



SACRED HEART PARISH, UPPER YARRA VALLEY

St Thomas à Becket Church, Yarra Junction

Sacred Heart Church, Warburton

Sacred Heart Parish Council Report for 2018.

Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Council meets regularly during the year.

There are always many items of parish business under discussion and while some of them require the members to work on at council level, others are areas in which all parishioners may be asked to volunteer their time and talents.

Our Parish Council members have changed during the year with Lindsay Dubier, Al Tyler and Laurie Erle retiring from the council.

New members to the Parish Council are Tony Aulich and Joy Bellizia.

A Parish Finance Committee was established this year, and Paul Haslam, Michael Fahey, John Devanny and Liz Devanney were willing to offer their services.

Child Safe Environment:

The Archdiocese has provided us with a Child Safe Policy and training. Parish Council members attended the training and continually have the policy under discussion.

It will be available on the Parish website once editing is completed.

Our parish was represented at the Euthanasia Debate and a report was made to the Parish Council. Parishioners will continue to be informed as information comes to hand.

Parish Liturgies

Parishioners have been invited to participate in the ministries of Reader and Minister of Holy Communion. Sessions have been held to inform those interested about the practice involved in the ministries.

Holy Hour with Benediction continues to be held at 7.00 pm each Thursday. First Thursday at Warburton. Confessions are also held during this hour. A new confessional has been installed at St. Thomas à Becket Church

Our Lady of Fatima statue was made available to the parish for a week. Consideration is being given to having the statue again.

Parish Novena of Rosaries for the Church and Australia was held. This concluded with a Rosary liturgy on the 7th October – Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Website:

Earlier in the year our new website was launched. While it is still a work in progress you will find links to the Parish Bulletin (available each week) Mass times, sacraments, Vinnies and our Parish School website,

Have you had the opportunity to check it out? If you have, we would love feedback.

“Thank you to all” meal

This was very successful with 60 people attending at St. Thomas à Beckett Church and the foyer at Sacred Heart being full! We plan to have more such occasions regularly.

Maintenance

While we are fortunate to have two properties in our parish, maintenance is always a consideration.

Yarra Junction

- Bushfire risk
A risk assessment process was completed and submitted to the Archdiocese.
- Grounds.
A working bee in autumn and spring, is to be held so that the grounds are clear and vegetation that may cause a risk to the buildings is reduced.
- Lighting:
The cost of changing the church lights to LED has been investigated and a decision made to change them as needed.
- Gas heating has been checked.

Warburton

- Some small repairs have been attended to plumbing repair to taps, and a heater replaced.
- Other items included removing the existing exterior lights and replacing them with lights that were better suited to lighting the parking area. Sensor lights were also fixed.
- Of concern at this time is the sacristy floor. The floor has been damaged by white ants and will need to be replaced. This is before the PC at present.

Fund raising

- Combined Parishes Raffle
When held in 2017, \$980 was raised. No raffle held in 2018.
Should we take tickets for this raffle in 2019? Feedback appreciated.
- Parish /School Fete
This event was last held in 2017. Consideration is being given to holding another in 2019. Feedback appreciated.
- Stewardship Program – Time & Talents contributions
We are almost due for our 3-year renewal! As this is an expensive program, consideration is being given to holding it in-house.
A meeting was held in October to consider the Stewardship Program for 2019.

School Report

A regular report about our Parish School is made at each meeting by the School Principal. An annual report is available on the school website.

Retirement

Eleanor Anthony, organist at Yarra Junction, has retired after many years of dedication. Thank you, Eleanor.

Our challenges for the future

Sustaining an active parish community. Rebuilding attendance at Mass.

Parish Council members:

Fr. Michel Corriveau, Tony Aulich, Rod Barnard, Joy Bellizia, Ann Manning, Clare Morse, Lucian Rode and the St Joseph's School Principal