

2012-2013 AGM Report

[September 2012 - August 2013]

by: Fr. JOSE S. ADRIANO

[15 September 2013]

1. INTRODUCTORY Items:

- a. The TABERNACLE was moved to the centre of the sanctuary on Holy Thursday/28 March 2013 at the Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Tabernacle Stand, made by High Style Furniture & Kitchens, cost: \$ 4,629.00 - donated anonymously.
- b. The space vacated by the Tabernacle was turned into a Baptistry: the Baptismal Font was moved from near the Working Sacristy. Plumbing was done by Keith McCosker; costing \$ 1,000.00 - also donated anonymously by the same person mentioned previously.
- c. After intensive parish consultation, the new carpet was laid on 15-19 October 2012 by Inverell Carpet Court costing: \$ 30,545.00 - paid from parish savings.
- d. The DIGITAL PROJECTOR - is still posing some challenges. Thanks to Josephine Kelly who has taken the task of preparing the weekend's powerpoint. A few parishioners have been identified to help. At this stage, a roster is yet to be drawn.
- e. The FACEBOOK PAGE of the parish [www.facebook.com/sacredheartchurchinverell] was inaugurated on 21 April 2013.
- f. The WEBPAGE [<http://sacredheartinverell.org.au/>] continues to be a channel of emails asking for prayers; Mass Times; and Family History Research.
- g. The Parish Bulletin is now available electronically. To date, there 39 parishioners who subscribe to the Parish Bulletin. This was started on Easter Sunday of 2013.

2. The Parish YOUTH Ministry was opened on the 4th of August 2012/Saturday under the leadership of John Thivakon. Various meetings were held, preceded by a Pulpit Campaign by John, to plan out the strategies and programmes for the ministry. On Sundays, Guitar Lessons were conducted by Anne Tubb; inspirational movies were shown; face-to-face interactions.

But the Youth Ministry was short-lived: the number of young people participating remained the challenge. At the PPC regular meeting on the 8th of April 2013, it was decided to approach this undertaking in another tact: that John Thivakon, with the concurrence of the Parish PASTORAL Council, would link with Nathan Pearce, Youth Minister of the Presbyterian Church [who focuses on music] to explore the possibility of our youth being involved in something.

3. Annual Statistics [based from the 2012 Annual Report submitted to the Chancery]:

-Baptisms	:	37
-Confirmations	:	36
-First Eucharist	:	40
-First Reconciliation	:	34
-Wedding	:	3
-Anointing	:	493
-Funerals	:	35

4. Mass Attendance Survey: The result of the 2013 Mass Attendance Survey [held in March 2013; includes Inverell; Ashford; Tingha; and Yetman] shows that there is a decrease of Mass Attendance of 10.29 % from 2012 [447] to 2013 [401].

<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
409	432	402	264	447	401

5. Statistics and Numbers:

-Readers/Commentators	:	56
-Greeters [no longer rostered in 2013]	:	59
-Communion Ministers	:	47
-Collectors	:	44
-Money Counters	:	10 Teams
-Sunday Morning Cuppa	:	28
-Offerors [individuals & Families]	:	83
-Children's Liturgy Teachers/Helpers	:	30

6. The 2013-2014 Members of the Parish PASTORAL Council are:

Patsy Armstrong	Audrey McArdle/Tingha
Michael Casey-Ransom	Julie Regan
Daphne Dasey	Tim Robinson/Ashford
Megan Gaukroger	Bill Sutton
Sr. Coral Hedley	John Thivakon
Tony King	Margaret Wales

Val Thomas [Principal: Holy Trinity School]; and myself are Ex-Officio members.

I would like to take this occasion to thank the elected members who stepped down: Brett Pischke [Chair] who served for four [4] years; Karen Roberts who resigned because they transferred residence; and Sarah Turner who did not re-nominate. Their contribution and their participation in the various Council undertakings all these year are very much appreciated; truly valued by the parish and by myself.

7. A Parish Survey [formulated and collated by Sr. Judy Breen and Karen Roberts] was conducted on the weekend of 1/2 September 2012. The collated report was presented to the congregation on the weekend of 9/10 March 2013.

8. HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL:

a. the Parish School Ministry involves the celebration of Masses for the Primary and Secondary students; Prayer Liturgy for the Infants [on Fridays]; Reconciliations and Class Visits on Thursdays. In addition to these, special school celebrations are conducted [Thanksgiving Masses; Graduation Masses; Recognition Nights; Graduation Socials; etc.]

b. On the 24th of May: the Bishop blessed and opened the Refurbished Infants Classrooms which was obtained through a government grant; and through the effort of Val Thomas and the Catholic Schools Office.

c. On the 10th of March/Sunday, an HTS Jubilee Mass and CSO Week Mass was celebrated in the Church. Another mass is scheduled on the 20th of October/Sunday/10:00 am at the HTS School Hall. Everyone is invited to this mass.

d. The retirement of Jo Peel as REC [for medical reasons] was met with sadness both by the school and parish communities. Her resignation took effect at the end of Term 2 [28 June 2012]. She was farewelled by the students at the Secondary Mass on the 21st of June. On that occasion, Brett Pischke, Chair of the Parish PASTORAL Council, presented her with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the parish. Another Farewell Luncheon was tendered by the School Staff on the 7th of September/Saturday at Blair Athol.

Starting next year, the usual School Mass on Fridays will be moved to Thursday. There are some occasions when I have to celebrate 3 masses on Fridays. It is necessary to make the change. Reconciliations and Class Visits will be "floating" - to be conducted during the slot devoted to Religion Education Class.

I would like to take this occasion to thank Val Thomas, Principal, and Jillie Rainger, Assistant Principal; the staff and teachers who are involved in the different ministries of the parish. Their involvement is a big help; a proclamation of the link between Holy Trinity School and the Sacred Heart Parish.

9. Parish FINANCE Committee are: Jim Schliebs, Chair; Nola Turner, Secretary; and Bob Witherdin, Tim Newberry; Ann McCosker; and Lyn O'Brien, members.

The biggest undertakings of the PFC this year are:

- a. the new church carpet [laid on 15-19 October]: \$ 30,545.00 [paid from parish savings];
- b. the Tabernacle Stand: \$ 4,629.00 [donated anonymously]; and
- c. Baptismal Font Plumbing: \$ 1,000.00 [donated anonymously].

I would like to thank them for their involvement in managing the financial affairs and concerns of the parish which includes: the Planned-Giving Program; insurances; maintenance of parish properties and buildings; rates; etc.

10. Bishop's Visit in Inverell [23-26 May/Thursday-Sunday]:

-23 May/Thursday/6:30 pm	:	Talk on: Vatican II, Year of Faith & New Evangelisation
-24 May/Friday/9:30 am	:	Session with 2013 CONFIRMATION Candidates
10:30 am	:	Holy Trinity School Visit & Blessing of K-2 Rooms
6:30 pm	:	2013 DEBUTANTE BALL
-25 May/Saturday/6:00 pm	:	Holy Mass [Start of Year of FAITH] then: Dinner with the Parish Leaders
-26 May/Sunday/11:00 am	:	2013 CONFIRMATION MASS.

11. House Masses: celebrated once a month for house-bound or bed-ridden parishioners:

- Stella Spalding/2 October 2012;
- Joan Hockey/6 November 2012;
- Bill Kahler/14 January 2013;

-Barry Lewis/11 February 2013;
-Leo & Rose Fitzgerald/12 March 2013;
-Betty Hagan/1 April; 2013;
-Thea Cook/6 May 2013; and
-Ann Ryan/5 August.

12. **ADVENT & LENT:**

- a. **ADVENT & LENTEN Prayer Groups:** Sr. Coral Hedley, rsm leads these groups; 12-15 parishioners gather at the Parish MEETING Room mostly on Mondays at 10:00 in the morning; and at the residence of Sr. Coral at 5:30 pm on the same day.
- b. **Anointing of the Home-Bound:** 20 parishioners
- c. **Anointing within the Mass:** 493 parishioners
- d. **Communal Reconciliation:** held on the 18th of December for Advent 2012 and on the 26th of February 2013 for Lent 2013.
- d. **In Lent:** the Stations of the Cross were led by Tingha Parishioners; Saint Vincent de Paul; Parish Catechists; Parish FAMILY Groups; Altar Society; and the Parish PASTORAL Council.

13. **YOUTH Altar Servers [22] and ADULT Altar Servers [4]:** Thanks to Cathy Lane, Parish Coordinator, for organising the weekend rosters. During the visit of the Year of GRACE Icon, they gathered to pray and play on 23 February/Saturday.

A fresh batch of Altar Servers will be installed on the 7th of December. They will come from the ranks of those who did the 1st Eucharist Program on the 8th of September 2013.

14. **TAIZE PRAYER SESSION** was launched on the 5th of September 2012. Due to poor attendance, it was decided that it be shelved. Thanks to Carmel McCosker who took special interest in holding the session.

15. **Young People's Mass:** was held on the 9th of September 2012 at the usual 9:00 am Sunday Mass. Mainly organised by Sharon Hollis, the mass was celebrated in relation to the nationwide celebration of Child Protection Week.

16. **Altar Society:** Roma Fenwick remains the Coordinator of the Altar Society involving 30 members. Their main task is to keep the altar; linens and brass items neat and tidy including the Working Sacristy. They have paid for many items that were purchased for our use in worship [linens; candles; etc.]. Source of their fund is the Candle Money and the proceeds from their fund-raisings. A few members have "retired" owing to illness and age; there is a need for new members.

17. **2013 Anzac Day Mass:** 27 deceased members of the Armed Forces were honoured this year. Members of the ANZAC DAY Team are: Roma Fenwick; Joan Fleming; and Ken Middleton. I would like to acknowledge the support of Thorley & Sons and the RSL to this undertaking by providing us with the List of those who died from ANZAC Day 2012-ANZAC Day 2013.

18. **Australia Day Mass:** Guest Speaker was Paul Henry. The Tree of Peace was planted by the Sisters of Mercy [Sr. Judy Breen and Sr. Coral Hedley] who are residents of Inverell. Their nomination to plant the Tree of Peace was in recognition of the ministry and presence of the Sisters of Mercy in Inverell for more than 120 years.

19. **BAPTISM Preparation Programme:** It is a prerequisite in this parish that the Guardian/s or Parent/s of those who are to be baptized must attend a BAPTISM Preparation Session. This program is conducted efficiently by Jillie Rainger.

20. **Religious Education in the State Schools [Catechetics]:** There are 19 Teachers and Helpers in Inverell; Ashford; and Tingha.

203 children from Inverell Public School; Ross Hill Public School; Gum Flat Public School; Gilgai Public School; 8 children from Tingha Public School; and 14 children from Ashford Public School are given Religious Education once a week [some on Mondays; others on Tuesdays].

Catechists are given an In-Service Training [and Meeting] by Rickie Withers, CCD Diocesan Coordinator, once a term. An annual Prayer & Reflection Evening is likewise conducted by Rickie Withers [this year, it will be held on the 29th of November/Friday]. On this occasion the catechists elect their Coordinator for the incoming year. Currently, June Saint is the Parish Coordinator. A Testimonial Luncheon is hosted by the parish [lunch at a Chinese restaurant] for all the catechists annually.

Recently, the RE in Gilgai Public School [conducted by Joan Fleming] had to stop because of the withdrawal of the only Catholic student attending Catechetics in that school.

21. **Cemetery Mass:** Held on the 3rd of November/Saturday at 9:00 am last year, the mass was held at the kiosk in the middle of the cemetery. Mainly organised by Ann Tubb, as member of the Parish LITURGY Group, the mass continues

to be well-attended and participated in by parishioners who set up the mass and the usual mass roles. This year, the mass will be held on the 2nd of November 2013.

22. **Children's Liturgy:** The new format, used since the first weekend of September 2011, proves to be effective and "easier to handle". Involved are 30 Teachers/Helpers; about 30 kids are involved [every week the numbers vary greatly]. On a few occasions, there were no Teachers/Helpers.
23. **Debutante Ball:** Held on the 24th of May 2013/Friday at the RSM; graced by Bishop Michael Kennedy; there were 16 Debs this year. A social and a fund-raising event, the Ball earned \$ 3321.00 for the parish.

The Ball was preceded by one-on-one interviews by me [12/18/19 March]. The Pre-Ball Gathering of the Debs; their Partners; and their Parents on the 6th of March/Saturday was canceled because the Bishop was not available. However, at the 6:00 pm Mass, the Debs and their Partners were presented to the Congregation as it has been done in the past.

The 2013 Deb Ball Matron & Chairman of the Ball were Margaret & Dick Wales, respectively.

The Committee Members are: Anthony Michael, Chair; Brett Pischke, Secretary; Anita & Danny Marsh, Trainors; Anne McCosker; Bob Witherdin; and Lyn O'Brien. This year, Darlene Motum and Brett Pischke assisted Anita & Danny in training the debs and their partners; and in organising the details of the event. Anthony Michael efficiently directed the entire activity.

24. **Parish Bulletin Sponsorship:** initiated to help bear the cost of printing [stationary and photocopy cost] our weekly Parish Bulletin and inserts; they are Thorley & Sons; and Jenny & Brandon Campbell & Kids.
25. **Parish FAMILY Groups:** Chie Family Group; Henry Family Group [formerly Pryor Family Group]; Gardner Family Group; Casey-Ransom Family Group; and Carson Family Group.

Coordinated by Gloria Baldwin, the major activities of the groups, in addition to their individual monthly activities, are: the Parish Picnic [16 September 2012] and Fruit Cake Sunday [23 June 2013].

At the "Fruit Cake Sunday" Mass, the banners of the different Groups were paraded and displayed; at the Offertory Procession, the fruit cakes were presented together with the Altar Gifts. The main liturgy parts were played by members of the PFG.

26. **Parish FORMATION Programme:** Chaired by Sr. Judy Breen, rsm, the Parish FORMATION Team is composed of Megan Gaukroger, Secretary; Joan Fleming; and myself. The main parish activity under this Team are: the organising of eConference Sessions; and the annual Parish Retreat.
27. **Garden Care:** There are 6 Teams composed of Tony King; Greg Fleming, Sr.; Greg Fleming, Jr.; Terry Manuel; Ross Tutt; Snow Wratten; Chic Lennon; Col Hoyt; Ken and Mary Middleton; Neville Cook; Allan Kinnear; John Henderson; Maurie Cody; Peter and Di Marsh; Anna Thivakon; John McCudden; and Helen Hewens.

The teams are rostered on Saturdays to tend the gardens. Rowel Gascon resigned as a mower; Keith McCosker took over.

28. **Home ROSARY Ministry [Wednesdays at 3:00 pm or 7:00 pm]:** This ministry is led by 3 Rosary Team-Leaders: Brian & Helen Baldwin; Joyce Dickins; and Helen Tutt & Pauline Croft. 52 Host Homes are involved in this ministry.

Parishioners of Tingha regularly meet on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm to pray the Holy Rosary at the residence of Colleen and Bernie Graham. I join them at least once a month, when I am able. On these occasions, I take advantage of the time to do Home Visit [Jack McArdle] and Hospital Visits.

29. **Home VISITATION Ministry:** Pat Mather visits with me usually on Thursdays at 3:00 pm. This year, we have done 28 visits to home-bound parishioners.

30. **Hospital Visitation Ministry:** conducted with Margaret Wales on Mondays; and Phyllis Nichols on Wednesdays. A volunteer is needed to accompany me on Fridays. These visits are at 3:00 pm on Mondays and Fridays; and at 10:00 am on Wednesdays.

From September to August this year, we have made 107 visits to the hospital. There should have been 156 hospital visits made but cancellations were inevitable when funerals; retreats; clergy conferences; parish meetings occur on the days when said visitations were scheduled.

31. **Parish LITURGY Group:** Meets on the second Saturdays of the month at 8:30 am. Chaired by Marie Ward, the members are: Ann Tubb; Joan Fleming; Pauline & John O'Carrigan; Jo Kelly; and Carmel McCosker [who chairs the meetings when Marie is not able to attend]. Mary Jordan and Sharon Hollis resigned. A report from the Parish LITURGY Group will be tabled at the AGM.

One of the major decisions of the group this year is: to shift the Christmas focus from Santa Claus to Saint Nicholas. Marie Ward spoke to the congregation about this issue on the weekend of 4/5 May [only one negative reaction]; three [3] informative inserts will be published before Christmas.

The cooperation of the Catechists and Holy Trinity School have been solicited for the dissemination of the information on this matter.

32. **Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion:** Coordinated by Greg Leach, there are 10 mandated parishioners who lead the congregation in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion when I am away in Inverell; Ashford; and Tingha. Their mandate is for 3 years [from 2012-2014]. A new mandate is due in 2014. The LW and HC are held mostly on weekdays [Tuesdays and Thursdays] when I am away on a break.
33. **Mail Drop:** Currently, there are 16 home-bound parishioners who receive the Parish Bulletin every week. A few is picked up and delivered personally by parishioners; the rest is mailed on Mondays.
34. **Marriage Preparation Course:** Couples who get married in the church go to Gunnedah for their Marriage Preparation Course. There is only wedding scheduled this year.
35. **MUSIC and others:** The celebration of our masses and liturgies is always made beautiful and meaningful because of the Music Groups: Men's Choir; Ann Tubb's Group; Dom Gibson Group; Carmel McCosker Group; Greg and Bev Leach Group.

Special mention has to be made in recognition of the dedication to the ministry of Ann Tubb and Joan Feming. They meet regularly to determine the songs suggested to the different Music Groups to sing on weekends.

36. **Migrant and Refugee Sunday:** Held on the 25th of August 2013/Sunday; participated in by migrant-parishioners. The attendance of visitors was most edifying and encouraging; flags were displayed in the church. A multi-language mass was the highlight of the day.

Sen. John Williams delivered the Reflection [instead of a homily] during the mass; followed by a multi-cultural meal. Special thanks to all who participated and attended this event; especially those who prepared food which are special to their own ethnic origin.

37. **MISSION OUTREACH:** With the concurrence of the Parish FINANCE Committee, the parish has adopted the Leadership and Skills-Training Programme at the Women's Development Centre in St. Gerard's Parish of PNG. The parish works closely with Mercy Mission. We have, so far, remitted: \$ 2,323.00 [2011-2012] and \$ 3,205.30 [since August 2012].
38. **Parish HISTORY Group:** Chaired by Julie Regan, members of the Group are: Nola Turner; Bill and Beth Sutton; and Gloria Baldwin.

With the approval of the Parish FINANCE Committee, the Housekeeper's Room at the presbytery was turned into an Archive Office [accessed from the Parish Office, the door on the kitchen-side will be permanently closed].

39. **Parish PRAYER Chain:** has been inactive; one Prayer Intention has been transmitted to the Chain only last Friday.
40. **Parish RETREAT:** In 2012, the Parish Retreat, called: A Day of Reflection, was conducted on the 1st of September. Organized by the Parish FORMATION Team, the retreat is facilitated by Ann Finlayson at the residence of Rosemary Breen.

This year, it will be held on the 21st of September 2013/Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

41. **Parish WELCOME Committee:** Headed by Anthony & Anne Dale, there 17 members of this Committee: Ian & Jackie Martin; Janet Wedlock; Ken & Mary Middleton; Rosemary Breen; Val & David McMahon; Kaye & Brian Gardner; Mary Schofield; Greg & Marie Chie; Gabrielle & Paul Henry; Shayne & Sue O'Brien.

The Welcome Gathering was held again at the back of the presbytery on the 7th of April 2013/Sunday.

42. **"Acknowledging the Sisters of Mercy":** was celebrated on the 22nd of September/Saturday followed by a Parish Dinner at the RSM after the mass [which was moved to 5:00 pm from the usual 6:00 pm]. The mass was preceded by a liturgy dedicating the Garden Plaque honouring the presence and ministry of the Sisters of Mercy in Inverell for 120 years.
43. **Diamond Jubilee of Tingha Church:** on the 30th of September/Sunday. Bishop Michael Kennedy was the Main Celebrant together with Frs. Isaac Koi-McDonald; Abmar Dumayag, ms; and myself. The mass was followed by a Community BBQ.
44. **Visit of the Saint Francis Xavier 1st Class Relic [forearm]:** The visit was very brief and un-scheduled. It was just passing through from Moree to Glen Innes. Upon my request, the entourage agreed to unload the relic and display it on the sanctuary for a few minutes.

45. Serra Monstrance [blessed by Pope Benedict XVI on Ash Wednesday 2012]: on the 9th of November 2012/Friday, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed using the said Monstrance. Main Intention of the Exposition was for Vocation to the Priesthood.
46. 2012 Sacramental Preparation Programme [Confirmation/13 May; 1st Reconciliation/13 August; 1st Eucharist/11 November]: This program was run through the auspices of Holy Trinity School, particularly by Jo Peel.
- June Saint is the Parish Coordinator for the state school children. The Preparation Sessions were conducted during regular Religious Education times at HTS for the Trinity children. The Candidates from the state schools were prepared on Wednesdays [4:00-5:00 pm] at the Parish MEETING Room. The state school children were prepared by: Cathy Lane; Joan Fleming; June Saint; Sharon Hollis; Leanne Bremner; and Carole McNeil.
47. Saint Patrick's Day: This year's weekend mass [focusing on Saint Patrick] was on the 16th of March 2012/Saturday. The readings and Prayers of the Faithful were in Irish; Organised by: Patsy Armstrong; Josephine Kelly; Ken Middleton; and Mike Ward.
- The Mass was followed by a concert organised by Mike Ward and hosted by Patsy Armstrong; the BBQ Meal was organised by Ken Middleton/Bob McGuire/John Henderson. Sausages were provided by the parish; parishioners were asked to bring salads/dessert to share. The proceeds of the sale of softdrinks were donated to the PNG Mission; prices donated by Kay & Jim Harmon and Peter & Di Marsh.
48. Year of Grace [Pentecost 2012-Pentecost 2013/18-19 May 2013]:
- a. the members of the Parish Team are: Sr. Coral Hedley; Sr. Judy Breen; Carmel McCosker; Ann Tubb; and myself.
 - b. Activities undertaken in relation to year of Grace were:
 - Lighting the Year of GRACE Candle in both Masses [Saturdays/6:00 pm and Sundays/9:00 am] while the song "The Face of Christ" was being played; ending with the congregational praying of the Diocesan Year of GRACE Prayer. This is repeated in the country churches [Tingha and Ashford].
 - The PANTOCRATOR Icon Visit [16 February-1 March 2013] was another highlight of the celebration: parish groups organised Prayer Sessions in the church; The Lenten Communal Reconciliation was held on the 26th of February; Holy Trinity School hosted the Icon which included a school-wide liturgy and classroom visits. To acquaint ourselves with Iconography in general and "The PANTOCRATOR" in particular, Carmel McCosker spoke to the congregation during the weekend masses on 23/24 February.
 - The focus of the Lenten Prayer Sessions were on the Year of GRACE; last year's Parish Reflection facilitated by Ann Finlayson was centred on the Year of GRACE.
 - ADVENT REFLECTION on 14 December 2012 by Sr. Helen Baguley at 10:00 am and 6:00 pm [identical sessions].
 - The Year of GRACE Banners were prominently displayed in the churches [including Ashford and Tingha]; informative Year of GRACE materials/fliers were inserted in our Parish Bulletin.
 - I asked Sr. Coral Hedley to deliver the REFLECTION in both masses on the weekend of 18/19 May 2013/Pentecost Sunday: to conclude the Year of GRACE; and to inaugurate the Year of FAITH Celebrations in Inverell.
49. Year of FAITH followed [inaugurated in our parish on Trinity Sunday/25-26 May 2013/to end on the weekend of Christ the King/23-24 November]:
- a. The members of the Parish Team are: Sr. Coral Hedley; Carmel McCosker; Ann Tubb; and myself.
 - b. There are two dummy doors on the Sanctuary [I BELIEVE and WE BELIEVE] representing the "Door of Faith" mentioned by Pope Benedict in his Encyclical "PORTA FIDEI".
- After the usual closing prayer of the Prayer of the Faithful, rostered parishioners come forward to light the Year of FAITH Candle; they bring with them a poster for the "I BELIEVE" Door. The items in the "Apostles Creed" are pre-prepared. They are posted on the "WE BELIEVE" Door.
- c. Sixteen [16] installments of items explaining the APOSTLES CREED are produced as one-page Parish Bulletin Inserts. The last one was published on the weekend of 7/8 September 2013.
 - d. Free copies of the COMPENDIUM of the Catechism of the Catholic Church are made available free [from the 3 church exits] for everyone.
 - e. Copies of the DVD and CD resource material [thanks to Bernie Graham]: "Deepening Our Faith" are likewise available for free distribution to parishioners and groups who wish to use it as reflection material in connection with the Year of FAITH.
 - f. Every weekend mass, an intercession related to the Year of FAITH are prayed by the priest at the Prayer of the Faithful.

g. Inserts are published every now and then to enhance our active participation in this world-wide activity of the Catholic Church.

h. During the Year of FAITH: we are called to perform specific tasks to gain PLENARY INDULGENCES [please refer to the Parish Bulletin insert on 4/5 May; 6th Sunday of Easter]. Copies of this same insert is available from the paper table.

i. Bishop Michael Kennedy published an article explaining the theology and practice of indulgences, a uniquely Catholic theology and practice. If you recall, there was an insert on this subject in the 11/12 May Parish Bulletin [Feast of the Ascension]; copies are available from the paper table in case you missed it.

50. "A Day of Prayer and Reflection for Men": was held on the 24th of November in conjunction with the Year of GRACE Celebrations in the parish. It was held at the Holy Trinity School; facilitated by Fr. Mark O'Brien; participated in by 24 men in the parish.

51. "Conversational English Classes": realising the difficulty faced by school-age kids from the Philippines, Rosie Long accepted the challenge to teach them "Conversational English" after the Sunday Mass. For a while, this was well-attended. However, when English Classes were taught at their respective schools, this class became redundant.

52. McLean Ministry: Coordinated by Pat Coleman, there are four [4] Teams who are ministering McLean Village:

Team 1:	Team 2:	Team 3:	Team 4:
Bob Kneip	Bev & Greg Leach	Brian Baldwin	Trish Keightley
Greg Fleming	Pat Coleman	Ross Tutt	Jan O'Neill
Pauline Croft	Nola McLeod	Viv Lennon	Neville Cook
Pam Johnstone	Mary Schofield	Peter Constable	Marie Chie
	Jennie Monie		Michael & Helen McCosker & Children

Masses are celebrated on Fridays at 11:00 am [no mass on 1st Fridays]; or Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion when I am away. After the mass, ministers go around to those who are bed-bound to distribute Holy Communion.

Together with Judy Harris, I visit them, when I can, on Tuesdays at 3:00 pm.

53. Special Collections:

a. Mandated by the Diocese:

-CCD Collection for Catechetics/9-10 January 2013 weekend	: \$ 275.00
-Project Compassion [in Lent]	: \$ 2,998.95
-Holy Places [on Good Friday]	: \$ 933.20
-Education of Clergy & Seminarians	: \$ 190.90
-Peter's Pence	: \$ 400.00
-Priests Retirement Foundation	: \$ 772.75
-Mission Sunday	: \$ 400.00

-NOTE: The Parish FINANCE Committee decided to set aside \$ 2,000.00 a year to cover Special Collections mandated by the Diocese. The usual 3rd Collection Basket is not passed around; three [3] Collection Baskets are positioned in the church exits. Those who wish to contribute drop their donation in these baskets. Whatever is collected on these occasions, the parish tops it up to \$ 400.00. This excludes Project Compassion in Lent and Mission Sunday [third Sunday in October].

b. Mandated by the Parish FINANCE Committee:

-Saint Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal [8-9 December 2012]
-Mercy Mission: Tree of Prayer [336.30]; Sale of Softdrinks throughout the year; other fund-raising activities [Quilt Raffle Draw on 1 December 2012].

-NOTE: initiated by Sr. Judy Breen, a special collection for the fire victims of Coonabarabran was made; sent through Sr. Madeline Breen, rsj: \$ 2,321.85.

54. Still in the "WISH LIST": Mass for the Unborn; Grief Team; and Funeral Greeters

-Parish Activities and Liturgical Celebrations- [September 2012 - August 2013]

-1/2 September 2012	: Parish Survey was conducted per decision of AGM 2011
-9 September 2012	: 2011-2012 AGM
-9 September 2012	: Child Protection Sunday

-16 September 2012 : Parish Picnic
 -22 September 2012 : Acknowledging the Sisters of Mercy: Mass; Unveiling & Blessing of the Plaque in the "Rose Garden" [all roses are donated by parishioners]; Parish Dinner after the mass at the RSM.
 -30 September 2012 : Diamond Jubilee: Tingha Church
 -9 November 2012 : Exposition & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament using the Serra Monstrance
 -3 November 2012 : Cemetery Mass
 -11 November 2012 : 1st Eucharist Mass
 -20 November 2012 : Visit of Saint Francis Xavier Relic
 -24 November 2012 : Day of Reflection & Prayer for Men [facilitated by: Fr. Mark O'Brien]
 -1 December 2012 : QUILT Raffle Draw [for Mercy Mission]
 -8 December 2012 : Installation of Altar Servers
 -14 December 2012 : ADVENT Reflection [facilitated by: Sr. Helen Baguley]
 -1/2 December 2012 : Sr. Coral speaks on: "Mercy Works"
 -8/9 December 2012 : Saint Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal
 -18 December 2012 : Parish Communal Reconciliation for ADVENT
 -26 January 2013 : Australia Day Mass
 -2 February 2013 : Feast of the Presentation [with Blessing of Candles]
 -3 February 2013 : Feast of Saint Blaise [with Blessing of Throats]
 -9/10 February 2013 : Catechists Sunday
 -13 February 2013 : Ash Wednesday [Mass at 12:00 Noon & 5:30 pm; Liturgy at HTS]
 -16/17 February 2013 : Ritual of Welcome for the Year of Grace Icon
 -26 February 2013 : Parish Communal Reconciliation for LENT
 -1 March 2013 : Ritual of Farewell for the Year of Grace Icon
 -3 March 2013 : start of: "Conversational English Sessions" for New-Arrival Kids
 -10 March 2013 : HTS Jubilee & CSO Mass
 -16 March 2013 : Saint Patrick Mass; Concert; and BBQ
 -28 March 2013 : Transfer of the Tabernacle to the centre of the Sanctuary
 [Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday]
 -7 April 2013 : Parish WELCOME Gathering for new parishioners
 -8 April 2013 : 1st Reconciliation
 -20/21 April 2013 : 30th Anniversary of the Blessing of the SHChurch [24 April]
 -25 April 2013 : ANZAC Day Mass
 -24 May 2013 : HTS: Blessing and Opening of the Refurbished Infants Classrooms
 : 2013 Debutantes Ball
 -26 May 2013 : CONFIRMATION
 -23 June 2013 : Fruit Cake Sunday
 -25 August 2013 : Refugee & Migrant Sunday
 -31 August 2013 : A Day of Prayer & Reflection for Men
 -31 Aug-1 Sept : Pulpit Exchange: Moree & Inverell
 [Fr. Paul McCabe celebrates masses in Inverell; JOE does the same in Moree]
 -8 September 2013 : 1st Eucharist

-in CONCLUSION-

I would like to acknowledge all parishioners who are involved in the different Parish Ministries [including those not mentioned in this report]; and the Parish Leaders who help me run the different facets of parish management and pastoral ministry.

Special thanks to Pat Coleman who helps me organise the music for funerals; also to Bev & Greg Leach who are always willing to get involved; and to those who come to our rescue when the Leaches are not available: Richard Ward; Michelle McLachlan; and Bobbie Wigg.

The church is made tidy and clean by the following: Mary & Ken Middleton [from 15 April 2010 to 3 April 2013]; Carol & Dudley McLennan [starting on the 4th of April. The grounds are kept neat and tidy and presentable by Keith McCosker; and by the Garden Teams [special mention: Snow Wratten; Ken Middleton; Greg Fleming; Terry Manuel; Bill Dempsey; Tony King; John Henderson].

When I went for my Annual Holiday [24 June - 26 July]: thanks to Bishop-Emeritus Luc Matthys who celebrated the weekend masses; and to Fr. John Carey who celebrated the funerals.

Thanks very much to the following who managed the parish while I was away: Sr. Coral Hedley for being the Pastoral Administrator of the parish; to Greg Leach for organising the Liturgies; to Nola Turner for running the office; to Jim Schliebs for managing the financial aspect of the operation; to Bob McGuire for closing and opening the church doors; and to the many faceless parishioners who played big and small tasks while I was away.

The existence of the Parish HISTORY Team necessitates the documentation of our parish activities. Special thanks to Terry O'Brien who takes photos; to Bernie and Colleen Graham for video-ing who are helping in the documentation of our parish activities. It must be mentioned here too that Bernie Graham is a big help in re-producing formation and information materials; and making them available for all.

Inverell is too big a parish for one person to run and to manage. We were able to attain our goals this year because parishioners are involved. We must continue encouraging the participation of parishioners in the life of the parish. It is an indispensable grace to ensure that we grow and become true instruments of GOD's presence in the world.

GOD BLESS and THANK YOU for your involvement in our many undertakings.