

NOTES FOR SUNDAY MASS REPORTS from 14th August meeting

A handover meeting with old and new Parish Pastoral Council members was held with dinner at the RSL Club on Tuesday evening. Thanks to outgoing members Lida Vanlierop and Janet Moriarty whose terms have finished. We welcome new members Emma Thomson, Manuel Donebus & Sister Rosemary.

Fr Bernie is the Diocesan Coordinator for the Plenary, and he will be training Facilitators to run discussion sessions in parishes, schools and with all interested people. More information shortly.

The Catholic community is being asked to come together to advocate for people seeking asylum, this time for a week either side of the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees.

Sacred Heart Parish Council is planning to:

- 1) Show a film on Thursday 23rd August in the parish centre at 4.00pm. The film is called HOPE ROAD and is the story of a South Sudanese refugee's efforts to raise money for a school in South Sudan.
- 2) Hold an appeal next Sunday 26th August at all masses to raise more money for Dominic Deng's school in his village in South Sudan.
- 3) Invite parishioners after the 9am mass next Sunday to form a Circle of Silence (3-5 minutes) on the grassed area beside the car park to recognise the injustice faced by many refugees and people seeking asylum.
- 4) Make available after mass next Sunday a petition for those interested in expressing their concern to our local member of parliament about the plan to cut the meagre assistance around 12,000 people in seeking asylum in Australia are at risk of losing.
- 5) Prayers at masses on the weekend of 25/26 August will also be for people who are refugees and seeking asylum.

We would also like to draw your attention to these pamphlets from the Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce, which explain recent changes to Government support for those on temporary visas, reducing them to extreme poverty. Please take one and act on the suggestions provided in them.

Finally, we are looking at introducing recycling in our church. At present, after Morning Teas, etc, all rubbish goes to landfill. We hope to have a better system in place shortly.

Our next meeting is Tuesday Sept 4th. Please speak to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council to have input in to our discussions or make any suggestions.