



Lake Illawarra sunset by Sinh Le



Saint Paul's
CATHOLIC PARISH ALBION PARK

1867 - 2017

Honouring 150 years of Parish life

Parish Ministry Directory

At St Paul's we are striving to grow in faith. The information in these pages is here to make you feel that this is your home and give you a sense of belonging as we begin our 151st year.

Fr Richard Healey, Parish Priest

If you want to find out the exact time that a group meets each week, visit the calendar page on the parish website: stpaulsparish.org.au/calendar

In the following list, the \diamond : indicates who the point of contact for the ministry or group is.

If no person or contact is given, call the Parish Office to find out more, or simply tick the box on the enclosed form.

Alphabetical listing of 41 groups & ministries

Acolytes and Adult Servers

serve during the Mass, liturgical celebrations, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Altar Servers

can begin to serve after receiving First Holy Communion. Formation happens during Mass.

Alpha Food | Film | Friends | Faith | Fun

Alpha is a course which introduces the basics of Christianity in a fun and friendly way. It starts with an introduction night to give people a chance to try it out before they decide if they would like to join. Alpha runs each term, either during the day or in the evenings. Visit the parish website for more.

Baptism Team

Parishioners help families prepare for the baptism of their children. \diamond : Paula Potts

Bookshop

operates after each weekend Mass. A range of religious goods, books & giftware are sold.

Car Park Attendant

Helps to direct traffic during special/large events.

Catechists

Each week a large group of Catechists and helpers go into our 4 State schools to share & teach scripture to the children for half an hour.

\diamond : Cath Heys 0409 834 932

Catechumenate (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults journeys with people interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith.

\diamond : Heather & Maurie Jamieson

Catholic Women's League

We are dedicated to promoting and supporting the formation of women to meet contemporary challenges; promoting the role of lay women in the mission of the Church; and enabling women to participate more effectively in working for and building the Kingdom of God on earth. Monthly meetings on second Friday.

\diamond : Mary Murphy or Kay Glover

Cemetery Committee

offers advice to the Parish Priest on Cemetery matters including maintenance, allocation of graves and niches in the columbarium walls as well as historical aspects. Also assists with the All Souls open air Mass each November. As part of our outreach, the Committee organises Cemetery working bees involving students from St Joseph's High School. Meets four times a year.

◇: Terry & Wendy Nunan

Charismatic Prayer Group

meets each Friday night in the Chapel for a time of prayer and worship before the Blessed Sacrament.

◇: Charles Farrugia

Church Cleaning

This group is responsible for general weekly cleaning around the church and the work areas.

✂️➔ We need more church cleaners

Communion Ministers

(Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion) - a group of parishioners who assist the priest in distributing Holy Communion during Masses, especially on Sundays.

Communion Ministers to the Sick

A group of parishioners who take Holy Communion to the sick and aged after Mass on Sundays and weekdays.

Computer Operator

Controls the VideoPsalm and PowerPoint programs during Mass to display prayers, lyrics & notices.

Eucharistic Adoration

is offered at various times during the week, including an hour before the 6pm Masses on Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday; and 10am - 12pm on the first Fridays. Pray-ers and leaders needed.

Hospitality Group

Looks after the monthly cuppas (fourth Sunday after the 10am Mass) as well as hospitality during Alpha and other parish gatherings. ◇: Paula Potts

Josephite Associates

A spirituality group that meets monthly on the third Friday morning to pray and live out the charism of St Mary of the Cross.

◇: Jenny Moran 0410 337 562

KidsChurch

or Children's Liturgy of the Word runs every Sunday during term at the 10am Mass and is open to children from 4-8. Each Sunday, KidsChurch involves prayers, discussion, a lesson relating to the scripture of the day and a worksheet linking the lesson. We have a team of dedicated volunteers who enable the children to engage with God's Word at their level. Children learn more about God and this helps to make the Mass a more relevant and enjoyable experience for them.

Legion of Mary

Offers both spiritual guidance and practical assistance to parishioners. Meets each Friday morning at 8.30am. Leads the Rosary on Saturday evenings; looks after the prayer wall in the Narthex; the Book lending library; says the Rosary with residents at Warrigal Nursing Home; visits people in hospital; and prays for those who need our prayers.

◇: Linda O'Rourke 0422 062 724

Life Ascending

A movement for men and women in their middle to later years. Life Ascending has three aims: Spirituality, Friendship and Mission.

◇: Elizabeth Gill

Linen Group

Take it in turns to clean the altar linen.

Liturgy Team

Meets during the year to plan, review and prepare for all major liturgical events in the parish.

Messy Church

meets before Easter and Christmas with a wide-range of fun and messy activities for children and parents, as well as a liturgy in the church and a simple meal together.

◇: Tanya Di Pietro 0438 723 517

Money Collectors & Counters

Collectors take up the collection during Mass; Counters count the envelopes and other money given in each collection at the weekend Masses.

◇: James Bokenham (Finance Council chair)

Music/Choir

Singers and musicians play regularly at our 6pm Vigil and 10am Masses. May lead music at 8am Mass.

◇: Catriona Nunan (Adult Choir; Childrens Choir)

◇: Clarese Minns (Young Adults Group)

Parish Finance Council

is a group of parishioners with expertise who offer advice to the parish priest on parish financial matters. ◇: James Bokenham (Chair)

Parish Pastoral Council

Council members meet regularly to advise the Parish Priest on pastoral initiatives in the parish including parish action plans, events and ministry needs. The council serves the parish by guiding the development and implementation of these initiatives to help enrich parish life. Members staff the monthly Information Desk on the 2nd Sunday.

◇: Tony McQuade (chair)

Playgroup

An informal gathering of mothers and young pre-school children is held on Wednesday mornings. Activities are organised for the children and social contact is provided for the mothers. ◇: Toni Frendo

Readers

Parishioners are trained and rostered to proclaim the Word of God at Sunday Masses.

✂️➔ We need more readers for the 10am Mass.

Sacristans

Look after the liturgy - they prepare all that is necessary for the weekend and weekday Masses, Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings, as well as making sure the doors are open, lights are on...

Sacramental Team

Every year the parish runs programmes for children preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Catechists are needed to help lead workshops.

◇: Julie Ferguson or Paula Potts

Social Justice Group

is working towards... A Deepened Faith; Recognising & Respecting Differences; Promoting Peace; Taking Action to Bring Justice; Nurturing God's Creation.

The group is in recess until 2018

◇: Wendy Carter

St Paul's Parents & Friends

Through social and fundraising activities, the P & F assist the school in the provision of facilities for its pupils. ◇: Toni Frendo (Secretary) 0402 227 618

St Vincent de Paul

Members are part of a world-wide movement that offers the hand of friendship, love and compassion to people in every area of need. We share a desire to deepen our relationship with God and to make a meaningful difference to the lives of others. Members aspire to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society. We offer a "hand up" to people in need, doing this by respecting their dignity, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

◇: Maureen Buchanan 0401 176 770

Welcomers

greet parishioners and visitors with a warm hello, copy of Parish Life and a smile to the 6pm & 10am weekend Masses.

Work Health, Safety and Maintenance Committee

gives advice to the Parish Priest on safety and maintenance matters relating to the parish and the primary school. The Committee organises regular safety audits of the parish grounds, buildings and equipment as well as work and worship practices. They coordinate fire wardens for Masses. Larger projects are typically forwarded to the Parish Finance Council for financial assessment and prioritisation. The Committee meets four times a year.

◇: Tony McQuade (Chair)

New Ministries for 2017-2018

The following groups are under consideration to begin within our parish. Let us know if you think any of these are good ideas and if you would like to be involved.

Faith Circles - small groups of parishioners who meet together in homes weekly to pray and share life. Resources provided by Diocese.

Discipleship Groups - larger groups of parishioners meet together every two weeks for prayer, bible study, faith formation and community

Welcoming Group makes a simple courteous gesture to new parishioners. The aim is to direct them toward any parish group they may be interested in, offer a contact point and ensure they have settled comfortably into our parish community.

Grief Support Group - aims to offer support to those who are grieving by contacting them when it learns of bereavement. A "Celebration of Life" may be held during the year - a liturgy offering support and prayer.

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that all who believe in him may have the life of the age to come."
- John 3:16*

A giving God calls us to give

God is calling each person to a unique purpose. Every Christian, through Baptism, receives special gifts from the Holy Spirit called charisms. We do not know how many charisms there are, but we find a stack in the writings of St Paul in the New Testament, as well as in the later spiritual traditions of the church. Charisms (spiritual gifts) include:

hospitality, leadership, knowledge, teaching, wisdom, administration, discernment, prayer, faith, exhortation, giving, mercy, service.

Discerning your charism can be a major step in discovering God's plan for your life and your role in God's plan for humanity.

Knowing your gifts can help you to make better decisions, simplify your life, excel at your work, free yourself from envy and better appreciate your family's gifts.

Our charisms are the channels that God uses to enter the world. When we discover and develop our charisms we become more effective instruments of God's love and mercy in the world.

Until we stop making our temporary and material possessions the ultimate goal in our lives, we will never value eternal ones.

Stewardship of Treasure

Making a commitment to supporting the mission of Jesus

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR REVIEW

Will you grow
one step
this year?

Complete the
Commitment form
this weekend



* This is my current parish giving level. I am challenged to grow by one step in the year ahead - Fr Richard

Find your current weekly / monthly giving on the steps above.

Are you able to grow by one step this year?

Parish expenses continue to rise each year. Unfortunately, often we continue to give the same amount, or only throw in the few coins that happen to be in our pockets or purses. 190 parishioners currently contribute through 134 envelopes and 56 direct payments an average of **\$10.21/week**. 6 people donate regularly to our account (average **\$40.17/week**). The percentages at each level are shown.

The Parish keeps 90% of planned giving income (10% to the Diocese) and 100% of donations.

If you are not currently part of the Planned Giving Program, please consider doing so. Not only because our parish of St Paul's does need your money - but also because we never really grow as people until we begin to really trust in God's goodness and God's providence over our lives.

There are a few options for Planned Giving:

1. Direct weekly or monthly Transfer from your bank to the parish account (BSB 066 711 Account 001754)
2. Direct Debit arranged through the Parish Office (monthly) - bank account or credit card
3. Use Planned Giving Envelopes each week
4. Use the secure online giving facility on the Parish Website each week at Mass

How you give is much less important than **THAT YOU GIVE!**

The Lord has already blessed us with so much in our lives.
He deserves the first fruits of our lives. We live a blessed life.

Let us continue to unlock the rewards of generous giving.