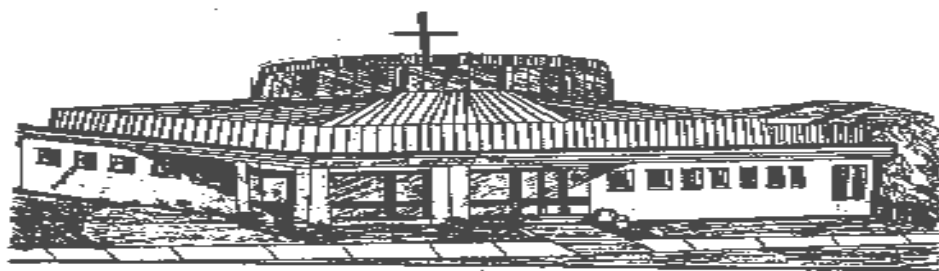


*St Declan's Parish*  
*Lenshurst*



*Directory*

**February 2018**

# **ST DECLAN'S PARISH, PENSHURST**

## **Office:**

92 Penshurst Street, Penshurst 2222

Phone: 9580 1310 Fax: 9580 7170

Email: [declans@tpg.com.au](mailto:declans@tpg.com.au) Website: [www.stdeclanspenshurst.org](http://www.stdeclanspenshurst.org)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Chris Ryan MGL

**Assistant Parish Priests:** Fr Adam Crouch MGL & Fr Isuru Weliwatte MGL

**Parish Secretary:** Nancy Miletic

**Liturgy Coordinator:** Clare Brotherton

Email: [liturgy@tpg.com.au](mailto:liturgy@tpg.com.au)

**Pastoral Care Coordinator:** Paulineke Nolan

**Sacramental Program Coordinator:** Lynne Taylor

Email: [scrmnt07@tpg.com.au](mailto:scrmnt07@tpg.com.au)

**Youth Minister:** Johnathon Abel

Email: [igniteym.penshurst@gmail.com](mailto:igniteym.penshurst@gmail.com)

St. Declan's Primary: 9580 4831

Marist College, Penshurst: 9579 6188

## **MASS TIMES**

Saturday Vigil: 6pm

Sunday: 7am, 9 am, 11am, & 6pm.

Weekdays:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 6:45am

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:15am

Saturday: 8:00am Saturday

## **Communion Services**

Tuesday & Thursday: 6:45am

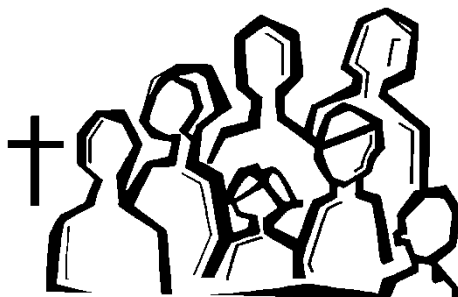
## **Confessions**

Saturday: 5 to 5:30pm

## **Baptisms & Weddings**

*By appointment* – Contact Parish Office

## MISSION STATEMENT



St. Declan's Parish is a welcoming, supportive and inclusive community of believers inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus who gather around the Eucharistic table. We are called to spread the Gospel through word and action and are seeking to reflect Jesus' compassion with our local community and beyond.

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to St Declan's Parish. The life of our parish has many facets. This booklet has attempted to detail the many Ministries/Groups which are active in our Parish. We hope this Directory will be a means of communication and a way of extending the great work that is currently performed by our community.

For further information, or if you are interested in joining any of these ministries, please contact the person(s) listed in this Directory or speak to one of the priests. We know that you will be made most welcome and your involvement will be greatly appreciated. There will always be a role for you, and we would love to hear from you.

The "Contents" page of the Directory lists the Ministries/Groups under two main groups of activities. This is followed by the alphabetical listing of these Ministries/Groups and their functions. Further details of each group, contact person and telephone number are available when phoning or emailing the Parish Office.

# CONTENTS

## **CELEBRATING OUR FAITH**

Acolytes/Altar Ministers  
Altar Servers  
Baptism Preparation  
Children's Liturgy  
Church Cleaning Group  
Church Collectors Group  
Little Church  
Little Church Band  
Liturgy Committee  
Ministers of Communion  
Music Ministry  
Sacramental Program (Parish-based)  
Readers and Commentators  
Rosters Committee  
Scripture Study Groups  
Welcoming Group  
Welcoming to the Catholic Faith



## **THE PARISH AS COMMUNITY**

Bereavement Group  
Catechist Group  
Counting Team  
DECLANCRAFT  
Finance Committee  
Friendship Group  
Gardening  
Intercessory Prayer Group  
Josephite Associates  
Maintenance  
Meditation Groups  
Parish Council  
Pastoral Care  
Piety Stall  
Small Group Programs  
Social Committee  
Social Justice  
St Vincent de Paul Society  
Table Tennis & Tai Chi Group  
Work, Health & Safety  
Youth Ministry

## Acolytes

These are men and women who assist the Celebrant during Sunday's Eucharistic Celebrations. They also preside at Communion services on weekdays. A roster is organised.

## Altar Servers

These are young boys and girls who have made their first Holy Communion and are trained to serve at Mass and liturgical services. Parents assist in coordination and implementation.



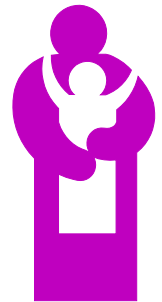
## Baptism Preparation Group



Supports families who are preparing their children for Baptism. Families are invited to discuss arrangements and responsibilities for this Sacrament of Initiation.

## Bereavement Group

Under the guidance of the Pastoral Care Coordinator, support and contact is offered to family and friends of the parish at the death of their loved ones. Families are also remembered and acknowledged at the first anniversary of the death. The group organises the annual Remembrance Mass for family members and friends to celebrate and remember their deceased loved ones. An inclusion of the names of people who have died can be placed in the Memorial Book displayed in the foyer of the Church.



## Catechist Group



The St. Declan's group consists of volunteer Parishioners who teach religion to Catholic children in four state schools around our area. At present, there are 24 very dedicated catechists. New members are always welcome to join this very privileged Ministry. Training is available. A curriculum is provided and help is arranged for the first few classes or until the teacher feels comfortable working alone.

## Church Collectors Group

This Group assists with the collections at Weekend Masses and other special liturgical celebrations.

## Counting Team

There are 55 Parishioners involved in counting. They are formed into 8 groups and count once every 8 weeks on a roster basis. A roster is prepared covering a 12 month period. Any additional help is welcome.

## DECLANCRAFT (Pastoral Care Initiative)

*If you are: 40 plus and searching for some type of social, creative and fun activity or social network; wanting to be part of a parish and community activity; someone whose social needs are not already being met within the parish.* DECLANCRAFT is an

INTRODUCTORY craft activity or workshop with each session including a social cuppa. Held in either the church meeting room or Fernlands Hall, these craft activities may include... Painting, Sketching, Jewellery Making, Handmade Cards, Dancing, Card Games, Meditation, Massage, Walking.... Time, day & venue will depend on the craft, availability of venue & facilitator.



## Finance Committee

The Finance Committee advises the Parish Priest on the major matters relating to the income and expenditure of the Parish.

## Friendship Club

This club meets on the first Tuesday morning of each month to play cards, board games, etc. or just chat. Occasional bus tours also occur, as does a monthly raffle to help defray costs of the Christmas Party. New members are welcome.

## Gardening

A small team meets on a regular basis to tidy and maintain Church and Presbytery surrounding gardens. New members are welcome.

## Josephite Associates

The Josephite Associates are part of the Josephite Family united in friendship, mutual support, prayer & involvement in the service of God's people. They are men & women who desire to explore with the sisters what it means to be a follower of Christ in the world today. Meetings are held second Monday of the month 9.45am in the homes of members. The group is always happy to welcome new members.



## **Little Church**

The aim of "The Little Church" is to present the Gospel of the day in a meaningful manner to children between the ages of 4 to 12 years. It is held every Sunday in the School Term during the 9am Mass. Members of the team meet once per term to prepare the readings and activities for the children.

## **Liturgy Committee**

Lead by the Liturgy Coordinator, this is a Group of parishioners planning, implementing and encouraging the Liturgy at St. Declan's through networking and communicating with the various ministries and groups.

## **Maintenance**

Keeping the parish facilities up to standard through ongoing maintenance and upgrades.

## **Meditation Groups**

We are linked with the Australian & World Community for Christian Meditation ([www.wccm.org](http://www.wccm.org)). We begin with relaxation & breathing awareness. We then listen to a short reflective reading which is followed by 30 minutes of silent meditation using the mantra "Maranatha" (1 Cor 16:22). We share supper before ending the evening at 9.30pm. We have an annual retreat and we also present an "Introduction to Christian Meditation" course each year. No experience is needed to join us in Meditation.

## **Ministers of Communion**

These ministers assist with the distribution of the host or wine at Weekend Masses, as well as to the sick and housebound members of the parish. These parishioners are trained and a roster is organised for those distributing communion during the Mass. For those wanting to take communion outside the Mass, please contact the Pastoral Care Coordinator for training and information.



## **Music Ministry**

The Music Ministry has various groups.

Organists and cantors lead the parish in hymns for the Vigil, 9am and 11am Masses. Every two months the Music Ministry Team selects appropriate hymns for each Sunday Liturgy and prepares rosters. On the second Sunday of the month, our "Little Church Band" plays and sings at the 9am mass which coincides with the Family Mass on special occasions. On the Fourth Sunday of the month the Pilipino Choir sings at the 11am Mass. The Parish Choir sings at the Vigil Mass during various Liturgical Feasts. Members of the Parish youth lead the parish community with a selection of modern hymns during the Sunday 6pm Mass.

## Parish Council

The Parish Council consists of 12 members: ex-officio, appointed and elected Councillors. The Parish Council assists the Parish and Assistant Priests in the running of the Parish; providing additional resources and a forum for discussion/input by Parishioners. The Council meets every first Sunday of the month at 7:15pm in the Parish Office. Parishioners are invited to submit items for discussions. Any Parishioner may attend a Council meeting and, with the leave of and prior notice to the Chairperson, be heard.

## Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care embraces all aspects of parish life and aims to provide spiritual nourishment, social interaction and support to parishioners who are bereaved (grieving), aged, infirmed, sick, disabled and unable to take part in parish Eucharistic celebrations by; (a) involving parishioners to minister to others and share their faith; (b) creating a community of care; (c) developing a strong parish network. One aspect involves bringing Holy Communion to, and sharing prayer (and social interaction) with: the sick and housebound parishioners; the local Nursing Home residents. For parishioners in hospital, contact is made and visits are organised in hospital and/or upon return home. Further information and support is available on request.



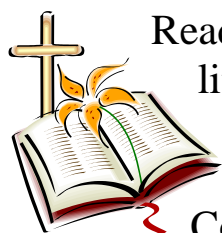
## Piety Stall

This stall sells religious and devotional goods and objects and some books. The Stall is open after most Masses. Any surplus is given to the parish priest for distribution.

## Intercessory Prayer Group

Intercessory Group: This group prays for the intentions of particular Parishioners who contact it and ask for prayers.

## Readers and Commentators



Readers proclaim The Word at all Weekend Masses and for all special liturgical celebrations (Easter, Christmas, etc.). Each Weekend Mass has a reader and a commentator while extra readers are provided for special occasions (e.g. reading of the Passion on Palm Sunday).

Commentators introduce readings, read/lead the response to the Psalms, lead the Prayers of the Faithful and point out important notices in the bulletin at the end of each Weekend Mass. A roster is organised.



## **Rosters Committee**

The Committee prepares the Rosters for Altar Ministers, Readers and Commentators and Special Ministers of the Eucharist.

## **Sacramental Program**

This includes Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation which are to be planned, developed and implemented by the parishioners, their families and the community.

## **Scripture Study Groups**

Group One:

This group concentrates on the New Testament. The parish priest meets with the group on a semi-regular basis.

Group Two:

Meets on a fortnightly basis; studying the journey of the Church through Scripture.

## **Small Group Programs**

These programs provide opportunities for parishioners to come together in small groups in preparation for our Church celebrations to break open the Word through Scripture reading, reflection, sharing and praying.

## **Social Committee**

Formed on an “ad-hoc” basis to organise social functions within the Parish. Suggestions from parishioners for any social functions are to be directed to the parish council.

## **Social Justice**

Addressing social issues from a Catholic perspective.



## **St. Vincent De Paul Society**



“The Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.” The St Vincent de Paul Society aspires to be recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering “a hand up” to people in need. We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing our hope, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny. Contact the Parish office for further information, assistance or joining the Penshurst Conference and supporting the community.

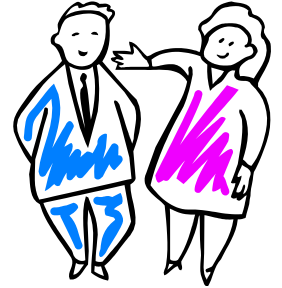
## **Table Tennis & Tai-Chi Groups (TTG)**

We seek to promote good health and fellowship among parishioners by doing Qi Qong, a gentle form of exercise adapted from Tai Chi. We also improve our dexterity and reflexes with social games of table tennis. All ages welcome. TTG meets every Saturday & Sunday from 1.45pm-5pm.

## **Welcoming Group**

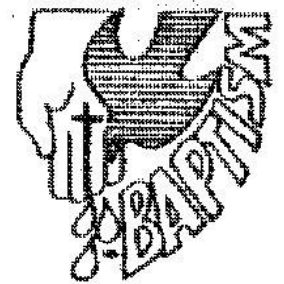
This Group welcomes parishioners attending Weekend Masses and assists newcomers to the parish.

A new parishioners' folder is in the foyer of the church to be completed by those new to the parish. Follow up will be done and an invitation sent to a 'New Parishioners' gathering.



## **Welcoming to the Catholic Faith**

It is a short-term formation program with a simple structure for adults and children who would like to become part of the Catholic faith. Further information is available from the Parish Office.



## **Work, Health & Safety**

Managing, finding and fixing workplace health and safety problems. It involves identifying hazards, assessing the risks and eliminating, or if that is not possible, controlling the risks so far as is reasonably practicable, in doing so, ensuring the safety, well-being of the parish community. This role also includes managing child protection and Working With Children Checks and complying with Safeguarding regulations.

## **Youth Ministry**

The ministry aims to reach out to the young members of the Parish, i.e., teenagers and young adults. It helps to offer opportunities to young people of the parish - to learn, grow and share their faith; to have "somewhere to belong", where they receive love, support, friendship and encouragement; to participate in various events/ministries such as Youth Leadership Team, Youth Band, Youth Masses, Youth Groups, Youth Prayer Groups, Retreats, World Youth Day, etc.

