick.

Please consider joining one or more of these groups - make new friends, have fun and in doing so spend time with Jesus.

The Hospitality Group, established in September 2020, organises and delivers social functions for the Parish, such as lunch meetings for Southern Deanery, morning tea for Friday anointing Masses, Christmas drinks for Parish volunteers.

Social functions have been successful and well attended. These functions will continue to be hosted in the new year, as well as guest speaker talks. We look forward to having other Parishioners get involved.



Parish Pastoral Council members

Msgr John Woods, Jane Hunt (Chair), Maggie Grove, Luke Howden, Christine McLaughlin, Claire Fraiser, Margaret Wilson, Julie Long, Brendan Long, Yohan Mathai and Clyde D'Rosario