



## CELEBRATING THE CONTINUING PARTNERSHIP

On Sunday May 5, members of the Thomas Carr College Tarneit community gathered at the Good Samaritan Campus for our annual Mass with the Cororooke Parish at St Brendan's Church, Coragulac. Mass was celebrated by Fr Brendan Byrne SJ, a world-renowned Scripture Scholar. The College Choir enhanced the celebration of the Eucharist by their wonderful voices singing the various parts of the Mass and hymns of praise.

The Mass and lunch provided the opportunity to celebrate the continuing partnership between the Parish and the College.



Members of the community inspected the Good Samaritan Campus and the day also provided the opportunity for members of the College community to inspect the St Brendan's Presbytery, which the College has recently taken over as it continues to develop the site. Thomas Carr College will now refurbish this wonderful old residence to provide for additional staff accommodation.

During the Mass Fr Brendan's homily not only reflected beautifully on the Gospel reading but paid tribute to the local Parish community. Please find below some extracts from his homily:

*"I understand that in two weeks' time you will be celebrating the centenary of this parish. When I come into a long-established parish community and have the privilege of celebrating Mass in a beautiful old church such as this, it is impossible not to think of all the prayers that have gone up to God here in this temple of faith.*

*People have brought their sorrows and joys here, celebrated the funerals of lives long or sadly cut short, given thanks for favours received, found consolation in grief and loss, gone away freed from the burden of sin.*

*A parish community is more than the church building. But the building is a tangible sign of generations of faith, a place made holy by all the prayers that have been offered here; all the Masses celebrated in which the bread and wine have been transformed into the presence of the living Lord and the Good News of God's love heard, week after week, in the Word of Scripture.*

*One of the great things about a country parish like this is that the community aspect is so visible. You really bear witness to the fact that our faith is something we celebrate in common, reminding each other that it is a community, as well as individuals, that we must "remain" in God's love.*

*That's a fine witness that you give to the young people who come down here from Thomas Carr College from time to time. Our journey of faith is not just a personal spirituality for ourselves. It is a commitment in love, worship, and service, in which we both give and receive. It is "the treasure", as St. Paul put it so beautifully, that we carry in the "clay vessels" of our human lives (2 Corinthians 4:7). I hope and pray that this parish community will long "remain in God's love".*

The Good Samaritan Convent is an historic building which has and continues to serve the Catholic community. It is much loved and treasured by the members of the parish and more widely by many people across the Western District. It has been part of the landscape for nearly a century and it has touched the lives of thousands of people, some very deeply, since it was opened in 1923.



Since 2014 and after extensive renovation the convent is now the Country Campus of Thomas Carr College located in Tarneit, a south-western suburb of Melbourne. The program operated by the College at the Good Samaritan Campus, provides the opportunity for groups of Year 9 students to spend three weeks at the Campus engaging in outdoor education, community services and units of work related life in rural Victoria.

The Thomas Carr College community extends its congratulations to the Parish of Cororooke on the centenary of its foundation as a Parish.

*Dr Andrew Watson - Principal*



*Photos from the Mass*

- 1. Fr Brendan delivery his homily*
- 2. Thomas Carr staff and members of the Coragulac community enjoying lunch*
- 3. The Good Samaritan Campus of Thomas Carr College formerly the Good Samaritan Convent*