

BISHOP PAUL COMES TO BEAUFORT

On the weekend of July 20 - 22 the community of St John the Baptist Beaufort welcomed Bishop Paul Bird for his Parish Visit. This commenced with Bishop Paul and Fr Sajan Mathew celebrating Mass at Langi Kal Kal on the Friday evening. This was a fruitful experience for all concerned.

Bishop Paul celebrated our regular 8.30am Mass on Sunday, July 22. Despite the fact that we had a number of locals away, Mass was well-attended. Likewise, a great spread of morning tea, included a solid gathering of the congregation. This was an excellent opportunity for us to meet and chat with Bishop Paul.

Later that day, we had a special gathering of our youth to celebrate the Year of Youth at a local level. Part of this event was conducted in the church, where the young folk heard a brief history of our church from Maurice Barwick. This was both informative and thought-provoking. Local youth, Rohan Gerrard, spoke of his visit to Sydney in 2017 to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. Bishop Paul also spoke of his journey to Bishop.

A delicious meal, generously provided by parishioners, was shared with Bishop Paul and participants. After the meal Patrick Kennedy, Youth & Young Adult Ministry Project Worker, spoke of opportunities for our youth at a Diocesan level. He was joined by local, Bianca Gerrard, who is a Youth Leader for YESS (Youth Every Second Sunday) which meets every second Sunday at the Cathedral in Ballarat.

We look forward to Bishop Paul completing his Parish Visit later in the year where he will meet with residents and patients at the Beaufort Hostel and Nursing Home, as well as attend our monthly Parish Council meeting.

Bernadette Franc – Chairperson, St John the Baptist Beaufort Parish Council

