

Parish Pastoral Council - Annual Report

This year we welcomed our new parish priest Father Jorge de Chavez to our community. His friendly demeanour and willingness to be involved in the community has ensured a smooth transition to life in Waroona. Father Jorge has committed to regularly visiting the elderly in their homes and visiting residents of Quambie Park. He is also a volunteer with St John's Ambulance service. Father Jorge has also been actively involved in our school, making regular classroom visits, refereeing games of basketball and guiding the candidates in their preparation for the sacraments. It has been a pleasure working with Father Jorge and on behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council, I'd like to thank him for his spiritual guidance, strong leadership and unwavering commitment to our parish. We look forward to working with Father Jorge for many years to come.

This year, we were blessed to witness many children making the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Thank you to the parents, Saint Joseph's school staff and Father Jorge for ensuring the students were sufficiently prepared for these sacraments. We wish each of the candidates God's blessings as they continue their faith journey.

The monthly cuppas have been well supported and enjoyed by many this year. Thank you very much to our social committee members Lyn, Carmel and Ange for their hard work and commitment each month. Our gatherings provide opportunity for fellowship and for learning and growth in our faith.

Father Jorge has been very happy with the increase in parishioners attending Mass each week. On several occasions, Heavenly Choir from Mandurah have joined us for Mass and blessed us with their beautiful singing. We thank them for sharing their gifts and celebrating Mass with our parish.

Once again, the Cattle Scheme has provided much needed funds to keep the parish going. Both the Parish Finance Committee and the Parish Pastoral Council are very grateful to the farmers that participate in this scheme. Thank you very much for your support!

This year, some much needed work was carried out in the presbytery. The kitchen was replaced, new flooring installed, and several other works were carried out. Thank you to the Finance Committee for organising and financing this project.

In closing, on behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council, I would like to thank the parish and school communities for the support you have provided over the year. Thank you to those who volunteer for parish ministries. It is greatly appreciated. We look forward to a wonderful year in 2025.

Jillian Snell

Chairperson – Saint Patrick's Parish Pastoral Council, Waroona.