



# E-bulletin



Dear colleagues,

*Scripture is at the centre of everything the Church does. The word of God shapes our prayer and worship. The Bible shows us how to understand the world, how we are called to live and relate to each other.*

*Today Jesus speaks those same words to you: "Take heart, I am here with you, allow me to enter and your life will change". That is why the Lord gives you his word, so that you can receive it like a love letter...' Pope Francis (zenit.org)*

In 2020, inspired by Pope Francis's words quoted above, the Spirituality Team continued their valued work in our diocese and this week I would like to pay tribute to Anne Finlayson, Carol Wheaton, Di Brown, Fr Paul McCabe, Kate Frazier, Kerry Steller and Leonie Keoghan. All of the team members give their time and support freely and generously to assist us in our faith journeys and their commitment to this work is inspirational.

Despite the restrictions imposed by COVID this year, the Spirituality Team still presented 3 twilight programs with the theme *Celebrating, living, and sharing the Word*, and a 1 day program centred on the Bible which also introduced and explained to staff the mobile app 'Laudato'. This app assists us to bring technology into prayer! The Team also facilitated 30 twilight prayers and adapted the 9 one-day retreats to accommodate COVID guidelines.

In her report to the Leadership Team Meeting yesterday, Anne Finlayson commented, *I would like to thank the schools for genuinely welcoming us; it is an absolute delight to visit staff, children and parents throughout the diocese. We believe that what the Team offers is so important, not only in faith formation, but in showing that the CSO and schools care for our families....I would like to thank Carmel Heagney for her support; she assists us in many different ways. Carmel understands our needs as she has worked as a valued team member in the past...We are very grateful for the support we are given from the CSO, and trust that we will be able to follow the same processes in 2021.*

We are also very fortunate to have Fr Paul McCabe working as our CSO chaplain this year and we sincerely appreciate his ongoing commitment and valuable contribution to the diocese.

I know that you will join with me in thanking the Spirituality Team most sincerely for their efforts in 2020 and look forward to working with them again in 2021.

Best wishes,  
Chris Smyth  
Director of Schools



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