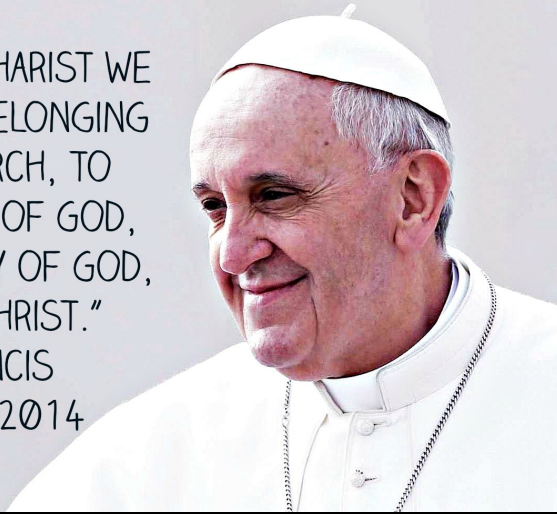


Faith

"IN THE EUCHARIST WE FEEL THIS BELONGING TO THE CHURCH, TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD, TO THE BODY OF GOD, TO JESUS CHRIST."

- POPE FRANCIS
5 FEBRUARY 2014



Thoughts from our Leadership Team

What does celebrating your faith as a parish community mean to you?

"The confirmation & strengthening of the individual's beliefs" - **Tina Baltatzis**

"God is important in my life—Sharing and giving, caring with others—proudly sharing my faith" - **Anonymous**

"We are all equal as one body of the Church. As a family we can individually express our faith, through actions, deeds and prayer so as to receive the help or grace to proceed with our daily lives and to help others" - **John Pertile**

"This parish has been my spiritual home for my almost 60 years, even when I've lived interstate (my family home and family members were still living and active in the parish then). I was baptised in the old church in 1958 -- a few months before it burnt down -- received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation for the first time in the present church, in which my sister was married, my father remarried after Mum's death and from which my parents and paternal grandparents were buried. I went to school at what was then Blessed Oliver Plunkett's (BOPs) and in 1975, we celebrated our parish patron's canonisation here. For about 30 years from the 1950s, Pallottine priests celebrated two of our six Sunday Masses and I have been involved with them -- as have a number of other parishioners -- ever since, including for two years as a lay missionary in WA in the 1980s. Other than these "big" links, the regular connection with my parish community helps sustain me in my Catholic faith and -- although much of how that faith is expressed is done elsewhere -- helps me try to live it out more widely, with God's help" - **Mark Brolly**

"Celebrating our faith as a parish community unites us. We gather together to pray and celebrate as a family with a common bond of love and devotion to God" - **Emily Monaco**

"To be with people who share my beliefs and to grow in my Christian journey" - **Anonymous**

"For me, to celebrate the faith in the Parish Community means to go to church every Sunday, help those in need, pray, thank God together with my brothers and sisters in Christ. To continue to practice the faith that my mother taught me when I was a child" - **Anonymous**

St Oliver Plunkett's—Pascoe Vale

Welcome to week two of our Parish Thanksgiving Program.

This week is all about FAITH!

We ask you to reflect on the importance of faith in your life. Is your faith the foundation of who you are? Does it drive the way you choose to live your life?

We also ask you to re-affirm the importance of Sunday Mass – how we come together as a community to celebrate our faith. The Eucharist is something much bigger than ourselves – it is not a private or anonymous experience. The communal celebration of the Eucharist at Sunday Mass gives us the spiritual nourishment to live our lives as true disciples of Jesus.

Finally, we ask you to commit to growing in faith – to take the opportunity to learn and develop a mature understanding of our faith.

Note that Father Paul Connell will have a special Homily on this weeks' theme of FAITH at all Masses this weekend.

Key Dates

2nd & 3rd June	Faith Weekend
9th & 10th June	Community Weekend
14th June	Our Future Forum
16th & 17th June	Our Future Weekend