

## Sunday Celebration in Anticipation of Eucharist

This is a message from the PLT regarding feedback received on our Sunday Celebration in Anticipation of Eucharist, currently in Cooranbong and soon to be in Morisset also.

Firstly we thank you for your feedback and we welcome your comment on the changes that have been introduced into our celebration.

As you may be aware, 19 members of our parish attended the first 4 weeks of the introductory course into Sunday Celebration in Anticipation of Eucharist conducted at Toronto by Sr Louise Gannon RSJ, the Diocesan Co-Ordinator of Liturgy and Adult Faith Education. The second and final stage of the course was attended by 15 members of our parish.

Throughout the course, we studied the Documents from Rome, from the Australian Catholic Bishops and from our own Maitland Newcastle Diocese that relate to the Sunday Celebration of the Word with Communion.

After the completion of this course and the Parish Gathering in June, a Liturgy Preparation and Development Team was established. All those who attended the course together with Sister Anne and Father Geoff were invited to join this team as well as the two other parishioners who at the Gathering Day expressed an interest in joining this team.

We learned that SCAE has its own very special format and that our Australian Bishops discerned that the principles of these documents were met by the Canadian Directory for Sunday Celebrations- so this book is the one being used all over our Diocese. We learned that these celebrations have two very clear and distinct rites – Liturgy of the Word and Rite of Communion.

Due to the nature of the celebration, The Word is the main focus and this is then followed by Rite of Communion.

This celebration is not Eucharist or Mass, it is a celebration of God's Word with Communion and it meets the Sunday obligation for all who attend.

As a result of our Liturgy Preparation and Development Team meeting it was discerned that some changes were necessary and these have been implemented into our Celebration.

One change is that we are standing for more time following the Reflection on the Gospel. In fact we stand for the Profession of Faith, the General Intercessions, the Proclamation of Praise and the Sign of Peace. The Liturgy of the Word concludes with the Sign of Peace.

At this time we sit or kneel.

When the Communion Rite begins, the blessed sacrament is brought to the altar as before,

we say the Lord's prayer, receive Communion and then have a brief time of silence before beginning the Concluding Rite.

So as not to interrupt the flow of the Liturgy of the Word, our Liturgy Preparation and Development team discerned that the time of the collections should change as recommended by the Australian Catholic Bishops.

We still have the two collections - First collection for the support of the clergy and retired clergy in our diocese, the second collection for the support of our parish. These collections will, from now on, both be taken up after Communion and before the final Blessing.

We realise that it will take some time for all of us to become familiar with these changes.

We thank you for your support, cooperation and comments during the initial stages of change.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM.