



Parish Pastoral Council Report

The new members of the Parish pastoral Council have settled in well and the Council has been busy over the last few months. The Council acknowledges and supports the excellent work of various groups that operate within the Parish and over recent meetings we have been inviting representatives from these groups to meet with us and update us on their activities. To date, we have had presentations from representatives of the Diocesan Assembly Group, the Baptism Preparation Team, the Bereavement Team, Knights of the Southern Cross and the Vinnies Sewing and Knitting Group. At each meeting we also receive and consider reports from the Parish Priest, McAuley School and Christ the King School as well as the Finance Council and look to work with them and support them. Some recent decisions of the Council include approval for purchase of a defibrillator and upgrading the church sound system. A small subcommittee is also working on improving the Parish's social media presence including establishing a Facebook page.

Big Morning Tea



On Tuesday the 30th of June, the Parish Library Team together with the Parish Sewing & Knitting groups, laid on a Big Morning Tea for cancer research. We were delighted to have welcomed some 50 plus parishioners to the event & a most enjoyable morning was had raising \$836.70. The sewing & knitting groups donated some of their beautiful works towards a raffle. Both teams would like to thank all those who participated towards making our morning so very successful with their help, donations & platters of fine food. The library is open every Tues & Fri morning from 9.30 to 12noon, we look forward to welcoming many of our new found friends back again. God Bless our Community.



Peter Whelan  
Chair,  
Parish Pastoral  
Council



Our Parish Vision  
To be a people of God working together to build a caring, faith-filled community.

## From our Pastoral Associate

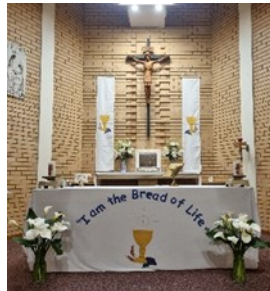
*Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!*

1 Chronicles 16:8

The parish is buzzing with action as always and once again it is time to take a moment to look at all the wonderful things big and small that make St. Joseph's Brighton very special. It is none other than the grace of God that has been, is and will be the driving force behind the fruits we enjoy, and I am privileged to be part of this flow. With a grateful heart, I attempt to recount some of the special events that took place over the last three months with the hope that this will be a timely reminder for each of us to be thankful for all what the Lord is doing in our midst.

### First Holy Communion Celebration

For the first time since Covid, we were able to celebrate the First Holy Communion during the weekend parish Masses and we had eighteen candidates receiving the Eucharist for the first time. The candidates and their families experienced the warm support of the parish community as they joined in breaking the bread as one big family.



### World Day of Grandparents and Elderly

We remembered the gift of grandparents and elderly in the life of the church on this year's World Day of Grandparents and Elderly and offered a special blessing during the weekend Masses. Prayer cards were available after Mass for parishioners to take home or give away as a gift to their loved ones.



### PPC Commissioning Mass

We were blessed to welcome six new members to the Parish Pastoral Council this year and they were commissioned along with the existing members as they stepped into this wonderful ministry. We also made this day an opportunity to thank and bless the retiring members for their valuable service over the years.



### The Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady

We gathered as a parish community to recite the rosary before the midday Mass on this great feast day and it was a delight to see the many numbers of parishioners who joined as one to honor Our Lady. The Mass was very well attended, and all enjoyed a cuppa and homemade cake after Mass to mark this special day.



### Children's Liturgy of the Word

We have a regular number of children participating in Children's Liturgy every first Sunday of each month and always have our doors open to any newcomers. The children gather with our volunteer leaders, listen to the Word of God, unpack the Gospel message and do an activity based on the key message to take home and share with their families.



### Various other pastoral engagements

We always strive to keep our relationships strong with the parish schools and celebrate regular Mass with the children. We also have a growing number of residents in nursing homes and parish visitors pay weekly visits to the sick with Holy Communion. This engagement with the young and old alike outside the church is a beautiful testimony to the existence of our church beyond the confines of the physical church.

### Into the Future

As we are gradually easing back to a new normal after the pandemic, we envision a church that goes out into the peripheries to draw people into experiencing God's love. As St. Teresa of Avila so beautifully writes 'Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours...' each of us are called to be instruments of God's love in the lives of the people we meet and there are so many ministries that you can choose to join in the parish to fulfil this mission. If you feel a stirring within your heart to know more about ways you can take an active role in the parish, we love to hear from you. Let us join hands in building God's kingdom and reaching out to those who are around us still waiting to be touched by God's love.

God bless you!  
Nirmanthi Rupasinghe

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2023

### An update from the Parish administration:

First, I would like to thank the Lord for all his blessings and one of them is working for the Parish, I am very happy to be surrounded by very friendly and lovely people. Thanks to everyone for your unconditional support and friendship.

We are almost a quarter away from the end of this year and we had a list of Parish needs presented in May, that I would like to inform the status of:

Church door repairs and upgrades have been done and are providing more security now complying with work-safe and healthy regulations.

The Kitchen sink at the Activity Centre has been repaired and has a new hot water system. The dishwasher will be available as soon as the quotes are presented and approved by the Finance Council in the next meeting.

The front garden irrigation is ready, and we will always thank the parishioner who donated the funds for this purpose.

A new digital door lock will be available for the Church and the Hall in September and please be alert to future communications in this regard.

Finally, after having inspections by three different suppliers and having received different proposals to improve the sound system, the Finance Council with the support of the Pastoral Council has approved the improvements that suit the actual needs of the Church. We expect to have the improvements very soon once the selected supplier can proceed with the job.

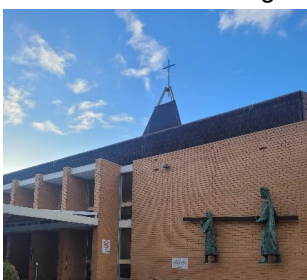
The Church ceiling repairs have been postponed because it was decided to have an assessment of the roof's actual condition and fix the roof with a bigger budget. After the roof is fixed there will be some other tasks to think of regarding the ceiling. However, we had some maintenance on the Roof and sealed the leaks. We are only waiting for the roof repairer to come back to fix one more leak found at the Sacristy.

Overall, all the items are in progress or have been already executed.

I would not like to skip to thank you for using the tap & go machine, which had a very good acceptance and is now regularly used every weekend.

God bless you!

Andrea Machicado  
Parish Business Manager



Since my last report we have accepted the resignation of Robert Taylor from the Finance Council because of other commitments. Robert has contributed much and on behalf of the Finance Council and the Parish I offer him our thanks and gratitude for his work.

At our recent August meeting main discussion centred around maintenance and replacement and repair of equipment, namely:

- the sound system in the church, church doors and their locking, Garden work in the grounds and water tank re location.

- funding has been released for the purchase of a presbytery – so now the search is on for a suitable property.

Planned Giving is fairly well on target. Unpledged and credit card payments are behind. Reports and returns on the Tap and Go Machine in the church foyer indicate it has been accepted by parishioners.

In a meeting with TUTTI, they indicated their strong desire to continue and to strengthen our contract. We are still looking at some options but indicated an answer will be forthcoming within the next 12 months.

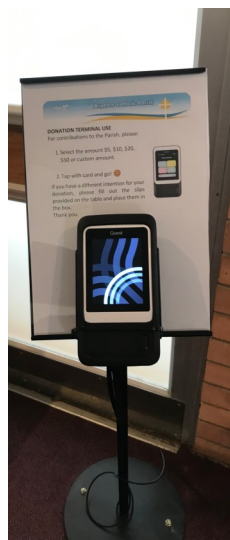
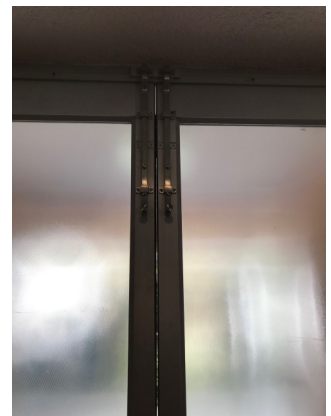
The area once occupied by the Antioch Group has been leased to TUTTI on a weekly hire basis. Room is available to accommodate any future parish youth group.

Other items discussed were fencing, security (gates, doors and locking) and repairs to the Church roof and ceiling.

Thanks to our Business Manager for her work in keeping the organization running.

We are always on the lookout for new members. If you are interested in finding out about the role of the Parish Finance Council, or joining us, please contact me on 0426 921 684, or Fr Michael or Andrea, through the Parish Office.

John Sullivan  
Chairperson  
Parish Finance Council



## New Garden Area

Have you noticed a new patch of green, buffalo grass, 80 square meters by size. Remember the fenced off area behind the Activity Centre. The area was occupied by the then Men's Shed, once the Presbytery was sold. History tells us the Vinnies Sewing had a shed for storage as did Bill have a shed with maintenance equipment like ride on lawn mower etc.



Well they went when the Men's Shed now Men's Fellowship developed the area in the carpark which was the cricket nets for the St Theresa's School.

It has taken a few years for someone to dress up the area in question.

Look out through the northern window of McAuley Room. We have a new outdoor community area.

After a lot of planning and individual efforts to transform this area we have finally have an attractive, professionally, revamped area for all to enjoy.

Thanks go to our resident painter, Keith Moorman who solicited help from his sons to replace paths of pavers, planted trees along fence line, placed fruit trees in garden beds with the support from Peter Jankovick.

To dress up the rest of the area we would be looking in the order of some \$10,000 or more. Work required like digging up 20 tonne of gravel and dolomite, dumping same. Replacing this with 20 tonne of sandy loam, on top of this is 80 square metres of the above Kings Pride Buffalo grass, supported by automatic sprinkler system installed under the grass.

The big bombers are the equipment, 5 tonne Up-truck and a 1.7tonne excavator.

Then comes the professionals, the guys that said yes we will give you a hand. Without this type of labour of love, it just wouldn't have happened.



I had spoken to my son-in-law P'ouli Tongia one day of this picture I had and knew he had the capacity and knowhow to take on the task and make the area pop. (He and my son Matthew were main players in the revamped grassed area under the gazebo. Yes the paving, the grass, the garden bed.)

Months later he asked me if I still wanted him to .... do what has been now done. From there the above was spawned.

I will need a 3 tonne truck and an excavator says Pouli, and and . The date it will be done is Saturday 2nd September.

P'ouli advised his friend Devita was going to help. Devita is the son-in-law of Mary Hyland, he is another strong and extremely capable hands on new Aussie, also born in the beautiful islands of Tonga.

After I had solicited quotes for all materials and equipment. After time with Andrea to clear the financials, we are getting close to the day.

Cancel the truck hire says P'ouli, my work will supply one. Phew.

In the meantime our guitarist singer from sat night Mass David McCabe. 'Cancel the excavator' says this reared plumber by trade. His son has offered his excavator for the Saturday. Devita will operate it.

Saturday comes, Devita is at the gate ready for work at some time prior to 6am. Pouli is on the phone "Are you there yet", I am on my way now". Then comes David McCabe, then Keith Moorman, both stayed for the entire day offering physical support whilst Pouli doing all the trucking of materials and re grading of existing paving etc, etc.

Others to throw in their support, Ootsi, Allan Press, Peter Jankovic who offered a hand, I knocked him back, then advised he could purchase another lemon tree because the first one he donated had died.

We should have taken a movie of this work. All completed in one day. There was great cooperation. All enjoyed working long hours, full of concentration and professional work ethics, wrapped up in fun.

Come past, feast your eyes on it. In this season of Creation may this new space be used by the community as we care for the earth together.

Pat Hodgson,

Men's Shedder, Men's Fellowships, Member Knights of the Southern Cross, husband of Aileen, she a former student of St Theresa's.



## Men's Fellowship

Winter weather hasn't dampened attendance at the Shed. About 30 guys on average, including quite a few newcomers, have enjoyed great fellowship every Tuesday and Friday discussing current affairs, sharing general knowledge and, of course, debating footy ups and downs. Footy tipping is watched closely by the 23 current participants and it does seem that some have crystal balls judging by the unfailing high points they are scoring.

Outdoor gardening is getting things ready for spring. Boxes are being prepared for veggie seedlings to be ready for planting in the next few weeks. All folk are welcome to bring along seedlings of their own for planting.

Preparation of the garden patch north of the Activity Centre is progressing. Donations of a few young citrus plants would be very welcome.

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### **Coming up in our parish in the next couple of weeks**

- **16th/17th September**
  - **Blessing of significant Anniversaries during Masses**

- **24th September**  
**Migrant & Refugee Sunday**

Prayers of the Faithful in other languages  
Shared morning tea after the 10am Mass with food from other countries—bring a plate to share.

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## **BRIGHTON BEREAVEMENT GROUP**

As the Bereavement group in Brighton we would encourage you to consider a plan for your funeral Mass.

Many families find this is a stressful experience during their grieving at the loss of someone they love.

A member of our group would be happy to visit to discuss or organise how we can assist you in the preparation of the Liturgy.

We are here to help you and your family every step of the way.

Please contact the Parish office 82967292 to arrange contact with a member of the Bereavement group.



## **THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS (SA) INC.**

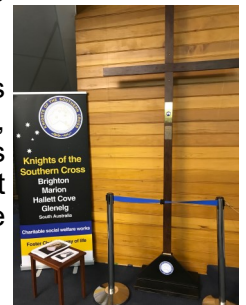
Brighton – Marion – Hallett Cove - Glenelg Branch

Although the evenings have been cold, attendance at Branch meetings has been excellent. Branch meetings are held at 7pm on the first Wednesday of every month in the Brighton Parish Activity Centre.

At the July meeting Lou Flint, who has transferred from the Aberfoyle Park Branch, spoke on his life's experiences as a teacher through to being a Headmaster and member of State educational offices, and his association with Apex Clubs, Vinnies and 25 years as a member of the Knights.

Sickness and age continue to affect attendance at meetings. Those who were not able attend meetings and other functions were prayed for as well as those who were sick, including their relatives, especially Aileen, wife of Pat Hodgson. The late Mauri Cappo, a Knight for 50+ years, was also remembered.

The St Mary McKillop Cross was well received at Hallett Cove, Brighton and Glenelg parishes where it was displayed at weekend Masses along with the Knight's banner.



Donations to Vinnies Conferences in the Branch area continue and cheques were presented at Masses in each parish and gratefully acknowledged by Vinnies representatives.

At the July meeting, the Formation Programme segment was covered by discussing the current Sunday Pentecost and Matthews' Gospels, followed by thoughts on coping with issues in the contemporary secular world in which we live. Going back, the YCW ethos of *See, Judge and Act* was remembered and talked about. The Branch continues with the Fathering Project with Stella Maris purchasing the essential kit. Fund raising through wine sales has been quite successful. For further details on how to purchase wine to assist this fund raising project please contact Gary Amott on 0413 629 425

The Branch Annual Dinner is on Thursday 14th September at the Tonsley Hotel, 6.30pm for 7pm start. Cost \$ 53 per person. Tickets are available from Tony Schar (0419127491)

## Rejoicing in the Gift of the Lord's Day

*I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer (Luke 22.15).*

I decided to come to Mass today. With my thoughts still settling, I knelt to pray in the silent church. After some time, a random feeling stirs my heart: is my presence here simply the result of my decision? The inertia of simple habit, a sense of Christian duty or the desire for consoling fellowship? *Hmm, I'm not sure.* Have I somehow recalled the Lord's faithful invitation, always tender, to draw near? Something is unfolding within, perhaps beyond me, so I pray: *Dear Lord, help me.*

I gaze at the Crucifix: how is God observing me as my pre-Mass meditation splutters to life? Well, a most unanticipated flash of grace! Might God be actively longing for me to participate in this Mass? No longer am I the main protagonist in my movement toward the Mass! Relieved and renewed, my vague feelings morph into insightful energy. The Paschal Candle springs to mind—its burning flame and serene glow evoke God's passionate love for all of God's beloved creation, and more wondrously, its sublime restoration. Now a different spirit animates—gentle, teeming with fruitfulness.

My soul delights in realising that God's Spirit is drawing me like a magnet, though never against my will. God's love lures by attraction. From this peaceful centre I discern that Jesus is present with me now—God's Spirit wordlessly yearning within. Feelings of joy and gratitude envelop as if I'm bobbing in the midst of a vast ocean. Softly, a favourite verse echoes: *'The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God'* (Romans 8.26-27). Purified through the unceasing drama of God's earnest desire for all, *the very heart* of my heart's decision to attend Mass is revealed.

My prayer quietly resumes: *Lord Jesus, truly you thirst for me—and now I'm here encountering you, freshly astonished that you want me to share in your great prayer of thanksgiving to the Father, the only true act of worship. Every word, gesture, glance and feeling of your earthly ministry is now active and near to me in your Word and Sacrament. Together with my sisters and brothers, 'on earth as it is in heaven' (+ sign of the cross): Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

I take my seat. The Mass has begun surprisingly in my heart. Soon I will be invited to stand with my sisters and brothers for the opening hymn and procession, to rejoice as one in the gift of the Lord's Day.



This reflection was written after reading and re-reading Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, *Desiderio Desideravi* (29 June 2022). Why not treat yourself by doing the same?

[https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_letters/documents/20220629-lettera-ap-desiderio-desideravi.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/20220629-lettera-ap-desiderio-desideravi.html)

Deacon Tim Grauel



Christ the King  
SCHOOL

# Community Update

## New Principal Appointment



Our Acting Principal Matt Perry officially commenced in his role as Principal of Christ the King School at the beginning of Term 2 this year.

Matt has an extensive background in teaching and education. Since 2014, he served as the Assistant Principal at Star of the Sea School in Henley Beach.

We are incredibly fortunate to have Matt as part of our school community and welcome his strong commitment to improving learning outcomes for students. We look forward to the watching our school community continue to grow through his leadership.

## Social Justice

Over the terms, we have gathered as a community to acknowledge NAIDOC week, Clean-Up Australia Day, Walk Safely to School Day and Wellbeing Week among others. Our students are involve themselves heavily in the activities and we are so proud of how they engage in the focus of others.



## Project Compassion

To support the work of Project Compassion, a small group of Year 4 students organised a cake stall this year which raised nearly \$150 dollars for Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

## Vinnie's Winter Appeal

We sent in a bag of donations to Vinnie's for their Vinnie's Winter Appeal again this year. It was great to see our families get involved to support those who are struggling through the winter.

## Sacraments

Our Year 5 students received their First Holy Communion last term. This is a culmination of a year's preparation beginning with their First Reconciliation in 2022 followed by their Confirmation this year. We also had two students who were baptised during Term 2.

Thank you to Teresa Pascoe, our APRIM for her guidance and leadership as she works with students on their journey to develop understanding of the Sacramental program.



## Community Visits

This year, our Reception students were out in the local community visiting the residents of Calvary Oaklands aged care home in Oaklands Park. It was a beautiful time of friendship and togetherness.

