

June 3, 2015

Dear Parishioners,

I wanted to write to you to advise you of some of the recent changes that are happening at the Tennis Club located on the grounds of St Bede's Parish.

The Tennis Club has been in operation at this location since the 1950s and has been a great source of enjoyment for all parishioners who have an interest in Tennis. The club was originally formed with the purpose of building a sense of community amongst parishioners. While there is a far greater range of tennis court facilities in the area from when the club was formed in the 1950s, I still believe that there is a role to play for the Tennis Club in bringing together younger and older parishioners alike to spend time together enjoying a social game of tennis.

At the conclusion of this year's membership season in June 2015, the club will transition from the independent legal structure under which it currently operates and return as a Parish Club. The name will also be changed from the St Bede's Tennis Club to the St Anne's and St Bede's Parish Tennis Club. This recognises and better reflects the process of unification that the parishes are undertaking.

The most important elements of the club will remain the same. That is, that the club will provide an opportunity for Parishioners of all ages to enjoy the social aspects of playing tennis and enjoying coaching to build and strengthen the spirit of community within the Parish.

Recognising the importance of exercise for the health of the children in the parish, we're also embarking on new initiatives to make greater use of the tennis courts during school hours, including the availability of lessons during lunch times. The introduction of tennis to children attending school is a great way to foster a healthy lifestyle and the enjoyment of the social and sporting elements of tennis.

In the past, the tennis courts have often remained unused during school hours, the parish is working with the school to ensure we maximise the use of the courts not only for children, but also for parents and older parishioners who wish to retain their social links with the parish.

I invite all parishioners from both St Anne's and St Bede's who have an interest in tennis to join the tennis club. The club is actively looking for parishioners who wish to join the club as new members. They're also looking for parishioners willing to volunteer some of their time to assist with the running of the club and the various competitions that are played at the venue. If you have some time to volunteer, then please contact the parish office.

The tennis courts are an asset that the previous parishioners have built and provided for us all to enjoy. If you're interested in tennis, then I'd welcome you to join in and support the club to ensure that these courts remain a part of the parish for many years to come.

Yours sincerely



Fr Werner Utri
Parish Priest
Parish of St Anne & St Bede

ABN 56 480 086 817

Parish Office: 1 Severn Street, Balwyn North **Postal Address:** PO Box 37, Balwyn North VIC 3104
Phone: 8851 4600 **Fax:** 9859 9415 **Email:** keweast@cam.org.au -or- balwynnorth@cam.org.au