

PPC Report to parishioners following the June Meeting [09/06.09]

Good evening / morning everyone.

For those of you that don't know me, my name is..... I'm a member of the Parish Pastoral Council. The Council met last Tuesday evening.

So, this weekend members of the Parish Pastoral Council are reporting to you at each of the Masses, about the items that were discussed.

In relation to formation an extract was provided for those present from a book written by Fr Denis Edwards titled 'Ecology at the Heart of Faith'. In reading the extract the members are hoping to become more informed about the emerging theology of Ecology.

Significant progress has been made in relation to the building project at Ss Peter and Paul School. A number of frustrating administrative issues has slowed the process to date however it is hoped that there will be an actual start on the site in the coming weeks.

Br Gary gave a report to the meeting in relation to the recently held Environmental Stewardship Meeting. Br Gary reported that it was a very positive meeting. It was informative with a particular focus on Spirituality.

The Parish Council wishes to continue to promote the Parish website. The website now includes the Parish Council's Guidelines and a copy of this report.

The Parish Bulletin will now include the scriptural references for the readings of the following Sunday. It is hoped that this inclusion will assist people in preparing for the celebration of the Eucharist.

Discussions will be underway with the Liturgy Committee in relation to the inclusion of the Prayers of Intercession as part of the presentation on the screen at Ss Peter and Paul Church.

To coincide with the Kiama community 150 year celebrations members of the Parish Council are investigating the possibility of displaying photographs of all the Kiama Parish Priest over the last 150 years.

Wherever practically possible Fr Chris and Fr Damien will announce at weekend Masses if any local parishioners have passed away during the preceding week.

Under Bishop Peter's direction the 'Diocesan Council for Young People' has been formed to assist with the formation of Youth Ministry across the Diocese.

Loretta Brinkman Diocesan Youth Ministry Co-ordinator was invited to our last meeting as guest speaker so as to discuss her role, the initiatives that the Diocese is implementing and ways that she is able to support Parishes in the area of Youth Ministry. Loretta spoke in detail about the strategies that could be implemented. These included both 'gathered' strategies such as Youth groups and also about 'non-gathered' strategies, which include initiatives that reach out to the youth that may not be regularly involved in the Parish.

The Parish Council was particularly interested in the concept of 'Liturgy training for Youth' the notion of 'Youth Ambassadors' for our Parish and an excellent resource titled 'Word and Deed', which could be used for youth gatherings.

Following further reflection and discussion the Parish Council is now considering the implementation of some of these initiatives.

I hope that this report has given you some insight into the content of our last meeting. If you would like further information on anything that I have discussed I'll be available after Mass.

Thank you for your ongoing support.