

## **Parish Priest's Report**

The season of Lent has begun and the parish is accompanying fifteen people, of various ages and backgrounds, on the journey to the Easter Sacraments. As those of us who are already baptised reflect on what it means to belong to Christ over these six and half weeks of Lent, these “Elect” are making the final preparation for baptism. All of us are called to those three principal means: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. With the year of Saint Francis underway, our parish church has been designated, by Bishop Vincent, as one of the pilgrim sites in the Parramatta Diocese. A plenary indulgence is granted (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father), may be obtained by visiting our church. Prayer cards are being prepared which will include the Our Father, Creed, and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Francis, Saint Clare and all the Saints of the Franciscan family.

Post-Easter we have a number of important things happening in the parish. First of all, beginning May 4<sup>th</sup> (Monday evening 7pm) will be our next “Alpha” course. This will be followed by “Parish-in-Council on Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>, and the next Antioch weekend from July 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. These are all avenues of participation and engagement in the work and mission of our parish.

Finally, at the end of the year, from November 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, the Capuchin Franciscan Friars will be holding “Chapter of Elections”, which flags the possibility of a change in parish clergy in 2027. In the meantime, make it a joyful Lent and a blessed Easter.

## **CFCA: Michael Calanno**

- Jan 17-18, Leaders Training (Part 1)
- Jan 31- Evangelization Rally  
A marching order to kick off the start of evangelization and announce the CFCA 2026:  
Consecrated in the Truth, Be Christ to others (Jn 17:17-21).
- Feb 8- Chapter Assembly (Calanno Chapter)
- Feb 21-22, Leaders Training (Part 2)
- Mar 21- Fund Raising CFCA Love In Action.  
Dinner Dance.

## **Sacraments & Children's Liturgy Report: Priscilla Corpuz**

- 1st Holy Communicants 92 children.  
Classes resume on 3<sup>rd</sup> May for 4 Sundays  
Children will receive 1st holy communion from 30<sup>th</sup> May until 13<sup>th</sup> June, during the weekend masses.
- Children's Liturgy - we started on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. We now have 5 teams, going well.

**SRE: Therese Fuller**

As it is the beginning of the year, I am pleased to say that all the SRE members are returning.

To date the schools have agreed to recommence classes in week 5, which is 24/25 February. Numbers of students will be given then.

The support given by each member of the team to everyone is what helps make this group work so very well. We are all open to ask for help and know that it will be given in a way in which we all grow.

We all have a good rapport with the members of the other religions who also teach SRE and this connection helps with organising dates, etc.

Once again, we ask for prayers, not only for ourselves, but for the children and their families.