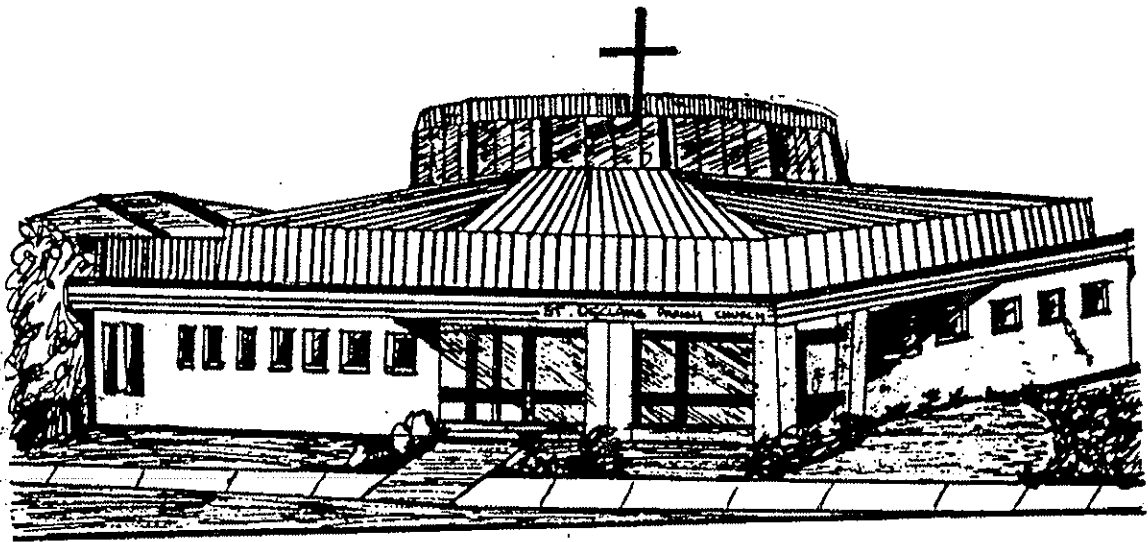


St. Declan's Parish

Lenshurst



Directory

**ST. DECLAN'S PARISH
PENSHURST**

92 Penshurst Street, Penshurst 2222
Phone: 9580 1310 Fax: 9580 7170
Email: declans@tpg.com.au

Parish Priest: Fr John Crothers
Assistant Parish Priest : Fr Manuel Santiago

Parish Secretary: Mrs Noreen Nicholls
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Paulineke Nolan
Parish Youth Minister: Nicole Hellyer
Liturgy Coordinator: Silvana Vidaic
Business Manager: Owen Casey
Youth Ministry: stdecyth@tpg.com.au
Liturgy: liturgy@tpg.com.au

Parish Council

Chairman: Gerard Walz 9579 3242
Secretary: Chris Williams 9570 1135

St. Declan's Primary: 9580 4831
Marist College, Penshurst: 9579 6188
St. Joseph's Convent: 9580 1321

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9 am, 11am, & 6pm.

Weekdays: Mass 6:45am Monday, Wednesday & Friday.
Mass 9:15am Tuesday

Communion Service: Monday 9.15am, Tuesday 6.45am, Wednesday
9.15am, Thursday 6.45am & 9.15am, Friday 9.15am, Saturday 7.15am

Confessions: Saturday 5 to 5:30pm
Baptisms & Weddings by appointment



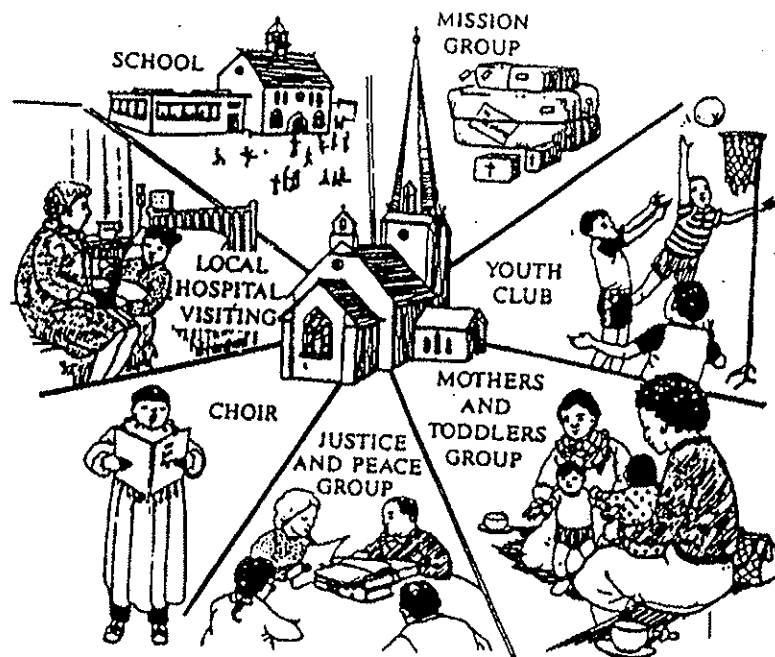
INTRODUCTION

Welcome to St Declan's Parish. The life of our parish has many facets. This booklet has attempted to detail the many Ministries/Groups which are active in our Parish. We hope this Directory will be a means of communication and a way of extending the great work that is currently performed by our community.

For further information, or if you are interested in joining any of these ministries, please contact the person(s) listed in this Directory or speak to one of the priests. We know that you will be made most welcome and your involvement will be greatly appreciated. There will always be a role for you, and we would love to hear from you.

The "Contents" page of the Directory lists the Ministries/Groups under two main groups of activities. This is followed by the alphabetical listing of these Ministries/Groups, their functions, and the contact person and telephone number(s) /email address(es).

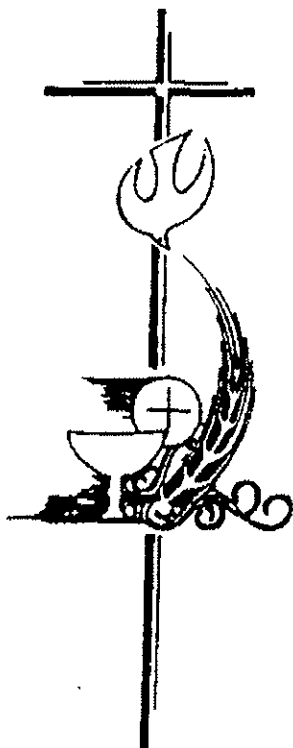
November 2004



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MINISTRIES/GROUPS

Acolytes/Altar Ministers

These are men and women who assist the Celebrant during Sunday's Eucharistic Celebrations. They also preside at Communion services on weekdays. A roster is organised.

Contact: John Wakefield 9586 0019; Jenny Young 9570 4836

Altar Servers

These are young boys and girls who have made their first Holy Communion and are trained to serve at Mass and liturgical services. Parents assist in coordination and implementation.

Contact : Nicole Hellyer, Lynne Taylor at Presbytery 9580 1310



Baptism Preparation Group



This ministry supports families who are preparing their children for Baptism. Families are invited to attend an information session to discuss arrangements and responsibilities for this Sacrament of Initiation.

Contact: Marilyn or Ron Blood on 9579 5925

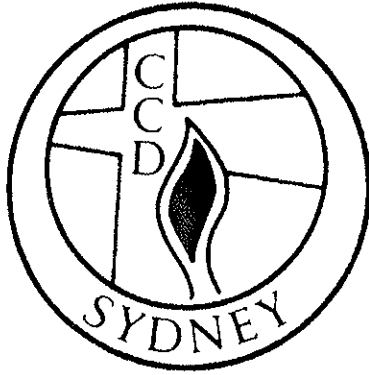
Bereavement Group

This group supports family and friends of the parish at the death of their loved ones. The support may involve a visit [or visits] to the family to: (a) offer condolences on behalf of the parish; (b) offer time to chat; (c) journey with them during this time of loss. These families may also be visited or contacted by the same people around the first anniversary of the death. A special Eucharistic Celebration will be organised once a year for family members and friends to celebrate and remember deceased parishioners. An inclusion of the names of people who have died can be placed in the Memorial Book displayed in the foyer of the Church.

Contact: Paulineke Nolan 9580 1310; 0419 426 123



Catechist Group



The St. Declan's group consists of volunteer Parishioners who teach religion to Catholic children in four state schools around our area. At present, there are 24 very dedicated catechists. New members are always welcome to join this very privileged Ministry. Training is available. A curriculum is provided and help is arranged for the first few classes or until the teacher feels comfortable working alone.

Contact: Veronica Low 9547 1581

Children's Liturgy [Little Church]

The aim of Children's Liturgy or "The Little Church" is to present the Gospel of the day in a meaningful manner to children between the ages of 4 to 12 years. It is held every Sunday in the School Term during the 9am Mass. Members of the team meet once per term to prepare the readings and activities for the children.

Contact: Lynne Taylor, Silvana Vidaic, Veronica Ascoli 9580 1310



Church Collectors Group



This Group assists with the collections at Weekend Masses and other special liturgical celebrations.

Contact: Owen Casey at the Presbytery 9580 1310

Club 20

Club 20 is a social club for young Catholic adults aged from 20 to 35 who are interested in fun and social activities with people of similar interests. Members have social outings each weekend and meet on the first Sunday of each month at 7:30pm in St. Declan's Hall to plan that month's events.

Contact: Helen and David Wastie 9774 1987;

Karyn Holland 0411 033 374, 9525 3251

email: club20penshurst@hotmail.com

Communal Prayers for Liturgy

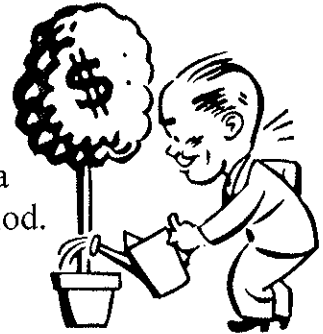
This Group prepares and composes the various prayers for Sunday's Liturgy, Prayers of the Faithful, Prayers for the sick, Commentaries, Special occasions/celebrations (Mother's Day, Father's Day, Masses of Remembrance, etc.), world events.

Contact: Silvana Vidaic at the Presbytery 9580 1310

Counting Team

There are 55 Parishioners involved in counting. They are formed into 8 groups and count once every 8 weeks on a roster basis. A roster is prepared covering a 12 month period. Any additional help is welcome.

Contact: Gerard Walz at the Presbytery 9580 1310



Creating the Sacred Environment

The Group develops and implements the spiritual and material symbolism of liturgical events.

Contact: Silvana Vidaic & Bernadette Zammit at Presbytery 9580 1310

Family Groups

These groups aim to foster social contact amongst parishioners of various ages and backgrounds.

Contact: Kerrie Rendina 9570 8587



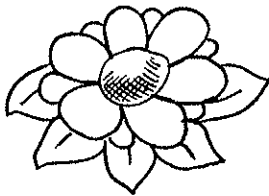
Finance Committee

The Finance Committee advises the Parish Priest on the major matters relating to the income and expenditure of the Parish.

Contact: Owen Casey at the Presbytery 9580 1310



Flowers and Cleaning



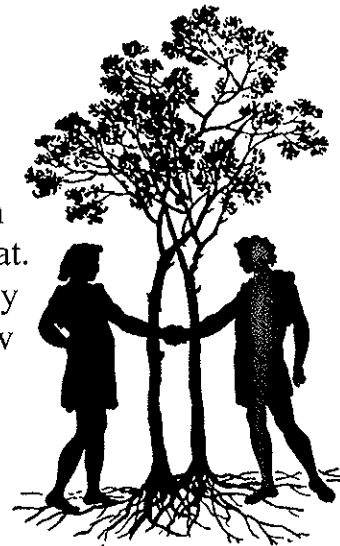
Cleaning of the Church is done weekly on a roster basis. There are 32 helpers divided into 5 groups; each group is rostered once a month. Additional helpers at anytime would always be welcome and appreciated.

Contact: Vera Waring 9579 5157

Friendship Club

This club meets on the first Tuesday morning of each month to play cards, board games, etc. or just chat. Occasional bus tours also occur, as does a monthly raffle to help defray costs of the Christmas Party. New members are welcome.

Contact: Nell Lynch 9570 2242



Hospital Visiting Group

This group visits four local nursing homes each month to spend time with the residents and provide small gifts. Often concerts are given for the residents. Twice a year Mass is celebrated at each home. New members are welcome.

Contact: Dawne Todd 9579 1079

Ladies Retreat Group

The Ladies Retreat Group invites all ladies of the Penshurst and Peakhurst parishes and their friends to spend a weekend at a retreat centre in the Sydney metropolitan area. The retreat (which is not silent) incorporates talks led by a priest or a religious, discussion groups, quiet time which allows for reflection and meditation, and a social time in which the ladies have an opportunity to learn about each other. New members are always welcome.

Contact: Kerry Skinner 9580 2810; Carmel Kennedy 9580 2717

Liturgy Committee

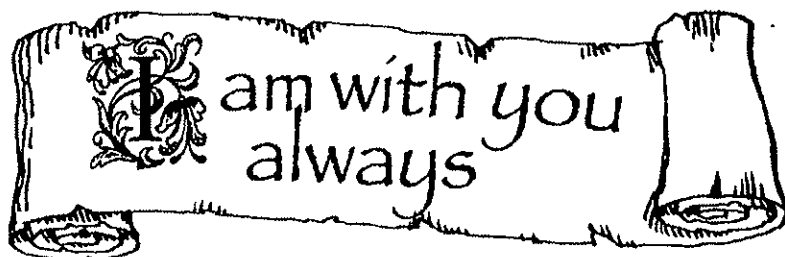
This is a Group of parishioners planning, implementing and encouraging the Liturgy at St. Declan's through networking and communicating with the various ministries and groups.

Contact: Silvana Vidaic at the Presbytery 9580 1310, email liturgy@tpg.com.au

Meditation Group

We are linked with the Australian & World Community for Christian Meditation (www.wccm.org). We gather in the meeting room at St Declans 7.45pm for 8pm start. We begin with relaxation & breathing awareness. We then listen to a short reflective reading which is followed by 30 minutes of silent meditation using the mantra "Maranatha" (1 Cor 16:22). We share supper before ending the evening at 9.30pm. We have an annual retreat and we also present an "Introduction to Christian Meditation" course each year. No experience is needed to join us in Meditation. The group also co-ordinates knitting squares for "Wrap with Love", an organization that supplies wraps/blankets for the cold in our world.

Contacts: Jude Sanchez 9533 3379; email jsanchez@austarmetro.com.au



Music Ministry

The Music Ministry has three groups. Organists and cantors lead the parish in hymns for the Vigil, 9am and 11am Masses. Every two months the Music Ministry Team selects appropriate hymns for each Sunday Liturgy and prepares rosters. On the second Sunday of the month, our "Little Church Band" plays and sings at the 9am mass which coincides with the Family Mass on special occasions. On the Fourth Sunday of the month the Pilipino Choir sings at the 11am Mass. A group of Young people leads the parish community with a selection of modern hymns during the Sunday 6pm Mass.

Contact Silvana Vidaic at the Presbytery 9580 1310 or Nicole Hellyer for the Youth Band on 0414 619 771

Parish-Based Sacramental Program

This includes Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation which are to be planned, developed and implemented by the parishioners, their families and the community.

Contact: Silvana Vidaic at the Presbytery 9580 1310

Parish Council



The Parish Council consists of 13 members

- 5 ex-officio, 4 appointed, and 4 elected Councillors. Ex-officio Councillors are the Parish Priest, Assistant Priest, the Pastoral Care Coordinator, the Parish Youth Minister and the Principal of the Parish Primary School. The Parish Council assists the Parish and Assistant

Priests in the running of the Parish; providing additional resources and a forum for discussion/input by the Parishioners. The Council meets every first Sunday of the month at 7:15pm at the Presbytery. Parishioners are invited to submit items for discussions. Any Parishioner may attend a Council meeting and, with the leave of and prior notice to the Chairperson, be heard.

Contact: Gerard Walz 9579 3242; Chris Williams 9570 1135

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care embraces all aspects of parish life. We all care about each other and demonstrate this in various ways. Pastoral Care aims to provide spiritual nourishment, social interaction and support to parishioners who are bereaved (grieving), aged, infirmed, sick, disabled and unable to take part in parish Eucharistic celebrations by; (a) involving parishioners to minister to others and share their faith; (b) creating a community of care; (c) developing a strong parish network. One aspect involves bringing Holy Communion to, and sharing prayer (and social interaction) with : the sick and housebound parishioners; the local Nursing Home residents. For parishioners in hospital, contact is made and visits are organised in hospital and/or upon return home. Further information and support is available on request.

Contact: Paulineke Nolan, 9580 1310, 0419 426 123

Piety Stall

This stall sells religious and devotional goods and objects and some books. The Stall is open after most Masses. Any surplus is given to the parish priest for distribution.

Contact: Joe Davis 9579 1594

Play Group



The playgroup provides a friendly, fun environment for children/toddlers to play and interact. It is also a great opportunity for parents/carers to meet and socialise with others in the parish. Playgroup meets every Wednesday of the school term, opening at 10am and closing at 12pm. Cost is \$2 per family.

Contact: Selma Coutinho 9585 8453

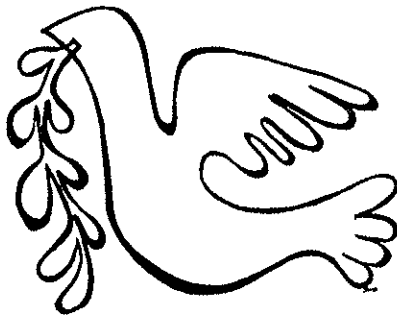
Prayer Groups

1. Intercessionary Group: This group prays for the intentions of particular Parishioners who contact it and ask for prayers.

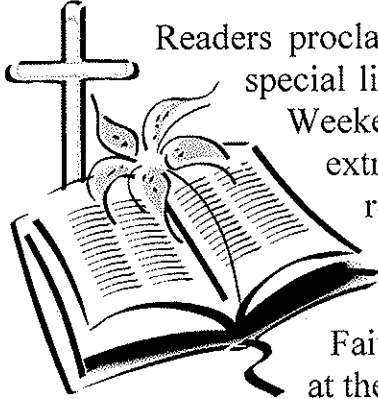
Contact: Nola Armstrong 9570 7240 , Mary Walker 9580 1969

2. Marian Cenacle Group: These group prays for priests and special intentions. This group meets on Mondays at 9:30am in the Church

Contact: Betty McLaren 9570 1096



Readers and Commentators



Readers proclaim The Word at all Weekend Masses and for all special liturgical celebrations (Easter, Christmas, etc.). Each

Weekend Mass has a reader and a commentator while extra readers are provided for special occasions (e.g. reading of the Passion on Palm Sunday).

Commentators introduce readings, read/lead the response to the Psalms, lead the Prayers of the Faithful and point out important notices in the bulletin at the end of each Weekend Mass. A roster is organised.

Contact: Carmel Kennedy: 9580 2717

Rosters Committee

The Committee prepares the Rosters for Altar Ministers, Readers and Commentators and Special Ministers of the Eucharist.

Contact: Gail Holloway 9585 0380

Scripture Studies Group

This group concentrates on the New Testament. It consists of small discussion groups that meet fortnightly. Fr. John Crothers meets with the groups on a regular basis.

Contact: Veronica Low 9547 1581



Singles Social Group 40-60

This is a new social group for singles 40-60. We meet every 2 weeks for varied and interesting social activities and we are open to suggestions. All are welcome to come along and join this friendly group.

Contact: Evelyn 9588 4647

Small Group Programs

These programs provide opportunities for parishioners to come together in small groups in preparation for our Church celebrations (Easter, Pentecost and Christmas) to break open the Word through Scripture reading, reflection, sharing and praying. Other programs can also be made available for the ongoing gathering of small groups.

Contact: John Wakefield 9586 0019

Social Committee

The Committee organises social functions within the Parish and is always open to suggestions from the Parish for any functions.

Contact: Parish Council c/- presbytery 9580 1310

Social Justice Group

This group meets on the last Sunday of each month at 10am in the meeting room under the church. Its focus is to address social issues from a Catholic perspective. It also sells Trade Winds tea and coffee on the first Sunday of each month after all Masses.

Contact: Cara Minns 9580 3439

Special Ministers of the Eucharist

The group assists with the distribution of the host or wine at Weekend Masses, as well as to the sick and housebound members of the parish. A roster is organised.

Contact: Gail Holloway 9585 0380

St. Vincent De Paul Society



Persons/families in need of help should contact the Hurstville Centre on 9580 2459.

The Conference meets weekly on a Wednesday in the Administration block of the school at 8pm. Minister to the needy of Penshurst.

Inquiries regarding membership can be made through the Presbytery.

Table Tennis & Tai-Chi Group (TTG)

We seek to promote good health and fellowship among parishioners by doing Qi Qong, a gentle form of exercise adapted from Tai Chi. We also improve our dexterity and reflexes with social games of table tennis. All ages welcome. TTG meets every Sunday from 1.45pm-5pm.

Contact: Charles Chow 9579 4949

Welcoming Group

This Group welcomes parishioners attending Weekend Masses and assists newcomers to the parish.

Contact: Kevin Isaksen 9579 2784

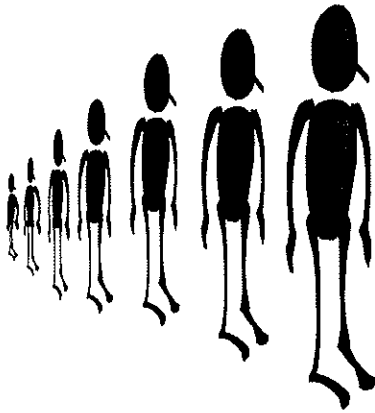


Women and the Australian Church

The Group works towards a Church where women will be equal to men in Leadership and Ministry.

Contact: Maureen Hager 9580 5384

Youth Ministry



The ministry aims to reach out to the young members of the Parish, i.e., teenagers and young adults. It helps to offer opportunities to young people of the parish - to learn, grow and share their faith; to have "somewhere to belong", where they receive love, support, friendship and encouragement; to participate in various events/ministries such as Youth Leadership Team, Youth Band, Youth Masses, World Youth Day, Youth Groups, Youth Prayer Groups, Retreats etc.

Contact: Nicole Hellyer, Parish Youth Minister

Phone: 9580 1310 (during office hours) 0414 619 771 (after hours) Email: stdecyth@tpg.com.au

