

Pastoral Plan 2019 - 2020



OLMC PARISH

Varroville, Raby, St Andrews & Bow Bowling

'The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelisers.' (EG 28)

Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* (2013), brings a fresh perspective to parish life. The Holy Father calls parishes to be mission-oriented 'environments of living communion and participation.' In response to Pope Francis' exhortation, the Our Lady of Mount Carmel (OLMC), Varroville Parish Pastoral Plan 2019-2020 considers parish issues. The Plan determines the actions the parish can implement to embrace Pope Francis' conviction that 'joy' underpins every expression of the church's life. The Parish Pastoral Plan also progresses the Parish's previous Pastoral Plans with this missionary spirit to grow in faith and community.

PURPOSE OF THE PARISH PASTORAL PLAN 2019-2020

Our purpose in this Parish Pastoral Plan is to build on the work of our past Parishioners and incorporate the dimensions of *Evangelii Gaudium*, seeking to guide our parish toward a more intentional, explicitly missionary mode of engaging with each other, the community and the world as a whole. Our Parish Pastoral Plan identifies the key priority areas that will enable the achievement of the vision for the parish during the next two years. The Parish Pastoral Plan determines specific goals that will enable the parish community to address these priorities. The Parish Pastoral Plan will propose actions to take and consequently enable the community to evaluate itself on the performance of these goals in a reflective and constructive manner, guided by the Holy Spirit.

OUR VISION STATEMENTS

EVANGELISATION: REACHING OUT AND SHARING OUR FAITH

Drawing on their personal relationship with Jesus and ongoing experience of the Holy Spirit all members of our community are willing and able to constructively reach out beyond the community, share their faith and invite others to encounter Jesus and the community of faith.

COMMUNITY: LOVING AND CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Hospitality, love and care are essential to the life and joyfulness of our community. It is a place where all are welcome and included. Through taking responsibility for the life and growth of the community, each member experiences a strong and growing sense of belonging.

DISCIPLESHIP: LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER IN FAITH

Through ongoing participation in small faith sharing groups and celebrating the sacraments, all members of our community are committed to growing in the knowledge, understanding and practice of their faith and so live more fully Jesus' call to discipleship and mission in our world today.

WORSHIP: CELEBRATING & PRAISING GOD'S PRESENCE

Our experience of worship, especially our Sunday Eucharist, is the high point of life in our community where we celebrate and praise God for his presence in our lives. All members, through their full and active participation, experience prayerful, nurturing and uplifting liturgies, enabling them to live out Jesus' mission in their lives.

MINISTRY / SERVICE: GIVING OF OURSELVES

Seeing their life as part of Jesus' mission, and being responsive to the needs of the society in which we live, our community enables every member to use their unique gifts and skills in ministry, giving of themselves in the service of others.

LEADERSHIP: GUIDING AND INSPIRING OTHERS TO GROW AS MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

All leaders take shared responsibility for intentionally guiding, inspiring and empowering members of the community to grow as missionary disciples.

OUR GOALS & STRATEGIES

Vision 1: EVANGELISATION – Reaching Out & Sharing our Faith

Vision

Drawing on their personal relationship with Jesus and ongoing experience of the Holy Spirit all members of our community are willing and able to constructively reach out beyond the community, share their faith and invite others to encounter Jesus and the community of faith.

Goal

By 2020 personal invitation and engagement will be at the heart of all parish activity.

Strategies

1. Engagement by all ministries in all parish activities
2. 40% of parishioners will have completed Alpha by 2020
3. Parents in Sacramental programs invited to participate in Alpha
4. Alpha and Sacramental programs are synchronised

Vision 2: COMMUNITY – Loving & Caring for One Another

Vision

Hospitality, love and care are essential to the life and joyfulness of our community. It is a place where all are welcome and included. Through taking responsibility for the life and growth of the community, each member experiences a strong and growing sense of belonging.

Goal

By 2020 we will have an inclusive process for welcoming people into the community, and providing ongoing pastoral care

Strategies

1. Improve the experience of hospitality
2. Provide formation around the understanding of hospitality
3. Develop a welcome pack and processes for new parishioners
4. Develop a framework for Pastoral Care
5. Develop a communication strategy
6. Develop a property master plan
7. Implement renovations to the church sanctuary, confessional and rest rooms.

Vision 3: DISCIPLESHIP - Learning & Growing Together in Faith

Vision

Through ongoing participation in small faith sharing groups and celebrating the sacraments, all members of our community are committed to growing in the knowledge, understanding and practice of their faith and so live more fully Jesus' call to discipleship and mission in our world today.

Goal

By 2020, we will have a comprehensive process for learning, mentoring and growing together in faith

Strategies

1. Appoint a coordinator and team
2. Develop resource and support options
3. Develop and implement a faith formation process
4. Create a culture of mentoring in faith formation

Vision 4: WORSHIP – Celebrating & Praising God's Presence

Vision

Our experience of worship, especially our Sunday Eucharist, is the high point of life in our community where we celebrate and praise God for his presence in our lives. All members, through their full and active participation, experience prayerful, nurturing and uplifting liturgies, enabling them to live out Jesus' mission in their lives.

Goal

By 2020 we will have strengthened the diversity and quality of worship, especially through music & preaching, enabling parishioners to experience a greater level of engagement.

Strategies

1. Creation of homily series based around vision areas
2. Increased musical repertoire with a focus on praise and worship
3. All special liturgical events are appropriately supported
4. Ensure ability of people to be involved in wider diversity of liturgical ministries

Vision 5: MINISTRY / SERVICE: Giving of Ourselves

Vision

Seeing their life as part of Jesus' mission, and being responsive to the needs of the society in which we live, our community enables every member to use their unique gifts and skills in ministry, giving of themselves in the service of others.

Goal

By 2020, we will have developed a holistic process for supporting people in ministry including substantial emphasis on how the ministry engages with the broader community.

Strategies

The elements of a ministry support process will include:

1. Ministry expectation and roles are known and communicated
2. Policy for leadership in ministry
3. Clearly outlined structures and organisation
4. Discernment process for involvement in ministry
5. Formation for people in ministry
6. Succession planning

Vision 6: LEADERSHIP – Guiding & Inspiring Others to Grow as Missionary Disciples

Vision

All leaders take shared responsibility for intentionally guiding, inspiring and empowering members of the community to grow as missionary disciples.

Goal

By 2020 we will have a clear leadership formation process

Strategies

1. Develop leadership potential for the parish
2. Provide leadership mentoring and training
3. Implement process for discerning leadership roles
4. Ongoing training and support of existing leaders

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

We will work together as a community to implement this Pastoral Plan and so radiate to the world that the parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Varroville is Jesus Christ's Body, united in his Work.

Working together to implement this document gives an outward sign of our belief that we are part of Christ's Body and so uniquely called and gifted to be most effective in proclaiming Christ's loving embrace when we work as His Body.

Through sharing ideas, resources and our gifts, and witnessing to Christ's work among us, we are witnesses to the entire world that Christ's living body is one, holy, catholic and apostolic. We become witnesses to the resurrected Christ.

Our Mission

*To know, love and serve Jesus
by sharing our gifts through our baptismal mission*