

27th September 2020

First off after several delays to try to have our annual Parish Pastoral Committee AGM it was decided to abandon it this year and publish the appropriate reports.

If you have any questions or would like anything explained, please don't hesitate to contact me direct.

Chairman's reports for St Marys Mt Albert Parish Pastoral Committee.

This has been a unique and interesting year not only for those of us here at St. Marys Mt. Albert but for everyone around us. We have experienced situations that many of us never dreamed possible and have had to adapt our whole lives to comply with restrictions placed upon us both in our personal and also our spiritual life, and then when we thought things were getting back to normal we were hit with a second round.

Having to close our Church down, finding new ways to worship, staying in touch with our families, our loved ones and our fellow parishioners were some of the challenges we were faced with.

The caring committee worked tirelessly sourcing and distributing food, clothing and bedding for those in need within our community. To all those who were involved sincere thanks, you had a positive impact on the lives of so many people, and to those who donated to this as it could not have happened without your contributions, thanks again.

My sincere thanks go to the many volunteers within the Parish who give up their time to make sure the parish operated effectively, there are so many volunteers who give their time and energy I hope each of you are aware of the appreciation we have for your efforts. St Marys Mt Albert would not be where we are today without your efforts.

To the team in the office who adapted and worked tirelessly during the restrictions to make sure the administration side of the Parish continued, for your efforts in putting together the newsletters so we could stay connected to the parishioner's thanks again, also to Father Phillip for holding things together and the daily prayers and Masses .
Also, to my fellow committee members thanks for the time and efforts you all have put in to our monthly meetings.

We are now focusing on getting things back to normal, the sacramental programme has started again and although there are still guidelines we need to adhere to, we pray that we can progress and complete the programmes.

A new liturgy committee has been set up and are starting to gain momentum thanks to the members we look forward to your ongoing support.

On the positive side we were fortunate enough to have our new baptismal font blessed and placed into the Church, this font has components from the old font incorporated into it and as well as new materials, thanks to Ross Courtney for his craftsmanship and time to put this together.

Within the Parish Pastoral committee many of us learned the meaning of a "Zoom meeting" this enabled us to stay in touch with Father Phillip, the team in the office and various groups within the Parish.

Now we are in level 2 we have been focused on getting things back to normal, while there are still restrictions in place, Masses and reconciliations have resumed with restrictions on numbers, social distancing and covid tracing in place.

Hopefully we can now proceed with some more of our goals such as maintenance within the Church, establishing a committee to start looking at the feasibility of a shared hall between the schools and the Parish, and continuing our relationship with the primary school and the college.

Some of you may be aware that we recently farewelled Father Albert, we thank Father Albert for his contributions during his period here, we are now in the process of trying to secure a replacement.

Two of our members have recently resigned with Phillip Doyle from Marist College moving away from the College and Joe Brownfield dedicating his time to assisting the youth of the Parish, sincere thanks to both Phillip and Joe for their input over the last few years it has been great having your input and we will miss both of you.

With that in mind we will be calling for new members for the Parish pastoral committee in the very near future, if you would like to be part of this team please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,
Dave Wood
PPC Chairman