

The Parish Pump

The Weekly Bulletin for St John's, Dennington and St Pius X, West Warrnambool
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Christmas 2020

West Warrnambool and Dennington are Child-Safe Parishes

Child Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Rachel Brown. 0402 009 785

Father Michael's Last Mass

The 10 a.m. Mass at St Pius X on Sunday 27 December will be Father Michael's last Mass as our parish priest. A light morning tea will be served after that Mass. If you would like to share in the occasion, please notify Karen Johnson on 0447 838 747 so that we can cater for appropriate numbers.

Early January Masses

At least for the first two weekends of January Mass at St Pius X will be at 6 p.m. Saturday and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Please note the change in the Sunday morning Mass time. Further changes are still to be arranged.

Columban Calendars

Columban Calendars for 2021 can be bought at the Parish office for \$8 each. Christmas cards are also available at \$3.00 for five.



Recent Death

Sister Rose Marie Glennen

Thank You for Giving

Planned Giving November: \$ 3,094.00
Pledged: \$ 4,030.00

Christmas Collection

Today we shall take up the usual Christmas collection that Bishop Paul Bird has asked us to have for those in greater need in Australia and overseas. Because we may not pass the collection baskets from hand to hand in the church, both this collection and the collection for the St Pius X Presbytery account will be taken up as you leave the church. Alternatively, you can use the link in the picture below. Your generous response is warmly invited.



A Message From Father Michael

As most of you know, this will be the last Christmas I shall be with you as your Parish Priest. Sometimes it feels as if I have just arrived in West Warrnambool and often it feels as if it has been my home for my whole life. Now, though I am moving on, I am able to stay in Warrnambool and I consider that a blessing.

Over the years, many of the people who love St Pius X Parish began to treat me as one of their own and I owe them a debt that can't be repaid. I hesitate to name any of them, and in any case the list is long, but as they say, "Yez know who yez are" – or perhaps not all of you do, but be assured that your generosity and kindness is not forgotten.

There is a certain sadness in consciously doing anything for the last time – I'm pretty sure everyone knows that – but when the time is right, when it's time to go, it's foolish to hang on and I am convinced that my time has come. I move on with a certain sadness, but with a kind of delight as well, hoping that the future will be as interesting and as enjoyable as so much of the past has been.

My thanks and my gratitude to all who have influenced, supported, challenged, helped and encouraged me. Please remember me sometimes in your prayers. I shall certainly remember you.

Requirements for Mass

*Some of the new requirements for Mass are still in place, though if you **observe social distancing you needn't wear a face mask in the church.** We remind you of the following conditions we must still observe:*

- Please record your name and phone number as you enter the church. You can be signed in on paper or use our QR code with a mobile phone.
- Please use the hand sanitiser as you come in.
- Please sit **ONLY** in a seat marked with blue tape.
- Please sit no closer than a metre and a half from anyone who does not live with you at your house.
- Although we may not pass the collection plate from hand to hand, please contribute what you can afford to the people holding the plates when you leave the church.
- Holy Communion will be distributed only under the form of bread. The chalice will be used only by the priest. Please receive Communion in your hand in the usual way.
- Please do not approach other people inside the church. Hold any conversations (observing social distancing) outside. [Sorry.]