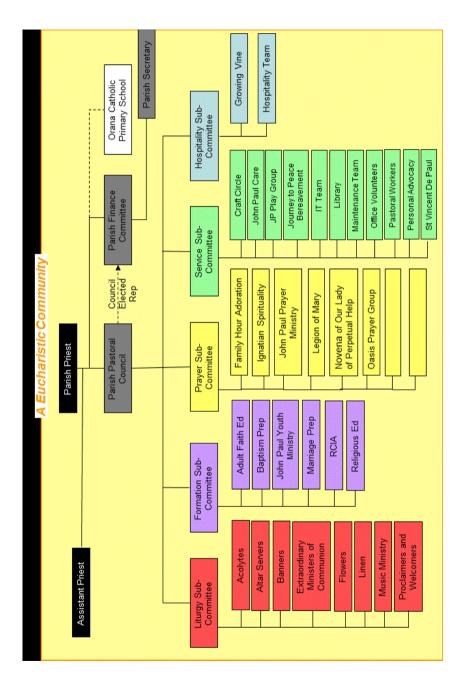
## WILLETTON CATHOLIC PARISH ANNUAL REPORT 2014





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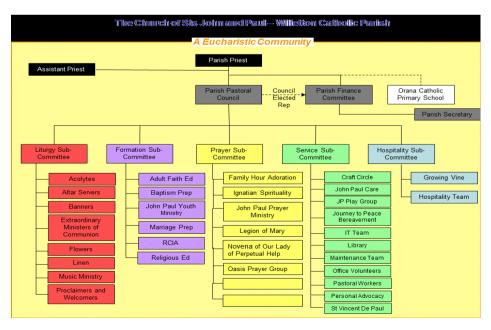
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#### **Parish Pastoral Council: Betty Thompson**

A large parish like Willetton needs the support and generous collaboration of many people and the parish pastoral council is a key element in the life of the parish. It is primarily consultative and exists to support and advise the parish priest in his leadership of the community. Like the parish priest, it exists to be of service to the community and we are fortunate to have parishioners who are willing to take on this vital and challenging role.

The parish pastoral councillors come from different walks of life and meet once a month offering their experience, time and talents to assist the parish priest through prudent policy making and strategic planning for the continuity of Christian ministry in the parish. Another role is to dialogue with the various Committees and Ministries and to link with parish ministries under the 5 Stewardship pillars to ascertain where their needs lie and how the PPC can assist them.

The structure of the Parish is based on five pillars of Stewardship: Liturgy, Prayer, Formation, Hospitality, Service



All Ministries align with at least one or more of these pillars and the structure of the Parish is shown below:

#### **Parish Pastoral Council (Continued)**

The PPC recognises the importance of the Stewardship model which the Parish has followed for several years, (i.e. accepting God's gifts gratefully, cherishing and tending them in a responsible and accountable manner, sharing in love and justice with others, and returning them with increase to the Lord).

To facilitate better communication, Councillors were invited to be the interface between Parish Ministries and the PPC as follows:

Alicia Yoong & Andre Sequiera Praver

Carmel Suart Liturgy & Formation

Hospitality Colleen Reutens Service Vic Roque

#### **Achievements in 2014**

Christmas Newsletter New Year's Prayer Day

Weekly Stewardship Snippets in The Word Evangelii Gaudium - Pope Francis quotes in

The Word

Welcoming Committee for each Mass

Working with Children Card Register

Parish Policy

"How Mental Health Affects Relationships"-

Guido Vogels Ongoing church and grounds maintenance

Retreat "Living the Joy of the Gospel" -Sr Margaret Scharf

Parish policy on adult only events

Parish Dinner

Parish Feast day Social Fun night

New Youth Group – T4C

Youth Project - Shoe Box Project -

The Philippines

Volunteers Thanksgiving Mass and Supper

#### Pillar

Prayer/Service

Praver

Liturgy/Formation

Liturgy/Formation

Hospitality

Service

Formation

Service

Formation/Prayer

Hospitality Hospitality

Formation/Prayer Hospitality

Hospitality/Service

Service

Liturgy/Hospitality

#### **Parish Pastoral Council (Continued)**

In 2015 the PPC will focus on
☐ Future of "old" presbytery
□ Stewardship Commitment Weekend
$\square$ Highlight a ministry every fortnight in The Word
$\square$ Increased visibility of PPC in the Parish community e.g. photo display
□ Implement Fire Assembly Procedures
□ Parish Retreat on Parish Feast Day Weekend
□ Succession planning
□ 5 year strategic plan

Early in 2014 we farewelled Fr Anibal Leite da Cunha and welcomed the new assistant priest, Fr Daniel Boyd. We also saw the retirement of Howard Ong, Mildred Rego and Ivan Lim from the PPC. I would like to thank them for the enormous contribution they made to the Council and the Parish community as a whole during their terms.

The current Councillors are Andre Sequiera, Vice Chair, Christine Walsh, David Barns, Alicia Yoong, Colleen Reutens, Carmel Suart, Jag Jaul, Russell Godsall and Gary Dunlop (Secretary).

I would like to express my thanks to Fr Thai Vu and Fr Daniel Boyd for their spiritual leadership in the Parish and their consistent support and also echo these sentiments by thanking the members of the PPC for their valuable input over the past 12 months.

I look forward to injecting more energy in working collaboratively to achieve our goals in 2015. Thank you to all the Ministries and Volunteers for their excellent endeavours that enable the Parish to continue to grow and become a Eucharistic community.

#### Parish Finance Committee: Norman Curtis

The Finance Committee is represented by:
The Parish priest-Fr. Thai Vu
The new Bursar-Lyna Chan
Two members of the Parish for their financial expertiseMyself and Pasquo Cirillo
Additional members of the Parish with experience in financial mattersJohn Sutton, Aaron Kemal Harun, Gary Dunlop, Lionel Foo, Phyllis
McHutchison and Sharon Lau.

There have been no changes of members over the past year. But it is good to see more women now on the committee. The term of office of all members is for at least two years, and has been extended to four years at the discretion of the Parish Priest. The members meet every second Tuesday of every second month. Over the last year all meetings were attended by the necessary quorum.

It is also a requirement that a member of the Parish Pastoral Council be elected onto the Finance Committee. The person appointed is Gary Dunlop.

John Sutton is still responsible for maintenance items with the Parish.

More Air Conditioners have been installed in the Church after last Christmas. This now completes the heating and cooling aspects of the Church for the benefit of parishioners.

The strategic plan for the "old" Presbytery and other major works over the next two to three years, which was presented to the Parish Council at the first new year's meeting in 2014 and approved by the Finance Committee is still being implemented. It is hoped that a finalized plan for the building will be passed by the Committee by the New Year and see it being implemented in 2015.

In addition to this plan, the Sanctuary carpeted area of the Church will need attention early in the New Year to overcome the water spillage and wearing of the carpet on the steps. There is still the need to be aware of the age of the carpets in the Church, and they will soon require replacement.

The Church's financial position is stable and there has been a slight improvement of funds received to date.

## Catholic Adult Faith Education (CAFE): Angeline Farm

2014 has been exceptionally busy for CAFE and it is only in his strength that it has been a very fruitful year with amazing proof of the power of prayer and of asking Our Lord to lead our ministry.

The year started in February on every Friday morning (excluding term holidays) a faithful group of 10 to 15 parishioners attended 20 weeks sessions on the Acts of the Apostles. This was quickly followed by an 8 weeks session on Theology of the Body which also ran concurrently on Thursday nights facilitated by Howard Ong. Deep insights and reflections shared among the group, discussions with enlightened members of the group has nourished and broaden us to re-discover our journey of faith to grow personally and spiritually.

I am indebted to Patrick, Paula Ng and Soma who have contributed their time to helping me organise these courses. Also my gratitude to Howard who have so generously given his time to help facilitate the Theology of the Body on behalf of CAFE. My only prayer is to have the grace to allow God to work through us so that this parish will continue to grow.

'All for the glory of God.' To Him be the glory.

## Parish Religious Education Program: Mildred Rego, Co-Ordinator

The total number of children attending the Parish Religious Education Program each week in 2014 on a Tuesday afternoon from 4-5pm was 150. We have a team of 14 volunteers, of which 11 are Catechist and 3 helpers.

We continue to strive to fill the program with fun and energy to keep the children interested and follow the mandated program the Truth Will Set You Free from the Catechist Service Team. Each term we had special days that are connected with the life of the church. In Term 1 we had an opening term mass followed by pancakes and raised money for Caritas. Then we ended the term with Stations of the Cross and the children shared hot cross buns. Term 2 we had whole group rosary where many families joined us too. Term 3 we had a mass for the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and celebrated our grandparents followed by afternoon tea which was enjoyed by all. We ended

#### **Parish Religious Education Program (Continued)**

10.30am, followed by a team lunch that was attended by all with spouses and our Priests.

All sacraments were parish based with the support of the staff from Orana Catholic Primary. This year we introduced a Sacrament Parent Evening for all parents whose children were to receive the sacrament and this was very well attended. We had Dr Carmel Suart talk to the parents on the Sacraments and all were invited to collect the sacrament enrolment forms from the weekend masses. We continue to have a very close working relationship with Orana and are supported well by the Principal and Staff there. The Sacramental team consisting of our Priests, the Assistant Principal of Orana, Parish Sacrament Catechist and School Sacrament Teachers have met and planned the program for 2015.

This year we had 1 newly commissioned Catechist Mr Eric Fernandes and 2 Provisional Catechists, Sue Fardon and Anggy Tanjayay. Fr Thai presented them their certificate at our Thanksgiving mass.

John Sutton continues his great work on the database for enrolments and this year has formed email groups which makes is easier to communicate with parents.

Magdalene Heldt will take over from me as the Coordinator of the PREP Program from 2015.

As I finish my time in the parish I take this opportunity to thank both Fr Thai and Fr Daniel and all the Priests who I have worked with during my 10 years as the coordinator.

It has been a blessing and a privilege to be able to grow and share this faith with wonderful people in the Catechist team and also the many other groups I connected with.

My hope and prayer is that the program will continue to thrive as per the archdiocesan guidelines and that our children will continue to know God and love God in a special way.

## Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (RCIA): Howard Ong

A Ministry devoted to faith formation of adults, RCIA prepares new members to join our Catholic faith; and helps baptised Catholics in renewing their faith. Each year, the Lord blesses our community with new members through the RCIA process.

At the Willetton Catholic Parish, the RCIA faith-development process is conducted within a structured framework which includes weekly faith formation sessions and regular Scripture sharing at the weekend masses. Under the guidance of our catechists and accompanied by their respective sponsors, the candidates took a spiritually enriched journey, culminating in their reception into the Church on Easter Vigil night.

The RCIA is a year-long journey requiring significant commitment from all involved. Though the commitment level is relatively high, year after year RCIA has always proved to be a spiritually rewarding experience for all involved. Over the years, we have witnessed new members of our Church bearing witnesses to the Lord through their various Ministry work; and baptised Catholics becoming more spiritually enriched through their RCIA experience. It has been a privilege to witness the Holy Spirit works through the RCIA Ministry, bringing about conversion and renewal for all involved.

The RCIA is a year-long journey requiring significant commitment and determination. From September through to Easter the following year, the Catechumens (those are who not baptised) and Candidates (those who have been baptised into another Christian faith) regularly attended our weekend masses with the rest of the community. Their presence is a sacramental sign that God is at work in our community, as He continually draws new members to His Church. And week-in-week-out, we witness our RCIA candidates attending mass with the community but were not able to participate fully in the Eucharistic celebration. Their hope and desire is to journey towards Easter celebration, when they will for the first time be able to participate fully in the Eucharistic celebration. The presence of RCIA candidates in our midst reminds the rest of us how precious the Eucharist is, and that we must never take it for granted.

#### **Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (continued)**

On the Easter Vigil Mass on 19 Apr 2014, the Willetton Catholic community welcomed into full communion 7 adults, through the Initiation Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion. The community also celebrates the Baptism of 2 children and the Confirmation of a youth.

RCIA is a year-long process, commencing in July and completing at Pentecost the following year. To meet the demand of this tight cycle, planning for the next RCIA commences well before the current one concludes. The continual attraction of new volunteers is crucial for the future sustainability of this Ministry, due to the substantial commitment involved. This parish owes its RCIA success to the support of our volunteers; the Parish Council; Liturgy Committee; and to the unfailing support of our priests. A special credit must also go to our core group of volunteers who continues to give their time and talent generously year after year. RCIA 2014/15 has commenced in July 2014. As we enter into the Christmas season, the season of new birth, we thank the Lord for blessing our community with 8 RCIA candidates this year. May the Lord continue to guide and grow the RCIA Ministry and the Willetton Catholic Community in general.

## John Paul Care: Betty Thompson

The need for assistance during difficult times has seen John Paul Care continue its work throughout the parish this year and has resulted in the completion of over 300 tasks which include the preparation of many appetising emergency meals, transport to Mass, medical and hospital appointments; beautifying gardens, supporting parents and children, visiting the elderly and sick, supporting the bereaved and the mentally ill and all the while, embracing an active listening role.

The day to day operations of our Parish Care Program is managed by 6 Co-ordinators who are supported through the generosity of approximately 100 volunteers who volunteer their time and talents to perform these tasks.

#### John Paul Care (continued)

All of the many tasks, so generously undertaken, have brought much comfort to people in need in our community and if you have not been called on to assist, please be assured that your commitment is both valued and appreciated and an opportunity will arise when your services may be called next

In March, after 9 years of faithful service, we said a fond farewell to Greg Johnstone, Gardening Coordinator. We would like to express our sincere thanks for his dedication as a valued and a very keen team member.

With Greg's departure, we were blessed to fill his position when Stephen Siaw answered our call and enthusiastically stepped into this role. Stephen has shown a lot of initiative in the short time he has been the Gardening Coordinator and we would like to make him welcome.

We have great pleasure in introducing the Orana School Liaison Coordinator, Joyce Dass. This is a new role which entails keeping the parish informed of any short term emergency needs of families at Orana. Thank you for volunteering your time and talent, Joyce.

I would like to thank Co-ordinators, Bob Williams, Mary de Wever and Beatriz Clark, Stephen Siaw and Joyce Dass who willingly carry out their roles with enthusiasm, and Peter Mc Minn, Director of Catholic Outreach for his support and invaluable guidance. Last but not least, thank you to Fr Thai Vu and Fr Daniel Boyd for their encouragement and support throughout the year.

We are sincerely thankful to each one of you for your generous wholehearted support and prayers for those in need in our community. For more information, brochures about the care program can be found in the foyer of the church.

#### Personal Advocacy Monday Group: Sr Veronica Martin

This year, 2014, has been rich in blessings for our group. We have a very stable and dedicated group of advocates and a lively group of six friends who make all that we do for them so rewarding.

The fater of one of our friends passed away in September and that has been a time of sadness for the group.

Some of us participated in the bi-annual retreat for PA at the Monastery North Perth which was very prayerful and much appreciated by our Advocates.

Our newest Advocate was commissioned at the CEO Chapel by Archbiship Costelloe along with other catechists in September this year. To mark the occasion of 25 years of Personal Advocacy, a Cabaret was held at which Archbishop Timothy spoke at his delight in being part of an Archdiocese, the only one in Australia, where PA exists.

We are grateful to Fathers Thai and Daniel for celebrating our annual Eucharist and Reconciliation Rite and for their continued interest and support as well as that of the families of our friends and the Parish community.

## Personal Advocacy Thursday Group: Andrea Carlos

Personal Advocacy Service is an outreach agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth and is committed to the inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities to lead full and valued lives. It has been providing support for people with varying degrees of intellectual disability, enabling them to live more fully as active members of their local community for the past 16 years in the Willetton –Bateman area and for the past 25 years in the Archdiocese.

Sts. John and Paul Parish, Willetton is privileged to have 2 groups running in the parish centre on a Monday and Thursday evening.

Through its unique program, based on sharing activities, sharing life experiences and enjoying a light supper together, we travel the faith journey together.

Besides meeting for 2 hours a week during school term, we celebrate 2 Adapted Liturgies with the parish communities in Willetton and Bateman and gently introduce our friends to the sacrament of Reconciliation in the safe and secure environment of our small groups. We also attend an Annual Community celebration where we catch up with 16 other groups scattered all over the Archdiocese and is attended by about 250 friends, advocates and family members.

Every end of term we expand our friends choices by taking them out and integrating in the local community by having a meal at a restaurant, going to the movies, sharing a picnic in the park.

These may seem like very ordinary activities but some of this would not be possible for our friends without the extra help.

This year we were very privileged to host a Count-me-in event which started with an Inclusive Liturgy followed by a Sausage Sizzle and the feedback we got from the parish community was very encouraging. We are very blessed to have such an inclusive community at Sts. John and Paul.

We would like to thank our parish priests past and present for their continual support, financial and spiritual to keep this ministry strong. A special thanks to Fr. Thai and Fr. Daniel for their ongoing support and inclusion. Thanks to them, the Thursday group is now complete after we recruited an advocate

## **Personal Advocacy Thursday Group (Continued)**

If you would like more information or know someone who may be interested in joining our group, please contact Sr. Veronica on 94439298 or Andrea Carlos on 92755388 (9.30am- 2pm). Please leave a message and we will get back to you ASAP.

## Ignatian Spirituality and Christian Life Communities: Rom Cirillo

Broadly speaking, members of CLC within this parish have continued to meet fortnightly in their home groups. Two groups exist in the Parish. One of the groups completed the First Spiritual Exercises as one of its formation activities for this year.

From within these groups, members have enormous outreach to the Church and society. CLC communities from the Perth metropolitan area meet regularly (at least once per term) to listen to talks and to share life/spiritual experiences. One of the meetings this year, focused on Pope Francis' very special Apostolic Exhortation on The Joy of the Gospel.

CLC groups within WA generally make donations and these are pooled together and used to support worthy causes, as deemed by the State CLC executive. This year our donations went to CARAD, to support asylum seekers and refugees, in line with our collective apostolic activity.

CLC has celebrated its 450 years of Lay Ignatian Groups last year. One member from within our Parish, Chris Gardner, is the National President of CLC and last year represented the CLC National Community at a World Assembly in Beirut.

Ignatian Spirituality was present at the Parish Ministry day and Fr Thai attended one of our group meetings earlier in the year.

There are opportunities for lay members of this parish to do "retreats in daily life" and/or receive spiritual Companioning by trained lay members of CLC.

## John Paul Prayer Ministry: Michelle Ricketts

John Paul Prayer Ministry has had a fruitful year, praise be to God. We started the year 2014 with a Chinese New Year celebration, thanking God for all His many blessings on us all and the Parish. We welcomed Fr. Daniel as our first speaker for the year and we were blessed and thankful to have many others who gave their time and knowledge to help build up our spiritual lives. Sr. Margaret was especially enjoyable with her guitar and voice.

The highlight of the year was the Life in the Spirit Seminar. With God's help and direction we were able to combine with The Oasis Prayer Group to bring in Chris Hew and May Ong from Malaysia to lead us over a weekend in September. It was well attended and the feedback was that it was a great success. It was also a time of transformation for many of us. When God moves, our lives can never be the same; we can only move closer to Him.

We meet on Wednesday evenings after Mass. Our "prayer box" is always in the foyer and everyone and anyone with a prayer need is welcome to put in their requests. Our prayer team prays over them in strict confidence. We have a monthly fellowship on the 4th Wednesday, and all are welcome. We invite speakers whenever they are available but we do have a team of stalwarts who come in and share their knowledge, experiences, and their expertise. We are blessed.

As the year comes to a close we thank Lyna for her many years of service to the JPPM as she steps down. There will be a few changes but we pray for God's guidance and HIs prompting, and pray that we will continue to be the "powerhouse of prayer" in our parish. Thank you for all the support we get from the Parish priests and members. May we continue to be the faithful "Prayer Warriors " standing in the gap for all those in need.

#### The Craft Group: Barbara Zukowski

After a Christmas and New Year break, members were welcomed back for 2014 on the first Wednesday of February. As it was quite some time since we had met, there was a lot of friendly chit chat over cuppas and bickies before any knitting was commenced. Our Craft Group continues to flourish and we have completed another successful year, welcomed a few new members as well as unfortunately losing some long time members through ill health. We thank them all for their contributions over the many years and wish them well in their "Retirement".

This year our annual stall was another great success and we thank all those who supported it and members who contributed to make it so. From the proceeds we donated \$1550 to 19 charities and purchased umpteen balls of wool to keep the members needles clicking and faces smiling.

As we as the above cash donations, we have made over 600 items and sent them to the following organisations:-

Brother Olly Wheelchair for Kids - Knee Rugs and Teddies

Philippines for needy children - 200 Teddies

St Vincent de Paul - Blankets, Scarves and Beanies

Perth Homeless - Scarves and Beanies Royal Flying Doctor - Large bag of Teddies Pregnancy Assistance - Various Baby items

We meet every Wednesday morning at 9.30 am and all who wish to help us in our charity work are very welcome.

A big Thank You to all the wonderful people who have supported us during the year and we hope that with your continued support we can help to improve the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves.

## **Parish Maintenance Team Report**

The Parish Maintenance Team is responsible to the Parish Priest for the maintenance of all church assets and buildings, including the church grounds.

The Team Leader is Ex Officio, the Chair Person of the Parish Finance Committee, assisted by two coordinators. The involvement of the Chair Person of the Finance Committee is essential, as the Maintenance Team's work involves outlaying Parish funds, sometimes at short notice, where emergency repairs are needed.

Currently the Team consists of:-Norm Curtis - Ex Officio Leader Roy Craddock - Busy Bee Co-Ordinator John Sutton - Asset Maintenance Co-Ordinator

Roy Craddock expresses his appreciation for all the willing hands that have helped at Busy Bees this year. The turn up at the recent pre-Christmas clean-up was impressive. We have two Busy Bees, one pre-Easter and one pre-Christmas. It is noted that working very hard amongst his people was Father Thai Vu. Leading by example.

In early 2014 the Team oversaw the upgrade of the roofing structure of the Parish Centre Main Hall, involving Structural Engineers and Carpenters. Various other minor repairs have been carried out involving Tradesman of various trades during the year. This usually involves obtaining quotes and arranging for the attendance of the Tradesman and then being at the church, waiting, to let the Tradesman in and stay with them while they carry out the work.

I think that Parishioners should know of Father Thai's connections in the building industry and how these connections have saved the parish many thousands of dollars over the years. Quite often Father Thai can call on his connections to quote and they carry out major work at a lower cost and to a much higher standard than would otherwise be the case without his involvement.

## Parish Maintenance Team Report—2014 (Continued)

We are very fortunate that one of our Parishioners, Don Gavin, is a very experienced builder and is readily available for many of the minor and not so minor repairs that crop up. I would like to thank Don for his help this year and in past years, it has been most appreciated. When Don gives you a time he'll be at the church, he is.

It is Parish policy to employ Licenced Trades Persons and to pay the going rate for the work they do. This also applies where the Trades Person involved is a Parishioner.

If there are any Parishioners who are Licenced Tradespersons or experienced Tradespersons, where no licence is involved in the trade and would like to offer their services to the Parish and would like to be on our list of those people who are invited to quote for work, please contact me.

#### **Altar Servers: Pat Bonser**

There are at present 58 servers listed to roster on the Sat/Sun Masses. Thanks to the recruiting efforts of our priests our numbers have not decreased. There are no servers for the 7.30 am Mass but thanks to some families who come along with their children who serve on occasions. I will be conducting training sessions for new servers this month and after 1st Holy Communion.

#### **Liturgy Committee: Helen Rankine**

The Liturgy Committee under the leadership of Dr Carmel Suart and assisted by Fr Thai and Fr Daniel met monthly through 2014 with representatives from Music, PREP, RCIA, Proclaimers of the Word, Acolytes and Special Ministers of Holy Communion.

In the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (Sacrosanctum Concilium) Christ's faithful are encouraged to participate fully, consciously, devotedly and actively in the Mass.

The Liturgy Committee aimed to promote this by ensuring that all the Liturgical rites in 2014 ran as smoothly as possible.

In the Liturgy of the Word, where parishioners are instructed by God's Word, our readers are well trained to proclaim clearly and succinctly.

For the parishioners to be nourished at the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we have ensured that our acolytes, altar servers and special ministers of Holy Communion perform their office with piety and decorum in a correct and orderly manner.

We are fortunate to have choirs at all our weekend masses to encourage all not merely to be silent spectators.

And so, with the help and co-operation of all the above ministries we were able to celebrate the following Liturgical services in 2014.

- Our youth made their First Reconciliation. Holy Communion and Confirmation. The latter conferred by Archbishop Timothy Costelloe.
- Our Christmas and Easter celebrations were truly spiritual and joyous occasions.
- We welcomed many new people into the Catholic Church through our RCIA programme.

## **Liturgy Committee (Continued)**

- Many parishioners participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation at Easter and Christmas. To be better prepared for this sacrament, Fr Daniel produced a brochure on the "Sacrament of Reconciliation" which is available in the church at all times.
- -We implemented the distribution of Holy Communion at each Mass to the frail and elderly before the rest of the congregation.
- We held a Thanksgiving Mass for the Volunteers of the Parish as well as a Wedding Anniversary Mass.
- We decided this year instead of token gifts to Mothers on Mothers Day and Fathers on Fathers Day a donation be given to the Women Refuge and St Patricks Charity respectively.
- Carmel Suart stepped down from her position as Chairperson and Mildred Rego resigned at the end of the year. We thank them both for the many years of devoted service.
- We thank Fr Daniel for his contribution over the year.
- We welcome Fr Joe and Magdalene (PREP) to this ministry and we will continue to serve the parishioners of Sts. John and Paul in 2015.

## Social/Hospitality Team: Colleen & Virgil Reutens

Aims: To promote social activities

To build friendships among individuals

To support the activities of other groups within the parish

community

The sharing of wine and cheese on Saturdays nights and morning teas on Sundays after each mass on the first weekend of the month, continue to be well received. This year not as many new volunteers joined the ranks as each of these groups had established helpers, rostered for the year.

The team once again assisted with the organizing of brunch for the participants and families

of the Anniversary Mass and celebrations on 27 July.

A new concept tagged A Variety Fun Night, was introduced on 22 November. It was loosely designed to involve guests to participate in approximately 20 minutes of an activity eg. Magic, joke telling, charades, trivia, singing, bollywood, folk, square, line dancing. We ran out of time however and could not perfect all that we had learnt!!!!! The newlyformed youth group, T4C (Teens for Christ) ran the raffle and danced a routine which added variety to the event. All who attended assured me that it was a very good evening.

Our last function for the year, Carols Night, was held on 13 December when the team barbequed and efficiently distributed about 270 hotdogs in a short space of time. Santa was on hand to distribute lollies to the children who stayed awake after the carols were sung.

Finally we would like to express our thanks and sincere gratitude to all those who volunteered and assisted us this year......those who responded, whether it was to attend a function, bring food to share with others or help set up for an event. We hope you have enjoyed the experience.

The current Hospitality Team will now step down from their positions to allow other parishioners to inject fresh ideas into this already vibrant and full-filling ministry. We have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and made life-long friends on the way. We will assist the incoming team in

## **Growing Vine: Emma Cheney**

In 2014 Growing Vine went through a change in coordinators with both Annie Das and Amanda Dunlop stepping down from the role throughout the year due to other commitments. We ended the year with Gail Fischer and Emma Cheney as the coordinators, with Gail unable to continue in 2015.

Growing Vine currently has 25 active members. Throughout the year we have had 25 volunteers helping out in the kitchen but some volunteers struggled with the commitment and will not continue next year. We are requesting more volunteers to fill the gaps left by those who are unable to continue in 2015. We also had a change in bus drivers with two bus drivers resigning and two more bus drivers joining the roster.

Throughout the year, Growing vine had multiple outings including a trip to Araluen for lunch, a trip to Sizzlers Riverton, an outing to the movies and Christmas lunch at Crown Casino. We also had some Indian dancers come in and perform for us and the members organized and performed an end of year show, which everyone was a part of.

We look forward to another exciting year, with Irene Er-Smith joining the team as a coordinator for 2015

## Orana Catholic Primary School: David Barns, Principal

Once again Orana CPS had an exciting and successful 2014 school year. School numbers remained steady at approximately 500 students from Pre-Kindy through to Year 6.

We have a strong, experienced staff who worked tirelessly to provide a vibrant and nurturing environment for the children and families in our community. Our school secretary, Leonie Brown, retired from her role after more than twenty years of service. We thank her for her contribution to Orana and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

The year ended with our Assistant Principal, Andrea Woodgate, taking up a new appointment at St Kieran CPS, Tuart Hill. Our Year Two teacher has taken up the option to work at the catholic school in Broome and our Physical Education teacher has moved to a new role at St Columba's CPS, South Perth.

Our school community were very supportive of our 2014 fundraising activities which included:

- Caritas, through their Project Compassion Appeal
- Life Link Day Gold coin donation to wear footy clothes
- Winter Blanket Appeal
- "Re-Shoe" a shoe collection drive to assist communities in Kenya
- School Stationery Collection for disadvantaged children
- St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers

Once again our school worked closely with the parish in the Sacramental Program. Approximately 160 students received the Sacraments and were involved in related retreats and parent workshops. We appreciate the support from the parish in this undertaking.

Students attended mass at our parish church once a term and other masses and celebrations were held in the school hall. The priests were invited into the school on a regular basis in order to improve the connection between the school and the parish.

Prayer assemblies continued to be a regular item on the calendar. Once a fortnight a class was responsible for leading the school in a prayer service or Liturgy of the Word. These revolved around special days in the church

## **Orana Catholic Primary School (Continued)**

We once again joined in the parish Stations of the Cross roster and a multiaged group of students re-enacted the Stations in Tableau form.

Our staff ended the year with a combined mass with the staff from Yidarra CPS and Queen of Apostles School.

## Oasis Charismatic Prayer Group: Sandy Correia

Oasis Charismatic Prayer Group meets on Thursdays from 1 pm to 2.30 pm during school term. Our Oasis Prayer Group gather on Thursdays in the small chapel in front of the Tabernacle .

We pray our Rosary, asking Our Blessed Mother to take our hearts to the Lord, we lift up all intentions of family, friends, church and community.

We share Sundays gospel reading to help ready ourselves for Sunday mass, and encourage each other with the word of God .

We lift our hearts, minds and souls to our Lord in the Tabernacle and in his love he reaches down to all and brings love, healing and peace.

It is truly a moment in time when cares melt away and it helps us go out and continue, to walk through the challenges of life.

We have around 15-20 members each week, and we have been very blessed this year with gifted speakers coming and sharing their wisdom and knowledge with us which in turn encourages us to keep going and push forward in our own journeys.

All ages are very welcome to come and join us, young babies and children most welcome. We start our meeting with -

- 1.00 pm rosary
- 1.30 pm share gospel
- 1.45 pm praise and worship ( singing songs to Jesus which helps us to open our hearts to Him )
- 2.30 pm finish

Prayers available for all who need and in time for school pick up.

## John Paul Playgroup: Clyde Spencer

The annual general meeting held on 27 November 2014 were attended by five members with six apologies. The President opened the meeting by welcoming all present with an opening prayer.

The roles of secretary (Nicole) and Treasurer (Joyce) will be vacated as a result of families leaving for 4 year old Kindy.

In 2015 the following members have volunteered to take on the following roles:-

President - Clyde Spencer (2nd Term)

Secretary - Kresta Cinanni Treasurer - Juanita Hiscock

The Secretary requested that those members wishing to retain membership of John Paul Playgroup in 2015 complete a registration form and return it to the Treasurer before the end of term 2014

The President announced that in 2015 with Fr. Thai Vu's permission/agreement the John Paul Playgroup will continue to operate under the umbrella of Sts. John and Paul Catholic Parish and not under Playgroup WA.. Prayer before meals and closing prayer have been implemented in 2014. The playgroup also purchased bible story books, religious activity books and kids' religious CDs to increase the catholicity of the playgroup. The playgroup will continue to operate every Thursdays from 9.30 am to 11.30 am during the school term.

Some of the main activities undertaken by the playgroup members are:

Busy bee held on 28 September 2014

Rose plants project— a total of 17 rose plants, soil improver and potting mix were purchased by the playgroup amounting to a total of A\$210.30. The rose plants were proudly planted by the children and their parents on 6 November 2014.

## John Paul Playgroup (Continued)

Some of the main activities undertaken by the playgroup members are:

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Some of the other activities that took place in 2014 are:

Easter Party

Mothers' Day Craft

**Tumblers Gym Excursion** 

Fireman Truck Incursion

Jungle Gym cum end of Term 3 Party

Christmas Nativity Craft

Christmas/Year End Party

Future projects are:

Busy bee—that is: wash/disinfect toys, carpet cleaning, etc.

Replace sand in sand-pit.

## The Parish Library: Margaret Yesuratnam

The Library continues to be opened on the first weekend of the month. There has been a drop in interest this year but this could be due to the lack of new resources. This year the Library catalogue has gone online and this will be promoted in the new year so that parishioners can browse the catalogue at home. Also about 30 new DVDs have been donated and these will be catalogued and available for loan in February 2015.

# Legion of Mary: Annual Report of Praesidia - Clara Gemmy To Jesus through Mary

Name of Praesidium : Our Lady of the Missions

**Location (Suburb)** : Willetton

Meeting Place : Sts John & Paul Parish Centre

Time : 2.00 pm every Friday

Spiritual Director : Fr Thai Vu

Officership Vacant : nil

Active membership : 11 Praetorian: n.a Auxiliary membership : 60 Adjutorian: n.a

Probationary : Nil

Report from : 11 December 2013—15 December 2014

#### Works undertaken:

Members pay regular visits to the Retirement village at Leeming, the Frederick Anglican Guest House, Regents Garden Nursing Home and Hospitals if necessary. Special house visits too, to the elderly, sick, lonely are made every once in two or three months. The auxiliary members are also contacted, followed by visits after their period of probation. An annual get-together for the auxiliaries was held to express our gratitude and appreciation on Saturday 26 July 2014 at 12 noon in the Parish Centre.

Members of "Our Lady of the Missions" take turns to attend the monthly Comitium. Meetings held at the Venerable Edel Quin Centre at Windsor Street.. All major functions held by the Comitium, that is The Annual Mass for Frank Duff, The Torchlight Procession at Lake Monger, the ACIES at St Pius' Church, Manning and the carolling sessions on Fridays in December have been represented by members of "Our Lady of the Missions".

The Annual Mass for the deceased Legionaries is also offered in our own Parish every November. The Parish Hospitality Team is assisted with the preparing and serving of morning tea and coffee every 1st Sunday after the 7.30 am mass when rostered. Two members help to man the St. Vincent de Paul piety stall, and the Venerable Edel Quin Centre every third Wednesday as rostered. One member also ministers the Holy Eucharist at individuals' homes when necessary. Comitium kindly organised a Rosary making workshop at John Paul Parish Centre for members. Members are

## **Legion of Mary (continued)**

Plans for next year:

To continue

- building up a base of homes to visit.
- visiting Parish homes, nursing homes and retirement villages.
- door-knocking in our Parish and extending assistance during the PPC organized at Comitium level.
- showing our appreciation to our auxiliary members by organising gettogethers.
- promoting the Rosary devotion in homes and as part of the prayers for the repose of souls at wakes when requested.
- promoting the Enthronement of The Sacred Heart in members' homes.
- making Rosaries.

### Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Radha Anthony

We know that when Jesus died on the cross, He entrusted the whole of humanity to His Mother's love and care.

The Novena provides an avenue for us to come together as a community and individually to invoke the intercession of Our Blessed Mother over our burdens, prayers and concerns; confident that she would pray with us and for us.

Novena is held every Saturday immediately after the 9:00am mass.

# Marriage Preparation Program—Today and All The Days: Carmen & Harry McDonald

The program that is used is titled 'Today and All The Days of Your Life' is a modern marriage preparation program that incorporates DVDs, embraces many modern and confronting issues for engaged couples today and calls on the experiences of a large number of catholic couples in addition to the those put forward by the sponsor couple.

Fr. Thai and Fr. Daniel are strong advocates of this program. They continue to encourage engaged couples in the parish to use this program. The special blessing of the engaged couple among the parish community has been continued and is also very popular.

During the calendar year 6 couples have chosen the sponsor – engaged couple marriage preparation program, which is a reduction on many previous years where the average has been 10. The couples that have participated all provide positive feedback. Some other couples have been referred on to the diocesan programs where the parish sponsored program hasn't fitted in to their other availability commitments.

The sponsor couples in the program - Basil and Christine Fernandez, David and Su Goh, Anne and Casey Lee and ourselves have been joined recently by Desmond Lucas and Natalie Lim. We are always on the lookout for more help and had some conditional offers of help from previous and new sponsors. The majority of likely volunteers already busy with other parish commitments.

In summary this was another quiet year for the marriage prep group. Hopefully 2015 and beyond will see more couples taking using this program.

## **Music Liturgy: Sue Jones**

Our parish has been blessed for many years with very dedicated, reflective and prayerful musicians. This year is no exception.

We currently have over 60 people actively involved in the Music Liturgies for the 4 Masses. Most of the choirs rehearse regularly for the Sunday Masses — our philosophy is that Music should reflect the readings of the day, encourage the congregation to participate enthusiastically, and to be prayerful.

Christmas and Easter require a lot of work and dedication from the choir and each year we always have large numbers participating in very prayerful Liturgies.

We are very diligent in terms of meeting our Copyright obligations and Helen Miller reports to our Word of Life International and CCLI agencies annually, on our Music usage. This includes the number of times the songs were sung and the number of people in the congregation at the time. Thanks to Helen for all of her skill and time, generating these reports.

We are also called upon to sing at various Liturgies in the Parish including Weddings, Funerals, Reconciliation, Mission as well as all the Sunday Masses.

Our team of Musicians work very hard to maintain the importance of the Music Liturgy in our celebrations.

Thanks also goes to the hymn selection team and to Xavier Das who produces the Powerpoint Presentation for all the Liturgies

We always welcome newcomers. Please feel free to approach the musicians at any of the Masses and I'm sure you will be made most welcome!

I thank all the choirs for their tireless efforts and look forward to their ongoing support.

LORD JESUS,

BLESS OUR PARISH OF STS. JOHN AND PAUL AND HELP US GROW AS A EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY.

WE PRAY THAT AS WE ARE NOURISHED BY YOUR WORD AND SACRAMENT WE RESPOND WITH COURAGE TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS.

WE ASK YOU TO STRENGTHEN THE GIFT OF FAITH IN OUR CHILDREN, OUR YOUTH AND OUR FAMILIES AND SHOW US THE WAY TO BE GOOD STEWARDS. INSPIRE US TO USE THE GIFTS OF OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE GENEROUSLY IN THE SERVICE OF OUR PARISH.

MAY THE LOVE OF ST. JOHN AND THE ZEAL AND TENACITY OF ST. PAUL TEACH US TO BE A COMMUNITY OF LOVE AND FAITH.

WE ASK THE INTERCESSION OF OUR PARISH PATRONS TO LEAD US TO JESUS, AND MAY WE, LIKE MARY, BE OPEN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.

WE ASK THIS THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD.

*AMEN*