

Reports
for Parish Gathering
9th June 2019



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset

Foundation	Teams in Foundation
1 Identity and Community	Gardening Team Knitting - Wraps With Love Inc Hospitality Team
2 Worship and Prayer	Children's Liturgy Team Contemplative Prayer Funeral Ministry Liturgy Preparation and Development Music Ministry Rostered Ministries
3 Formation and Education	Baptismal Team Sacramental Team Small groups RCIA
4 Mission and Outreach	Bereavement Team Caring Ministry Team Bereavement Team Social Justice Team Godstart Media Management Team Special Events
5 Leadership and Structure	Cemetery Team Parish Finance Council Parish Pastoral Council Parish School
Other Teams and Groups	St Vincent de Paul Morisset Conference Shalom Charismatic Prayer Secular Franciscans

FOUNDATION 1- IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY

FOUNDATION 1 LEADER REPORT 2019

IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY

ZONE TEAMS

There are only two Zone teams in regular contact by meeting on a monthly basis to read and share the previous week's gospel. They are Dora Creek and Bonnells Bay.

POSTIES

You will have noticed that we have not been delivering evangelising letters for some months now. The reason for this, is because the Diocese have asked that all "posties" who have volunteered so generously for many years need to complete the Volunteer Registration which requires a Police Check and a Working with Children Check. The majority of "posties" did not accept our invitation last year to complete the volunteer registration so regretfully we have not been able to continue this contact with our parishioners. We are trying to think of ways in this technical age of how best to continue this contact but as yet, we have not found a practical solution. The Parish does try to keep the Parish Website and Face Book page up to date with upcoming events.

CONVERSATION ABOUT CATHOLICS

This programme was run again this year for the new Kinder parents from SJV school. I was invited to the Orientation Day in November which the new parents attended and explained ways this programme might help them to understand questions from their child which may arise while their child is at SJV. The programme is 4 sessions of approx. 1 hour for 4 weeks. Unfortunately, this year we only had one parent attend which was very disappointing. The sessions were led by Sr. Margaret McLeod rsm, Daphne Peterson and myself. However, we are going to try a new approach for the 2020 Kinder parents which are we are working on now.

GARDENING TEAM

Our gardening team at both churches have done a great job over the last 12 months and we should all be proud of our church grounds. As the garden matures our team have found some heavy chores need to be outsourced. The team have also managed to have a succulent plant stall in May to raise funds to offset the garden costs. If any parishioner is interested in joining the gardening team, they will be most welcome. No need to be shy!

KNITTING TEAM

These wonderful ladies do a magnificent job each year of knitting and sewing together squares to make blankets for the needy. Please read their report for this Gathering. Again, if any parishioner, especially someone new to our parish would like to join these ladies on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month from Feb to Nov in the Callinan Centre you will be welcomed to join in their fellowship and “cuppa”.

HOSPITALITY

The monthly “cuppa” roster has almost completed another year and the response from both the team each month and the congregation has been fantastic. This is a great way for new and “not so new” parishioners to meet and have a chat over a cuppa. If on Cuppa Sunday, which is the First Sunday of the month (excluding January), you are seated near a new person please invite that person to join in the fellowship in the Callinan Centre.

Our Melbourne Cup lunch again proved to be a great fun day and enjoyed by all who attended thanks to Rhonda and Julie for their help. Our hard-working trio who organise the sweeps do a wonderful job. We could do with a few more helping hands on the day to assist in preparing and serving the lunch. If you are interested, please speak to me.

WELCOMING

Many thanks to the people who welcome attendees each Saturday/Sunday to our Mass or Liturgy. It is encouraging to be met with a smile when you arrive at the church. We have accommodated overflow from the church on two occasions this year when we were able to offer seating in the Callinan Centre with live streaming of the Mass. This was for the Beginning Event and Easter Sunday. Do not be afraid to sit in the Callinan Centre when the church has reached capacity as it is very comfortable, and the live streaming is very clear.

FORMATION

I have attended the following this past 12 months

St Marks Gospel with Vivian Williams

Communion Leader Workshop

BBI Conference

Retreat with Bishop Bill

Successfully completed a First Aid Course for the Parish

Child Protecting Training at Maitland

Communion Rite Workshop 4 May

Jenny Douglas

Parish Leadership Team Foundation 1

GARDEN TEAM REPORT 2019

Location Morisset- comprises the rose garden, grevillea gardens at the front and side of the church, rockery strips, long pots, lawn and edges, garden along side the Callinan Centre, area adjacent to the school fence and the hedges lining the driveway of the units.

Improvements- heave pruning of tall grevilleas, staking where needed, rockeries replanted with succulents, extensive pruning of the hedged lillipillies along the driveway of the units. The onsite green recycle bin has been very welcome.

Lawns, edges and spray weeding- maintained on a contracted regular basis by Rod Hay.

Maintenance- continues on a needs basis which involves rose pruning, feeding, mulching, trimming, replacement as required, mowing, weeding and watering. The original garden concept remains “an overall look” and receives many positive comments from Parishioners and Visitors, particularly the rose garden. Lighter watering has resulted in reduced black spot problems with the rose bushes.

Challenges – now minimal since rearranging and simplifying the garden alongside the Callanan Centre, it is now easier to maintain despite the difficult access.

Location Cooranbong Church and cemetery- and wider connection with park landscape, Church and cemetery lawns, grave surrounds, columbarium garden, trees, walkway, lower paddock, pipe crosstown and Mary McKillop garden.

Improvements- pipe crossing over the creek continuing to improve with extra soil and plants. Two Jacaranda trees have been planted and staked in front of the Church which will frame the entrance and provide shade.

Maintenance -continues on a needs basis and involves mowing, mulching, weed spraying, pruning, planting with ongoing Tuesday support from the Cooranbong Landcare Group. The Mary McKillop rose is flourishing and flowers constantly. The mowing is shared by a few members to increase support to Denis Lyons.

Connections- many casual opportunities arise connecting team members with the local community as they walk across the connected parcel of land with C’bong Park.

Concerns -How to encourage casual participation in working bees following invitation in Parish Bulletin??

Garden Team Members -Frances Dunn, Kerry Lendon, Billie Nowak, Heather White, Lynne Fairhall, Jim Scully, Denis Lyons, Rod Hay, Mick Gill, John France

Contact for membership or suggestions- Morisset Billie Nowak,
Cooranbong Frances Dunn. Report prepared by Heather White

WRAPS WITH LOVE INC REPORT 2019

Knitting Group

The SJV Knitting Group of “Wraps with Love Inc” continues to flourish with two new members- welcome Krystyna and Roma.

Such a great band who knit, sew and crocket and as a fun-loving group we are also achieving great things.

We thank other knitters who send in their squares either by post or family members or deliver to our homes.

Last year we averaged 79 rugs, mindful of the fact there are 28 squares to make one rug. Each square is 10 x 10 inches. So, it is busy fingers all around! Our raffle last year netted over \$200 kindly supported by SJV parishioners enabling us to purchase wool. Thanks to Heather for gathering good quality wool.

“Wraps with Love” has celebrated 25 years and over the past year has helped children and families living in fragile regions around Somalia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan, Chad and South Sudan. Many children in these areas are exposed to cold, at risk of disease and have difficulty sleeping in this weather, often preventing children to concentrate at school or participate in their community. That is, until Wraps with Love donated over 17,128 wraps! Thank you, Wraps with Love for partnering with World Vision and bringing life-changing warmth and safety to many children and families living in vulnerable communities around the world, creating a much brighter future and thank you SJV knitting group for remaining faithful to this wonderful and worthwhile cause.

Some comments from our group,

“I enjoy our knitting group, it is a fortnightly outing with a group of lovely, friendly women and chatting and socialising makes my day”

“The ladies of our knitting group are a friendly bunch of friends and we enjoy meeting and having a chat while we knit”

“Always an enjoyable morning spent in a friendly group of caring ladies”

“I enjoy the social aspect plus being able to do something for someone else and the opportunity to meet with other people outside our village”

“An enjoyable social morning knowing that we are benefiting those less fortunate by providing them with warm and colourful blankets”

“Making rugs is a worthwhile and enjoyable pastime”

Billie Nowak for and on behalf of the Knitting Group.

HOSPITALITY TEAM REPORT - 2019

Since May 2018 we catered for 4 funerals, raising \$1,600

Our pie warming oven has been a great help in preparing the hot food, which many wish to have, and the generous contributions of other food for these events from our list of willing parishioners is very much appreciated.

New names for food suppliers would be welcome to give those presently on our list a little relief at times. "Many hands make light work". You don't need to be a "cake cook", sandwiches, along with kitchen help is always needed. If you are interested please give your name to either Kay Amon or Juliet Hutchins.

Kay Amon on behalf of the Hospitality Team

FOUNDATION 2- WORSHIP AND PRAYER

FOUNDATION 2 LEADER REPORT 2019

The Foundation 2 leader's role is to coordinate everything necessary for effective and spiritual Prayer and Liturgy to take place in our Parish. The leader needs to ensure that a priest is available for Masses, Funerals Special Events and Reconciliation Services. Sunday Liturgies of the Word need to be prepared and coordinated. Ministry Rosters need to be prepared and circulated. It is important also to work with the various teams and coordinate the Ministries associated with these liturgies. One important task of leadership is to provide opportunities for those involved in Ministries to update their skills by undertaking necessary Formation.

Teams under the umbrella of Foundation 2 are:-

Liturgy of Word with Children There are 6 teams that work on a rostered basis with the children at 9.30am each Sunday except Youth Mass Sunday

Funeral Ministry The team has prepared and assisted in 14 funerals last year and 7 funerals this year.

Liturgy – Once each month, the members of the Liturgy Preparation Development Team meet to plan the Liturgies for the Sunday Celebrations and Masses for the next month. Booklets, and Powerpoints are prepared by Uta and Rosanna. Copies are sent to those involved in Ministries one week prior to allow time for preparation. This year we have begun having First Friday Liturgy. This has been in the format of The Prayer of The Church 'Liturgy of the Hours'.

Ministries for Mass and Liturgy- Workshops have been held for Proclaimers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and Altar servers. Rosters are prepared and emailed to those involved and rosters are printed in the bulletin and on the website for those who need other forms of contact.

Music Ministry Each month, members receive emailed copies of the hymns for Mass and Liturgy. Twice each month members practice in the church at Morisset from 12pm-1pm. For Special occasions and Youth Mass , other practices are organised as needed.

Sacristans At the present time there are two Sacristans but there is a need for others to accept a call to this very important role. The wonderful, dedicated church cleaners greatly assist the Sacristan.

CHILDRENS LITURGY TEAM REPORT 2019

The Sunday Children's Liturgy continues each Sunday of the School year. Numbers fluctuate from week to week, and the children who participate really enjoy their special time.

Our current team consists of Barbara Dash, Anna Dussin, Josephine Ekezie, Karen McKenna, Tagen Sarafov, Graeme and Sally Selmes, Kim Smith, Rachel Turner and Kay Amon.

Children's Liturgy is not held during School Holidays, and one of us is always willing to fill in if a members rostered day is not suitable.

Rosanna Suckling, our Parish Administrative Assistant, prints out work sheets for the children each week, and also emails information to the rostered pairs for that week, and this is much appreciated.

We are always willing to have extra Parishioners join our team. If interested please contact Kay Amon on 4973 6050

Kay Amon on behalf of the Children's Liturgy Team,

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER GROUP REPORT – 2019

A group of parishioners meet on Monday's (except in school holidays) at 5pm in the church for silent prayer.

We welcome each other and listen to our daily events of life before sitting quietly and comfortably in the Presence of God, who leads us into saying a Mantra of our choice.

After about thirty minutes of this Blessed Prayer in Silence, we thank the Holy Trinity and leave with great Peace and Joy.

FUNERAL MINISTRY REPORT - 2019

The Funeral Ministry Team has the responsibility to meet with the bereaved, help them to plan a suitable Funeral Liturgy that encompasses not only their wishes but also is true to our Catholic Tradition, Preside at the Liturgy if necessary if it is not a Mass, and to arrange follow up contact with the families if necessary.

Funeral Ministry is a Ministry where it is essential that ongoing formation is undertaken.

Successful Funeral Ministry is a Team effort. There are three levels of this ministry:

Preparation of Liturgy and assisting the Presider.

Presiding at Liturgy.

Follow up visits to family.

Not everyone is called to Preside at a Funeral. There are however other duties that can be undertaken that do not require presiding.

All levels, however, require formation because we are dealing with people in a very vulnerable state. It is important to walk with people but not to make their choices for them. It is also essential to remember that we are not counsellors, we are a listening ear- no more. If people need professional help they should go to a professional!

Last year we prepared for, and provided, 14 funeral services last year and 7 Funeral services to date in the parish. The majority were lay led.

They were well prepared and sensitively celebrated.

Uta France on behalf of the Funeral Ministry Team.

TEAM: Uta France, Daphne Peterson, John France, Mal Melvey,
Liz Jay, Pam Melvey, Dan Joyce

LITURGY PREPARATION AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT 2019.

The LPDT meets on the second Wednesday of each month.

The Team evaluates the Liturgies and Masses of the past month and prepares for the coming month.

The Masses and Sunday Celebrations are prepared with the assistance of resources such as LiturgyHelp, Celebration, the Ordo and The Summit.

Those Ministers who are rostered as Lay Liturgical Leaders work with the Communion Leader to prepare the Liturgy for their assigned days.

Reflections are prepared , usually by 2 or 3 people, with assistance from a variety of resources.

If you would like to join this team, please contact Uta .

It is recommended that you complete the “REMAINING FAITHFUL” course offered by the Diocesan Liturgy Office.

MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT 2019

The Music Ministry team consists of 7 people, and they meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month for regular rehearsals. These rehearsals involve practise for upcoming Masses and Liturgies, learning new hymns and parts.

This year the Youth Mass has been discontinued due to lack of Youth involvement. This saddened us.

Outside of regular rehearsals for Masses and Liturgies, the music ministry team practices in the lead up to big parish, community and diocesan events such as:

Christmas Eve Mass and Carols at the showground was successful again, John France and Jeremy Robertson worked tirelessly to get the best possible sound for this event.

Music for the Ceremonies for Easter were well prepared, and the dedication of the Muso's was commendable.

The beginning event this year was another successful parish and school event, with staff from the school and music ministry team working together for the music for this event.

The Music Ministry is ongoing and called on each weekend as well as at special occasions.

Thank you to all who take part and share their talents with the community.

Uta France on behalf of the Music Ministry Team.

ROSTERED MINISTRIES REPORT- 2019

We thank all parishioners who assist in many ministries throughout the year in both our Mass and Liturgies.

There are workshops being offered during the year for Proclaimers, Special Ministers and Altar servers and we thank the PLT and PPC members who give their time to run and organise these workshops. Due to the changes in the Communion Rite it is highly recommended that Communion Leaders and Extraordinary ministers attend these updated workshops. The workshops are held usually on a Saturday to accommodate working parishioners and run for approx. 1.5 hours.

All people who undertake ministries must have completed their volunteer induction.

This year the rostered ministries seem to be working very well with people usually finding a replacement for themselves if unavailable. The roster is printed in the bulletin each week and on the parish website. It is important that you try to find a replacement or contact the office before 2pm on a Friday.

Jenny Douglas

FOUNDATION 3 FORMATION AND EDUCATION

FOUNDATION 3 LEADERS REPORT - 2019

The aim of Foundation 3 is to facilitate spiritual growth and promote empowerment through education and formation. In St John Vianney parish, this is achieved by coordinating and facilitating programs for Sacraments of Initiation for both children and adults, providing materials for Small Groups and Adult Faith Formation Opportunities.

Families from the parish are invited to participate in sessions for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation. Group leaders facilitate the programs giving explanation of the symbols and rituals associated with the sacraments through discussion and sharing. On completion of the groups, a community celebration is organised to formally acknowledge this formation.

Adults and children who have a desire to learn more about the catholic faith have an opportunity to do so by journeying with parishioners and explore the many elements of our faith.

Spiritual growth is an area that can be fostered in our local state school through a Special Religious Education program. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to find parishioners who are willing to work within local school settings. Our Diocesan Team offers training for anyone who feels called to this ministry.

For some time now Small Groups have existed in our parish in a variety of forms. For the one or two that are active, regular get-togethers provide a source of friendship and community.

The information following gives specific details about the groups:

Baptismal team – once families have contacted the parish requesting a Baptism they are advised of the need to complete two sessions in order to prepare and be assisted with the organisation of the celebration. These are conducted after 9:30 mass every two months. - See Baptismal Team Report.

Reconciliation/First Communion/Confirmation – Parish and school families along with those from our state schools are invited to be involved. Four weekly sessions plus rehearsals for each celebration and Mass attendance are compulsory components of the program. – See Sacramental Team Report

Small Groups – there are currently two small groups and one gospel discussion group that meet regularly. The Gospel group will resume after Pentecost.

SRE – currently no volunteers for this ministry.

RCIA – place and time are negotiated with those involved. – See Team Report.

Adult Faith Formation – There have been several opportunities provided in our parish for Faith development throughout the past year and these have been well attended by members of the parish community. See below for a list of those provided in St John Vianney Parish Morisset area.

- **EConference**
- **‘Apostolic Exhortation Gaudete et Exsultate - on the call to holiness in today's world ‘ Discussion Group**

- **Plenary Council Dialogue Session - Sr Laretta Baker**
- **Communion Rite Workshop**
- **Integrity in the service of the Church**
- **“A Retreat with Luke” Gospel discussion**
- **Lenten Groups “ Compassion”**

We try to keep everyone aware of opportunities for Faith Development that are being presented in the Diocese. Watch the parish bulletin, noticeboard, Facebook page and Website for programmes, dates and venues. These are open to anyone who chooses to attend.

If you have a particular interest in Adult Faith Formation and feel called to be involved in a team, please let us know. If there is some formation you would like to attend – please let us know that too.

Daphne Peterson

BAPTISMAL TEAM REPORT 2019

The Pre-Baptism Program is offered six times each year. Sessions are held on 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the months of February, April, June, August, October and December. Since our last report, and after attending the program, 17 children have been Baptised, with six more Baptisms planned between 5th May to 16th June.

Our Baptismal program includes visual content in a Power Point presentation and seems to be very popular. The program consists of two sessions of approximately 1 ½ hours after the Sunday morning Mass. The sessions include “Why Baptise your Child?” “What is a Sacrament?” “What are the Symbols and Signs?” etc. At the second session the actual Baptism Ceremony is explained and families book a time for the ceremony.

Most of the families have responded positively and they are then included in the follow-up “Godstart” program, where a card is sent on the child’s next 4 birthdays and on the 5th birthday they receive a prayer book.

Coordinator. Uta France

Team: John France. Kay Amon.

Kay Amon on behalf of the Baptismal Team.

SACRAMENTAL TEAM REPORT - 2019

The SJV Sacramental team has as its primary focus the formation and education of those enrolled children and their families in the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion.

Our team is Jodie Vipan, Sharon Wood, Dan Joyce and Daphne Peterson.

The team has chosen the Broken Bay Diocesan programme as our guide for this year. This consists of a four sessions programme plus a catch up week for those who may, for whatever reason have missed a session. Candidates are involved in rehearsals for each celebration as well as a community celebration of Reconciliation before each sacrament.

This year the journey began in April/ May 2019 with the Sacrament of Confirmation, conferred by Bishop Bill on June 6th. We welcomed children from our parish families, the parish school and neighbouring public schools

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be conferred on September 4th by Fr Geoff Mulhearn and will be a special occasion for the children and their families.

The Sacrament of First Communion will be celebrated on November 17th, 2019 by Fr Geoff Mulhearn.

So that the candidates can be fully present to the sacrament family members are invited to be involved in the liturgical roles of Proclaimer, Psalmist and Presentation of gifts at the Confirmation celebration. At First Communion, the team will involve the children in the celebration as much as possible to create a memorable experience for them and their families.

We are very grateful for the time and energy given by Jodie, Sharon and Dan in facilitating the programme and the sessions.

It is our firm hope that the participants and their families will attend the Sunday Mass or Liturgy during the Sacramental preparation weeks. Our challenge has always been to continue the involvement of our sacramental families in parish life after the preparation and the events.

An evaluation sheet will be given to each family on completion of the full programme - to evaluate the workings of the sessions and consider any suggestions as to how to improve the program as we look towards inviting families to participate in the 2020 Sacramental program.

Daphne Peterson

SMALL GROUPS

BONNELLS BAY SMALL GROUP REPORT - 2019

A small group of four Parishioners meet once each month at the home of Sharon Wood.

We share our “doings “ of what has happened in our family life during the previous month, then read a gospel reading and share much discussion afterwards.

We enjoy these “catch ups” which have been ongoing for about 15 years, and we thank Sharon for her hospitality.

Kay Amon, on behalf of the Bonnells Bay Small Group

DORA CREEK SMALL GROUP REPORT PARISH GATHERING 2019

The Dora Creek Small Group has 3 original members.

Over time, we have managed with the small group. We study passages from the Gospel and Bible we share our thoughts. We always feel a deep bonding.

We pray for the sick, lonely, unhappy and worried as well as those recently deceased.

Where possible we send sympathy, get well and congratulation cards to local people

We try to meet every 3th Friday of the month at 10:30am at my place! And we welcome new members and visitors any time.

Our meetings mean a lot us.

Anna Dussin Dora Creek Small Group Member

RCIA REPORT – 2019

The **RITE of CHRISTIAN INITIATION of ADULTS (RCIA)** or full initiation, is a journey of growth and understanding for those adults who are unbaptised and preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation – Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

RECEPTION INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH Is a journey of growth and understanding for already baptized Christians who wish to have entrance into the Catholic Faith. These individuals make a profession of faith but are not baptized again.

Members of the RCIA team:-

- * journey and share their beliefs and experiences with adults wishing to join our faith.
- * attend retreats and in-service days that involve other adults from the Diocese.

Throughout this year we have had

- Not had any enquirers from our own parish however
- Two members of our parish are on the Diocesan team

If you feel called to join the RCIA Team, or you know anyone who is interested in finding out more about our Catholic Faith, please contact Uta or Daphne through the Parish Office.

Daphne Peterson

FOUNDATION 4 MISSION AND OUTREACH

FOUNDATION 4 LEADERS REPORT- 2019

Foundation 4 leader's role is to coordinate everything necessary for effective and pastoral Mission and Outreach in our Parish. The leader and the coordinators of all teams in this foundation keep in touch to remain up-to date with the work being done by these teams. The leader ensures that members of the Parish are kept informed of what is happening and of opportunities for them to be involved in parish activities - through personal contact, the Bulletin, Facebook and the Website. Through the Special Events and social gatherings held, the parish reaches out to those who are not part of the worshipping community.

Caring Ministry Team – This team has continued to visit those who are unable to be present at Mass and Liturgy. These people are regularly visited in their homes, nursing homes and care facilities. We really appreciate the commitment of the members of our Caring Team. – For more information please see caring team report.

Ecumenical Team – There really is no team – rather, this is coordinated by the PLT. The main focus as usual was our involvement with the World Day of Prayer. 2019 was hosted by the Anglican Community and the country was Slovenia. Members of our community participation in the Liturgy as well as the fellowship that followed on this day. Next year's host church will be Seventh Day Adventist Memorial Church at Cooranbong

Bereavement Team – This team currently has 7 members who meet bi-monthly in the Callinan Centre. All members of the team have undertaken some form of formation to further develop their knowledge and skills of the different areas in this very special ministry. A most interesting and informative workshop with Barbara and Paul King, funeral directors, was presented at the June meeting. Formation this year is focussed on the Funeral Liturgy preparation. For more information please see Bereavement Team report.

Social Justice Team - Since its inaugural meeting took place after the 2017 parish gathering, the Social Justice group has met bi-monthly in the Callinan Centre and a decision was made to follow the goals of Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement each year. The decision was also made to hold an annual Social Justice Luncheon in the middle of each year. The 2nd luncheon was held on July 22nd and the special guest speaker was Sr Susan Connelly rsj. This year our speaker will be Father Kevin Bates and the Luncheon will be held on August 4th – St John Vianney Day! Make sure you come along.

Media Management Team – The Media Management Team manages the parish Facebook page and Website. This team endeavours to make current information available. The Website provides a variety of information on - Sacraments, Cemetery, Weddings, Foundations etc.

Each week the Bulletin is uploaded and from time to time other events and happenings are highlighted. The Facebook page has doubled in people following and commenting in recent months. Photos are added as they come to hand and if permission has been received to post them.

Godstart – The Godstart program is an outreach program to families who have had children baptised in our parish. Spiritual, age appropriate Birthday cards are sent to children from their 1st through to their 5th birthdays. For more information please see the Godstart report.

Youth Ministry Team – Unfortunately the Youth Group no longer functions in our parish.

Editorial Team – There really is no team as such, rather this is run by the PLT with the support of our Administrative Assistant. The editorial focus is the weekly Bulletin. There have been some simple modifications to the Bulletin format and we have received very positive feedback regarding these changes.

Special Events – – A number of parishioners work on teams for organising the Special events. For more information on any of these events, please see the coordinating report.

Christmas Eve Mass – Held on 24th December 2018 at Morisset Showgrounds.

Beginning Event – Held on Sunday 17th February 2019 at Morisset Church and Callinan Centre. Followed by morning tea in the school grounds.

Daphne Peterson

Foundation 4 – interim Leader.

ST JOHN VIANNEY PARISH CARING TEAM REPORT 2019:

The Team was originally set up to care for the Sick, Dying and bereaved. With the advent of the new Bereavement Team, the Team's focus is now purely on the visiting of the sick. This takes place both in homes, and in Nursing homes/hostels. The further task has been the coordination of the distribution of Holy Communion to the sick of the parish. A database is kept so that the parish Office, the PLT members are kept aware of who might be in need of visits for confession, blessings of the sick, etc.

Several members have been trained in the "Stepping Stones" programme for walking with the dying and bereaved. Several members are part of the Bereavement Team, and take part in the parish's Funeral Ministries.

VISITS:

Alton Lodge Cooranbong	2 clients
Avondale Hostel/Nursing Home	3 clients
Bayside Nursing Home	11 clients
Bayside Hostel	5 clients
Bethshan Gardens	3 clients
Lakeside Retirement Village	2 residents

Private Homes	6 clients
Rosedale Retirement Village	1 client

Visits to the above are usually fortnightly.

LITURGIES and CHAPEL SERVICES:

We are rostered to approx 6 Liturgies of the Word at Morisset Hospital; also since last year we have been conducting a monthly Liturgy of the Word at Bayside Nursing Home.

MEMBERSHIP:

MaryAnn Connolly

Dan Joyce

Monica Gray

Liz Jay

Kerry Lendon

Cath Hay

Michell Foo/Marcia Foo

(Billie Nowak, Caroline and John Savage have also assisted us, as well as Paul Dunstan.)

Dan Joyce

REPORT FROM BEREAVEMENT TEAM – 2019

We think we speak for all members of the team, when we say that we feel privileged to work with grieving families, as they negotiate the difficult task of arranging the celebration of the life of a loved one. After we have been told that they want a Catholic funeral, the Lay Liturgical Leader will arrange a meeting to work through the type of service (Mass or Liturgy) that the family want, as far as possible accommodating their wishes. These meetings are usually held in the Callinan Centre with at least two members there. Occasionally, when circumstances demand, they are held in the family home. Usually at least one other meeting is needed, but sometimes several. After the liturgy is finalised (reading, hymns, songs etc.) the booklet is prepared and forwarded to the family for proof-reading.

During the service team members may be involved in the sprinkling of the coffin with holy water; the placing of the white pall; assisting in the placement of gifts (scriptures, cross, photo) and personal items; readings and incensing the coffin. After the service members of the team are present for the committal ceremony at the graveside, again for the sprinkling of holy water, or they accompany the body to the crematorium, if no family member is able to.

After the funeral there is follow-up contact with the family to see how they are faring. Towards November invitations are issued to our Service of Memories to any family who has had a funeral at one of our Churches or a crematorium chapel led by one of

our liturgical leaders over the last five years. Last year was an especially moving service, with lots of appreciative comments from those attending.

Since our last Parish Gathering we have continued our formation. In June, 2018, Paul and Barbara King gave us a very informative talk about death from the perspective of the funeral director. This year our focus is on the Funeral Rite Liturgy – Liturgy of the Word; Funeral Rite in the Church, at the Graveside or the Crematorium; suitable music for liturgies; use of Christian symbols and, finally, the Funeral Vigil.

The meeting on 12th September will be to plan this year's Service of Memories and will be held in St John Vianney's Church from 1 - 2.30. Any interested parishioners will be invited to attend. It may be a ministry you would like to explore further.

M. and P. Melvey

SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM REPORT - 2019

The Social Justice team continue to meet bi-monthly and follow the goals of the Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement, this year titled "A place to call home" – making a home for everyone."

In his editorial Most Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen states: - "All over our nation, a ruthless housing market leaves people struggling to find secure and affordable housing that struggle has a corrosive effect on family life At its worst, the struggle leaves the vulnerable in our society homeless, sleeping on the street, in cars or in doorways. The last census showed the number of homeless Australians had increased to more than 116,000 people Everyone deserves a place to call home"

Social Justice Luncheon

Last year's keynote speaker at our Social Justice luncheon was Sr. Susan Connelly, she is a fantastic orator, she left us wanting more. The lunch wasn't half bad either! Our next luncheon is on 4th August, which is the feast of St. John Vianney, we are thrilled to have Fr. Kevin Bates as our speaker. Fr. Kevin is a Marist Father and has lectured in liturgy, liturgical music, leadership skills, conflict management and much more, he has conducted retreats for school children, staff, and parish-based groups all over Australia. Music is very important to him; I hope he brings his guitar!

Please continue to follow our Social Justice snippets in the Parish Bulletin each week and feel free to join us any time.

Rhonda Baldock

GODSTART REPORT – 2019

Godstart is a program where each child baptised and still living in our parish receives a hand delivered birthday wish. We currently have about 38 children enrolled in the program.

The cards remind the children and their families of both the love of God and that they are valued members of our parish family.

1 and 2 year old's receive a card; 3 and 4 year old's receive two age appropriate activity cards; and 5 year old's receive a keepsake booklet.

With families moving in and out of the parish, keeping the list up to date takes some effort. Jenny Douglas managed to update the entire list at the beginning of the year.

The program continues to receive good feedback with parents appreciative that their children are cared about by the parish.

Lynne Fairhall

MEDIA MANAGEMENT TEAM (Formerly called Website Management team) - 2019

St John Vianney Parish website and Facebook page are important avenues for us to connect with the wider community and also provide us with the opportunity to outreach to others.

The Website - <http://vianneymorisset.org.au/>

We have experienced several issues with our Website management company and a decision was made to seek a new company. This has been a work in progress for a number of months and we hoping that the new look website can be in time for our Gathering this year

- Our Parish Bulletin is uploaded on a regular basis
- Due to space restrictions, the website undergoes regular formatting and removal of old information, such as bulletins.
- News & Events page contains dates, information and photographs of upcoming and recent events held in the parish.
- A Banner is added to the website to highlight major events and happenings in our parish. This changes regularly as the need arises
- Rosanna, our Parish Admin Assistant has taken on the role of keeping the Webpage up to date. Thank you, Rosanna for the great work you are doing.
- Provides a variety of information on - Sacraments, Cemetery, Weddings, Foundations etc. If you haven't had a look, just follow the link and pay the page a visit.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

St John Vianney Morisset Facebook page is a valuable contact tool. This draws attention to what is happening in our parish and our Diocese and also draws attention to the wider community.

We regularly post thoughts of Pope Francis, worthwhile reflections from a variety of Theologians as well as days such as World Day of Prayer, Harmony Day and International Women's Day – to name a few.

Our Facebook page gets a response, at times, from parents of our school, people from our community and even beyond our parish boundaries. If you haven't joined the group yet, just follow the link and have your say.

The focus has been to continue to build our interaction with the wider community through the website and social media. We have connected with several diocesan groups via social media and the cross-sharing and networking of events is very positive.

Management Team which currently only consists of three members.

Daphne Peterson

SPECIAL EVENTS

PARISH EVENT- CHRISTMAS 2018

The Event was held on Christmas Eve 2018, at the Morisset Showground.

CAROLS 6.00 PM

MASS 7.00 PM

The Team consisted of: John France, Tony Pontifex, Monica Gray, Heather White, Gerry Heffernan, Sue Heffernan and Uta France.

GENERAL IMPRESSIONS:

The main feedback received from people who attend was that it was the Best one ever.

Although the numbers were not as big as in previous years, they did increase as Mass began. Being a weekday, many people were still at work. It was noted that in previous years, the families with children performing at the Carols did not stay for the Mass.

Fr Greg Arnold Loved it and his comment was that "It was well done and welcoming."

WHAT WORKED?

The ushers worked well and the shade cloth was very welcome. The Proclaimers used the microphones well and could be heard. The Homily was excellent, the parking good, and John and Jeremy Robertson working together with sound and M/C was very good. First Aid was very well covered by Karen Benson who brought an extra AED to be on the safe side.

WHAT COULD BE IMPROVED:

Extra-Ordinary Ministers set up could be improved. Fr Greg wanted to also be included and it threw the planning awry.

We need to be clearer about parking with the disabled. In some cases they were restricting the roadway.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE PLANNING:

1. A new Manger and crib, the old one has seen better days, Gerry has offered to look into this.
2. Showground has already been booked and the Event Hire people will also need to be booked AAP.
3. Risk Assessment needs to be done.
4. Alcohol/smoke free zone maintained.
5. Liase with Presider to ensure that we comply with his requirements.

Evaluated by the Planning Team: 6 February 2018

Christmas 2019

Planning Team meeting 22 October @ 10.30 am in the Parish Centre.

BEGINNING EVENT REPORT- 2019

The Beginning Event was held in St John Vianney Church on 17th February 2019. This is a combined event with our church and St John Vianney School. The school captains, Mini Vinnies and the new Kinder children are introduced to the Parish Community prior to Mass and presented with a Crucifix each and a Parish Candle for each classroom for their "sacred space". The Mass was well attended by both parishioners and the school community even though the number attending from the Kinder class was disappointing. The school staff excelled in their preparation of the children who were very well behaved and well prepared.

The overflow from the church were able to sit in the Callinan Centre and view the Mass which was live streamed.

Following the Mass everyone was invited to attend morning tea with the children, staff and parents in the school canteen area. Due to the very hot weather and no volunteers to cook a sausage sizzle, cold drinks and snacks were served and enjoyed by all. This may be a better solution to the morning tea than hot food especially in February's weather. Thank you to the school parents who provided food for the morning tea.

Jenny Douglas

FOUNDATION 5 – LEADERSHIP AND STRUCTURE

FOUNDATION 5 LEADERS REPORT– 2019

Co-Leaders John France and Juliet Hutchins

Our responsibility is to attend to all administrative aspects of the parish in a pastoral and co-operative manner and liaise with our Parish School. We are assisted in our role by the Parish Administrative Secretary and the Finance Council.

We ensure that there is a level of funds available to meet Parish everyday operations and staff entitlements.

We see that the Parish properties are maintained at a good level of viability both visually and functionally by identifying and acting on capital and maintenance issues in an orderly manner. Morisset Church has been painted throughout during this past year.

Administratively we oversee all aspects of certification, insurance, levy obligations, annual reporting to Financial Secretariat, planned giving, parish contributions to Central Clergy Fund, property investments as well as the operations of Cooranbong Cemetery.

Work Health and Safety is an ever changing and improving issue of Parish life now and must be monitored effectively by managing policy, reporting of incidents without delay and following ups with the parties involved, which we endeavour to do. We also monitor the changing needs of Parishioners facing limitations to their ongoing mobility to enable them to participate in Parish life where possible.

Risk assessments are required and carried out for functions that are organised or approved by the Parish. Some include the Christmas Eve Mass and the Port to Port Cycle Event.

We endeavour to promote a secure and safe place for all to come together to worship and enjoy friendship in our Parish by engaging well with Parishioners, Foundation Leaders, Finance and Parish Pastoral Council members, School staff and Diocesan Officers.

CEMETERY TEAM REPORT - 2019

The function of the Cemetery Team is to ensure that the Parish Cemetery, is managed in accordance with the regulations proclaimed by the NSW Government Agency, Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW, as well as instruction from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. This instruction from the Congregation, clearly states how the burial of the deceased, and the conservation of the ashes in the case of cremation, are to be managed. To assist in the compliance of the regulations, two members of the Parish Leadership Team, are members of the Cemetery Team.

Over the last year, the Cemetery has continued to be maintained by a very generous team of helpers. Duties included in the maintenance of the cemetery consist of mowing, whipper snipping, and repairs to any unstable ground area of the cemetery. The last year has also seen the extension of the 'Lawn' section of the cemetery, and

the extension of the Columbarium, which will extend the life of the cemetery. An innovation was the placing of Australian Flags at the gravesite of known ADF personnel on Anzac Day 2019. The Cemetery Team meets quarterly in the Callinan Centre, to review the operation of the cemetery.

Because of the legislative duties necessary for the operation of the cemetery, the Parish Administrative Support person plays an integral role in the operation of the cemetery. The Administrative Support person also assists families with the choice and the ordering of the Memorial Plaques.

In the 2018/19 year, with careful management and the generous giving of both time and talent, the cemetery has remained financially viable. It is hoped that this trend will continue over the coming years.

John France For the Cemetery Team

FINANCE TEAM REPORT TO PARISH GATHERING 9TH JUNE, 2019

- **Function of the Finance Team**

The function of the Parish Finance Team is to manage all the Parish assets.

1. To prepare an annual budget of income and expenditure for the coming year
2. To advise parishioners of the financial situation of the Parish
3. To submit an annual financial report to the Diocesan office.
4. To keep accurate financial records.
5. To supervise and maintain the Planned Giving Program.

- On behalf of Fr Geoff and the PLT, the Parish Finance Team would like to thank you for your generosity in supporting the Parish financially over the last 12 months.

- **What the collections are used for (First and Second).**

The first collection is for the support of the Diocesan clergy.

The second collection is used for all expenses incurred in running the Parish – costs such as insurance, water rates, lighting, maintenance, wages of Admin staff and new equipment (to name a few).

- With careful budgeting and management of Parish funds, the Parish is in a reasonable financial position.

<u>For the periods</u>	<u>1.7.17 – 30.6.18</u> and	<u>1.7.18 – 30.4.19</u>
Total Income	\$160,195	\$132,737
Total expenses	\$137,713	\$ 87,974
Surplus	\$ 22,482	\$ 44,763

Main sources of Income:

2 nd Collection (loose)	\$20,668	\$19,196
Planned giving	\$50,020	\$45,404
Rental income	\$49,138	\$40,510
Columbarium / Cemetery	\$21,388	\$15,680

Main expenses:

Diocesan levy & permits	\$11,115	\$11,875
Insurance	\$16,796	\$15,000*
Salaries & wages	\$31,734	\$27,326
Equipment hire and lease (includes Christmas Eve Mass)	\$ 4,933	\$ 4,077

*Estimate – account not yet received.

<u>Additional funds raised were:</u>		<u>2017/2018</u>	<u>2018/2019 (Apr)</u>
Melbourne Cup luncheon	\$ 550	\$ 500	
Funeral catering	\$2,300	\$1,600	
Gifts	\$4,244	\$2,640	

Last year the 100 Club raised \$6,046, but popularity fell considerably and it was not considered necessary to raise additional funds. Moreover, we believe that there are no significant repairs / refurbishments required in the near future with one exception.

Following a number of incidents on our Cooranbong property, our liability for damages became an issue. The Diocese directed us to obtain a risk assessment.

The findings of the risk assessment were that, to minimise our liability for personal injury or property damage, a fence should be erected, together with appropriate signage. Early indications are that the cost will be somewhere between \$12,000 to \$16,000, depending on the structure of the fence. We should be able to meet the expense from existing reserves.

Currently, there are 72 planned givers is as follows:

<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
	38 envelopes (includes 3 annual givers)
	31 direct debit
	<u>3 credit card</u>
78	72
Average giving \$9.40p.w.	Average giving \$13.37p.w.

The decrease in the number of planned givers was due to the passing of some parishioners and others due to relocation. If you are not a planned giver already, we ask you to consider doing so as it is a major factor in our budgeting process.

A special thank you to all parishioners who took part in the various fund raising activities.

Finally, one of our team, Rhonda Baldock, has resigned from the team. We thank her for her efforts and support and wish her all the best.

Again, thank you all for your continued support.
Mal Melvey on behalf of the Finance Committee.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT - 2019

The Parish Pastoral Council comprises a group of parish representatives, elected by the parish community, whose role is to promote the churches mission to live the values of Christ.

The members of the Parish Pastoral Council seek to listen and respond to needs/concerns of parishioners, helping them to discern what they need to live the Gospel.

The Council meet monthly where discussion takes place regarding pastoral issues. The five foundation reports from the Parish Leadership Team are tabled and discussed. All matters are treated with the upmost confidentiality.

Parishioners are encouraged to bring items for discussion to the attention of members: -

Rhonda Baldock, Jenny Douglas, John France, Uta France, Rod Hay, Juliet Hutchins, Kerry Lendon, Malcolm Melvey, Pam Melvey, Emily Palmer, Daphne Peterson.

Rhonda Baldock

ST JOHN VIANNEY SCHOOL REPORT - 2019

St John Vianney's Catholic Identity is central to all aspects of who we are and is the cornerstone of our existence. Our conducive Christian community is present at SJV through the ongoing development of relationships amongst staff, parents, students and parish. At SJV staff members possess a caring attitude and a willingness to help each other. Jesus is at the forefront of all we do and at SJV we look for the Spirit of Jesus in ourselves and others. We are continuing to integrate the PBS with Making Jesus Real. This has assisted students in identifying Jesus in themselves and others.

SJV is a vital part of the parish and this partnership supports the students' developments and knowledge of Catholic tradition. The school communicates with the parish through bulletins, school newsletters and formal meetings between the REC, Principal and Parish Leadership Team. The principal is a member of the Parish Pastoral Council and attends meetings twice per month. The school staff regularly attend parish events and the parish are invited to school liturgies, Masses and celebrations. At the beginning of the school year, at Sunday Mass, the school leaders and new students are welcomed by the parish. This Mass was a wonderful opportunity for new families to become familiar with our parish. The school supports the parish sacramental program.

Our school leaders and Principal attend Diocesan Masses and ANZAC Day/Remembrance Day Community Services. Sr Margaret, Pastoral Worker, facilitates "Conversations about Catholics" for parents/parishioners to meet

informally to talk about Catholic tradition, rituals, the sacraments and prayer. Many parishioners assist with the LAP program.

The students at SJV are encouraged to support the wider community through prayer, financial support and service. An awareness of social justice and opportunities for action in this area is an important part of our school life. The Mini Vinnies group, approximately 20 students, helped raise funds and supported Caritas (Project Compassion), Catholic Mission and St Vincent De Paul. In 2018, the school raised \$2170 for charities, which included supporting our local farmers. The environmental group promotes stewardship of creation as they assist students to recycle and care for our school.

REPORTS FROM OTHER TEAMS AND GROUPS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE MORISSET REPORT- 2019

The work of the Conference is quite separate from, and independent to, the running of the Vinnies Store, though there is much mutual co-operation and support.

Presently, we have 13 active members who serve the needs of the poor and disadvantaged families in our local area (predominantly Morisset, Cooranbong and Dora Creek). We do this by visiting those who call us for help, in their homes, firstly simply to listen to their needs and concerns and then to decide how we can support them.

Our responses for material requests for help encompass:

- financial help for buying food
- contributing towards the payment of electricity, gas and water bills
- purchasing medical supplies
- providing assistance with petrol for medical emergencies
- sourcing basic furniture needs
- supplying clothing

Sometimes we are asked to help homeless people, or perhaps someone who is escaping from a domestic violence situation, to find emergency accommodation. This last request is the hardest to do, as there are few local resources, and every resource (Government and Non-Profit) are overstretched and unable to cope with the demand.

Every Christmas, we assemble and deliver hampers (about 50) to needy families we have visited throughout the year. These hampers are particularly welcome to families struggling with day-to-day living. We are truly grateful for the very generous contributions made by parishioners to our yearly Winter and Christmas Appeals, and to the Mini-Vinnies at St. John Vianney Primary School and to the students at St. Paul's, Booragul, for their ongoing help. We visit people in their homes, in pairs, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout the year.

We average about 30 visits/month.

So if you are interested in becoming a Conference Member, you commit yourself (when possible) to doing Visitations to needy families ONCE every fortnight (roughly from 12.30pm-3.30pm). We meet together every second Tuesday (twice a month) in the Parish Callinan Centre from 2.30pm-4.45pm for:

- spiritual reflection,
- to discuss and support each other with our recent visitations
- to review organisational matters needing attention
- to keep abreast of communications from our Regional and State Vincent de Paul Offices.

It is not all work and no play! We have a number of social gatherings of members and partners throughout the year, ably planned by our Social Secretary.

PAUL DUNSTAN (PRESIDENT). Ph. 497323789

Contact Number: (02) 4973 2389

SHALOM CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP REPORT 2019

The group continues to meet each Thursday during school term.

The primary focus continues to be praising and worshipping and giving thanks to God in song and prayer. Additionally, we read and reflect on God's Word, spend time in intercessory prayer and support and encourage each other to grow spiritually and to love and serve God.

On the second Thursdays of the month we have a shared lunch. The bonds of friendship are strengthened as we pray together and share a meal and share our stories.

In this last year we were greatly blessed with a visit from a foundational member and her daughter and together we celebrated Colleen's 90th birthday. At another lunch meeting we celebrated a couples 50th wedding anniversary. Indeed joyous occasions.

The group continues supporting Chosen Servants and Caritas.

Members who are able attend the healing masses at Kilaben Bay and also World Day of Prayer.

We remain a small but dedicated group and new members are welcome. If you are interested in joining please phone Monica 4973 3086 or Caroline 4973 2039 for further information.

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER REPORT 2018-2019

Who are the Secular Franciscans ?

We are part of a worldwide Franciscan family founded by St. Francis of Assisi over 800 years ago. (Francis had the rule of the First Order of Friars approved by the Pope , as did St. Clare of Assisi in founding the Second Order.)

Francis gave a way of life to lay people who wished to follow Jesus – thus inspiring his Third Order – now called the Secular Franciscans (ofs)

Followers of St. Francis usually have a strong sense of a Creation centred Spirituality where all living things , plants and animals , are recognized and respected as Gods creation . Justice for all people is also very important.

Our local Lake Macquarie Fraternity has 12 active members , 6 of whom are from St. John Vianney .

Our usual gatherings are held at the Toronto Parish meeting hall every 3 rd. Monday at 10 am. Morning tea is included. During winter month we meet at members' homes where a shared lunch is enjoyed.

The usual format is a Gospel sharing , prayers and a study segment .We are currently sharing on chapters of the book - “fifteen days of prayer with St. Francis of Assisi “.

All enquirers and visitors are most welcome . Please contact Dan Joyce (49733616) or Rod Hay (49736448)

Rod Hay Minister.