

Message from Geoff Joy, Chair, Parish Pastoral Council

As a new member and now chair of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), I list below a few items from the Parish Pastoral Plan (2019-2022) and the PPC Guidelines published February 2021.

The PPC seeks:

- To work in collaboration with the Parish Priest in nurturing the parish community as followers of Jesus Christ.
- To listen and respond to the hopes, ideas, needs and concerns of parishioners.
- To generate responses to identified issues.
- To encourage and support the good work of existing groups within our parish.

These aims are in line with Pope Francis' call for a 'synodal' church in which the parish is a true Christian community of Welcome, Liturgy and Outreach. The PPC will keep you informed of specific events via the Parish Bulletins.

Geoff Joy (E: gandkjoy@gmail.com)

Welcome back Father John and thanks to visiting priests

Following a successful hip replacement operation, we welcomed Father John back to Masses on the weekend of 25-26 March. The parish was very fortunate to have four visiting priests celebrate both weekday and weekend Masses, and we thank them most sincerely. Thanks also to the Liturgy Group for conducting a Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion on the Thursday evenings during that time.

Passing of Gary Parker

It is with much sadness that we remember Gary Parker, who died suddenly from heart failure on Saturday 18 February 2023, aged 74 years. Gary served as an acolyte in our Parish for some years, and his loss is felt by us all.



Easter glory.

We remember especially Lois, Gary's wife, and their children Andrew, David, Patrea and Anita, and extended family. May Gary rest in peace to rise in

Symbols



Symbols bring together at least two ideas (from the Greek *sumballein*, 'to throw together'). You might be interested to know that the opposite is 'to scatter' (from the Greek *diaballein*, where our word 'diabolical' comes from). During Lent flowers in front of the altar were replaced by the featured symbol. What did it say to you?

The Mass relies on symbols: A table for the nourishment of God's Word (ambo) and another for the Eucharist (altar), a red sanctuary light/lamp, a large Easter candle, dialogue and movement. What do kneeling, sitting, genuflecting, standing, processing tell us? How does the shape of our church 'speak' to us? What other symbols have you noticed in the liturgy?

Show 'N Shine

On Sunday 26 March, our parish, in association with the ACT Street Machine Association, held our second 'Show 'N Shine'. Many came to see the beautifully maintained cars, and their donations along with a percentage from the cost of entering a car saw \$1426 raised for Camp Quality.



'He is risen!' – The Easter Triduum

The Easter Triduum (meaning "three days") is the most sacred time of the Church's year. The Triduum is understood as a single event (hence after each liturgy we were urged to preserve a stillness of self, until we met again).



On Holy Thursday, we gathered to celebrate Jesus' servanthood in the Last Supper and washing of feet, followed by his betrayal and arrest. The Good Friday morning Stations of the Cross invited us to face our sinfulness and need of redemption.

At the solemn afternoon liturgy Lutheran Pastor Tim Muller again joined us, expanding our awareness of the Christian family. The

Passion was proclaimed, the Cross venerated, and the many needs of people prayed for.

Easter Sunday, beginning with the Vigil, was the crown of the Triduum. Darkness contrasted with the Easter Fire, announcing Christ as Light of the World. The Exultet proclaimed the Risen Saviour before extracts from the Old Testament recalled the story of salvation where God showed his never-failing love for humanity. This culminated in the Gospel explosion of hope and joy in Jesus' rising (and its implications for us as disciples). We thank all those involved in the Easter Triduum liturgies. Alleluia! Alleluia!



At the Easter Sunday evening Mass, Evaristus Eze was baptized. His reception into the Church was a reminder of our being called to new life in the waters of baptism.

Renewal of Liturgical Ministry Rosters

Thanks to all who are part of the recently renewed liturgical ministries rosters. If you would like to volunteer, visit the Parish

Office or see a member of the Parish Liturgy Committee, namely, Margaret Ryan, Emma Fairfax, Sr Angela or Father John.

Parish Pastoral Council

Along with Fr John, the following parishioners make up our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC).

Geoff Joy - Geoff was educated in Catholic schools and, in his own words, "had the good fortune for 50 years as an adult in or around Catholic schools as a teacher, Principal and Director in two Archdiocesan Catholic Education Offices, the last 14 years in our Archdiocesan CEO. "As an 'oldie', Geoff hopes to contribute to the Parish Pastoral Council, mindful that Pope Francis said recently, "Old age was not a time to 'give up and lower the sails but a reason for enduring fruitfulness...a new mission awaits us and bids us look to the future".

Julie Long - Julie has been a part of the parish for over 20 years. She lives in Curtin with her beautiful family. As a continuing PPC member, Julie would love to represent your thoughts as to how to enhance the life of our great parish.

Jenny Mardel - Being relatively new to the parish, Jenny hopes that she will bring a fresh perspective. She is well suited to do so with previous experience on another PPC, raising a family, cultivating varied personal interests, and with a particular concern for equity in her teaching and government career. When received into the Catholic Church 30 years ago, Jenny was moved by the sentiments of the hymn, 'Come As You Are'. Jenny hopes to encourage parishioners to do just that as we are all "Walking Together".

Shane McMahon - Originally from India, Shane has been a member of the Parish since 2009 and a member of the PPC for about two years. Having previously worked in the private sector, and with qualifications in business management, Shane is now in the Australian Public Service working for a federal government organisation.

Glenn Roff - Glenn has been involved in Catholic education for 50 years. He has been a principal in six schools/colleges, Assistant Director in the Catholic Education Office (CEO) in the Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn, and Director of the CEO in Cairns. He received an OAM for services to education in 2023. Glenn has been a member of four other Parish Councils, most recently in the Lismore Cathedral parish.

John Welsby - John is a storyteller, tech guru, and mental health advocate. Born in Canberra, he has lived in Bangkok, Perth, Washington, and Sydney. He is a graduate of Holy Trinity School (Class of '96). He is passionate about helping others and runs his own IT support business. He hopes to study Theology in the future.

The PPC meets at 6pm on the first Wednesday of the month (except January). Advance written notice of your thoughts and comments would be most welcome.