

OUR ACTIVE PARISH



SOCIAL & COMMUNITY

WALKING GROUPS

You can choose from a monthly group active around Blackwood and a weekly crew that sets out from Nativity Church at Aberfoyle Park. Both select from a variety of walks lasting around one hour or so. The routes followed and the pace adopted are intended to cater for all abilities. The mornings conclude by gathering at a local coffee shop for more conversation and refreshments.

KNIT AND NATTER

The Knit and Natter group meet Wednesday mornings at Our Lady of the Way Cottage to knit, crochet, sew, craft & chat. A dozen or so ladies gather together but some home knitters also make greatly appreciated contributions. Most of our items are sold for Vinnies, some donated to other causes.

SINGLES AND CARERS

Providing opportunities to socialise, have fun and develop friendships for single people or carers seeking companionship. Typical activities include lunches, dinners, afternoon teas and visits to places such as Old Government House and performances at Marion Cultural Centre. We keep costs low and organise car sharing



YOUTH & FAMILIES

TGIF

Thank God Its Friday is a youth event for 8-12 year olds. If that's you, we would love you to join us for pizza, craft, music, games, sport, faith and fun. TGIF runs twice each school term, with the next edition on May 1st.

PLAY n' WORSHIP

A great opportunity to gather as families to build a faith centred community. The afternoons kick off at 2:30 with sports on the School of the Nativity oval before moving into the church for a time of worship, including live contemporary Christian music. Bring a plate for a shared dinner in the church foyer at 5:00pm. The next event is Sunday June 21st

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



SCHOOL OF THE NATIVITY

A Catholic co-educational R-6 school committed to high-quality Catholic education in an environment where families live, love and learn together. Situated on the Aberfoyle Park Primary School Campus we share facilities and specialist staff with Thiele (Govt.) and Pilgrim (Independent Uniting). Through our formal links, students attending School of the Nativity have the option to continue their schooling at either Sacred Heart College or Cabra Dominican College.



CARE & CHARITY

VINNIES

Supports local families through home visits and genuine conversation. The team provides practical support such as food hampers and, when needed and available, limited financial assistance. We listen, guide and advocate for people, connecting them with services and opportunities. The aim is to restore dignity, build confidence, and ensure no one feels alone in challenging times.

HOLY FAMILY CARE GROUP

Supports parishioners not able to attend Holy Mass because they are housebound or reside in a local nursing home. Monthly, members attend with Fr Mwaura and Deacon Tee Ping to celebrate Holy Mass in the nursing homes. Members also take Holy Communion to those housebound and in nursing homes. Additionally, transport is provided to bring together senior parishioners for occasional lunchtime social gatherings.

THE ENVIRONMENT



SEASON OF CREATION GROUP

Organises Season of Creation activities acknowledging our responsibility to look after God's creation. Initially focussed on Mercy Grove (below) we are planning other activities that reflect our parish's commitment as an *Earth Care Parish* as well as our response to the encyclical of *Laudato Si*.

MERCY GROVE

Mercy Grove is a contemplative sacred space within Belair National Park established in 2015 by the Blackwood Parish (now part of Holy Family) to mark two significant events that year: publication of Pope Francis' environmental care encyclical *Laudato Si* with and the launch of the Year of Mercy.

Having repatriated the site of a demolished gate house, parishioners planted more than 120 plants initially and continue to manage and maintain the site with regular working bees.



FAITH & PRAYER

BECOMING CATHOLIC

Thinking about what it means to become a Catholic? The RCIA process offered in this parish can give you the opportunity to explore your interest. There is no expectation of a commitment to become a Catholic and you are always in charge of how your faith journey evolves. It takes the form of weekly meetings to learn more about the beliefs, practices and traditions of the Catholic faith.

ROSARY GROUP

The Holy Rosary is a worship to God prayed with all the Mysteries reminding us of all the love, life, sacrifice death and resurrection of Jesus. The rosary is a devotion to our Mother Blessed Virgin Mary for the help of all Christians around the world. Everyone is welcome to simply pray the rosary with us at St Paul of the Cross, Mondays 10:30am.

CANDLELIGHT VESPERS AND ADORATION

We celebrate Evening Prayer (Vespers) before the Blessed Sacrament through the tradition of Gregorian chant, in English and Latin. It is not a concert or performance, but a community ritual in which all are invited to join in the recitation of psalms and prayer. It is an opportunity for us to gather in contemplative prayer as a community.

Throughout 2026, third Sunday of each month 4:00pm at St Paul of the Cross.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Phone the Parish Office 8270 2158
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