

Victor Harbor and Goolwa Catholic Parish



VISION

To build a faith community centred on the loving relationship of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, expressed in personal lives and communal parish activities.

MISSION

1. CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

- Develop Eucharistic celebrations that are prayerful and relevant and involve the full participation of the parish community.

2. GROW A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TRINITY

- Foster the experience of a personal relationship with God based on Scripture and current theology.
- Foster ongoing faith formation for all parishioners.

3. CARE FOR EACH OTHER AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Support the sick, lonely, aged and disabled within the parish.
- Through sound planning achieve sustainability, financial stability, transparency and future growth.
- Utilise the experience and talents of parishioners.

4. REACH OUT

- Reach out to those in need in the local community.
- Be committed to Catholic Social Justice principles.
- Pray and work together with Christian churches and other religions and people of good will.
- Engage with young people in the local area.
- Form bonds with the Indigenous people of the region.



The Icon of the Trinity was painted in 1412 by Andrei Rublev. It is an interpretation of the story of the three angels who visited Abraham and Sarah. Genesis 18. The three angels are identical (one God) but dressed differently (Three Persons). The bowl in the centre is understood to represent the Eucharist.

STRATEGIES TOWARDS ACHIEVING MISSION

including but not limited to:

1. CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

- Develop sound homilies.
- Develop meaningful liturgical celebrations, appropriate music and culturally relevant events.
- Include opportunities for parishioners to share personal stories at Mass.
- Conduct small study groups on the Eucharist.
- Commission Readers and Eucharistic Ministers and provide training.

2. GROW A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TRINITY

- Highlight this personal relationship throughout the year.
- Support different spiritualities centred on God's love.
- Promote opportunities to engage in spiritual development eg prayer days, retreats, pilgrimages.

3. CARE FOR EACH OTHER AND FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- Promote social interaction through hospitality and social events.
- Work towards the appointment of a Parish Worker/Pastoral Associate.
- Search out activities to attract young people.
- Encourage current pastoral care groups.
- Utilise previous life and work experience of parishioners in parish operations.
- Encourage parishioners to welcome newcomers and visitors.
- Encourage involvement in parish groups.
- Make decisions in parish and personal lives that enable sustainability and contribute to the care of Mother Earth.
- Actively encourage the contribution of strategies to implement the Vision and Mission.

4. REACH OUT

- Support the work of St Vincent de Paul and the Knights of the Southern Cross.
- Attend and be pro-active in the functions of other Christian churches, religions and relevant social groups.
- Maintain contact with non-active Catholics.
- Support local efforts to reach out to young people.



Victor Harbor and Goolwa Catholic Parish



23/24 February, 2019

Fellow Parishioners,

For those that may not know me, my name is Ray Klecko and I'm the Chairman of the Parish Pastoral Council.

This weekend we launch within our parish, our Vision and Mission Statement along with strategies that will hopefully tell us who we are as Catholic Christians, what our objectives are as a community in Jesus Christ and how we can come to live the gospels as a community of believers, Christ centred and responsive to His call.

Our Vision for the parish is as follows: "To build a faith community, centred on the loving relationship of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, expressed in personal lives and communal parish activities."

Within this short statement lie the hopes and desires of our community – about how we worship and pray together, how we grow together as a Christian people, how we look after one another and respect each other, how we care about and tend to our environment and how we reach out to those in need and to others within our community, remembering that we are all God's children.

This Vision/Mission Statement has been a long time coming. It is the collective and collaborative work of your Pastoral Council for well over 12 months as we have worked to bring wisdom, courage and discernment into this statement; to give it life and to give it meaning in all our lives and to have it come back at us, to constantly ask us: Are we living our lives as a Catholic community in the best way we can, or can we do better to answer God's call and enrich our spiritual lives?

Fellow parishioners, this is a living document; it has a beginning but no end. It will always be there for us to reflect upon, to review our practices, to gauge our successes or failures and to improve upon as required. But most importantly, fellow parishioners, it is not the Pastoral Council's document; it is your document! It will be displayed in the foyers of our two churches for you to see and read and discern. It is you who will ultimately decide if our parish life and practice is up to a good standard, or if it could be improved upon. Your respectful feedback and commentary will always be welcomed.

I thank the members of the PPC for their fine efforts in bringing our V and M statement to life and I commend it to our community.