

# FOOTPRINTS

## LAVERTON PARISH NEWSLETTER

Autumn Edition 2019



**Welcome to our new quarterly newsletter.**

The name comes from our Parish theme for this year : **Celebrating our Footprints in the Sand: Past, Present and Future.**

With the introduction of this newsletter we aim to capture the footprints we have made over the last three months and look ahead to our footprints for the coming months.

Happy reading!

**Fr John**

### RCIA

The Christian Community of the Parish of Laverton in the Archdiocese of Melbourne welcomes into **full communion with the Roman Catholic Church:**

- Gary Choo
- Denny Mursali
- Bianca Valerie Pepping
- Patrick Cheuk Kin Siu
- Xiaoxing (Sharon) Wang
- Handy Widjaja
- Claire Wu
- Xiao (Cadie) Xiao

### Certificate of Baptism

- Emerson Chan
- Rico Denatra Lee
- Aaron Chi Yau Siu
- Chi Huen Barron Siu
- Coco Wang Wang
- Ivan Noah Widjaja

We congratulate and welcome all our new members to the Laverton Parish Community.



The Laverton Catholic Parish acknowledge the Kurung-Jang-Ballok Aboriginal people of the Woiwurrung clan as the Original Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



**St Vincent de Paul Society –  
Laverton/Altona Meadows Conference**

### Who We Are:

We are part of the St Vincent de Paul Society of Victoria, a lay Catholic Charity that has been helping our local community over many years. Our support is delivered by our dedicated members who volunteer their time to support people in need.

Our Conference works in the geographical area that takes in Laverton, Altona Meadows and Point Cook. **Our mission** is to give those families who are doing it tough a 'hand up' during their difficult times. Our team is made up of local volunteers who understand the needs of our community and give of their time in helping them find long-term solutions and provide short-term immediate assistance.

We meet with people in their own homes and provide compassionate face-to-face support.

The Laverton Parish community and our school communities have always been very generous in their support of our mission for which we and those we support are sincerely grateful.

*I say to you, whatever you did for one of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me.*

*Matthew 25:37*

New volunteers are always welcome, if you have any desire to help with this important work and have a couple of hours that you can allocate weekly, please leave your contact details with the Parish Office 9369 6877.

**Angie Boyd**

**St Vincent de Paul Society President  
Laverton, Altona Meadows & Point Cook**

## APPRECIATION OF THE MONTH

*Thank You*

### Appreciation & Thank you!

We say thank you to Fr John and Fr Tho & staff, the various community groups and volunteers who generously give of their time and talents each week – the Parish could not function without you.

**This month we say a special Thank You to all the choirs & musicians in our Parish.**

### Lenten Program Review 2019

This was a very enriching experience for the people who attended the program. All agreed that in reviewing the Gospel readings during Lent enriched their thoughts and insights into the Gospel message, and a greater understanding of God's mercy and kindness.

While the attendance was small it is hoped that more parishioners participate in the program in 2020.

*Eileen April 2019*



### History of Laverton Parish

The Parish of Laverton is one of the fastest growing Parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, incorporating the communities of St Martin de Porres, Queen of Peace, Lumen Christi, Stella Maris & St Mary of the Cross.

Prior to 1961, most of the local Catholic Community associated itself with Parishes in Werribee or Altona; some chose to attend Mass at the RAAF Chapel in Laverton.

From 1961 to 1968, this area was part of St. Mary's Parish, Altona. Mass was celebrated in what had previously been Air Force huts located between Donald and Crown Streets, Laverton.

The first school also operated from this site. It had an enrolment of about 50 pupils up to grade 3 but closed due to a shortage of teachers.

In 1969, the St Martin de Porres War Memorial Church Hall was Blessed and opened by Archbishop Knox.



**On Sunday 28th April 2019 our Parish Community gathered during the 10am Mass to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Church Hall. Archbishop Emeritus Denis Hart was the main Celebrant.**



Archbishop Emeritus Denis Hart cuts the cake with parishioners present in 1969.



## Celebrating Our School Communities

Over the next six issues of *Footprints* we will share the history of each of our schools communities.

As **St Martin de Porres Laverton, is the oldest of our current schools, we begin with their history.**

St Martin de Porres School, opened in 1972, with approximately 160 students, by the Presentation Sisters, who withdrew from the school in 1978.

The original building on the site in Bellin Street housed the middle and upper grades, while two grades were temporarily accommodated in the church.

The second stage was completed in 1980 and housed the junior grades, the library and a computer laboratory. A relocatable classroom was added to the site.

A separate building housing the Administration Centre became operational in 1980. In 1993, the school was refurbished adding two new classrooms, teacher resource areas, larger information technology facilities as well as additions and improvements to the administration block.

Over the past twelve months, the school has undergone a major rebuilding program with the old learning space buildings being converted into twelve classrooms, kitchens, and library and presentation areas.

This was made possible by a \$2.6 million Commonwealth Grant. This has transformed our 1970's tired school into modern flexible open learning space.

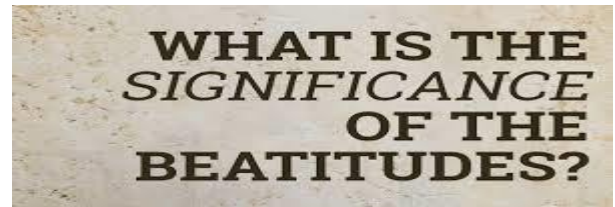
### List of Principals at St Martin de Porres

#### Previous Principals

Ann Smales,  
Sister Judith Bellisini PBVM,  
Richard Garner,                      Christina Jarzenko,  
Bernie McHugh,                      Kevin Watt,  
Gerry Palmer,                          Evonne Cruikshank,  
Christopher Walsh,

**Current Principal:** Dan Ryan

## Adult Faith Education



Fr John will be leading an Adult Faith Education Program in the coming months.

Six week reflection on **The Beatitudes** on the following Thursday evenings **May 30th, June 6th, 20th, 27th, July 4th and 11th.**

Each session will begin at 7.30pm finishing at 8.30pm with a cuppa.

Why not take some time to nurture your faith. All sessions will be held in the Parish House at Altona Meadows.

For reflection on The Beatitudes please place your name on the clipboards in the foyer.



Fr John would like to form a **Parish Men's Group**. The first gathering of this group will be on Friday 31st May at 7.30pm - 9pm in the Parish House. All men of the Parish are invited. Let us gather, share some pizza, a drink and conversation.

## Future Groups

The Parish Team have spoken about the formation of a Parish Play Group and a monthly gathering of the mothers who have had their children baptized. Stay tuned for further information.

**If you would like to advertise in this space please contact the Parish Office on 9369 6877.**

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# **YOUTH GROUP**

## **25<sup>th</sup> May (Saturday)**

### **Outdoor Activity:**

The Youth Group will gather at 28 Bowling Avenue, Point Cook. We will start at 7:30pm and play two games. Please bring \$20pp. Our Parish will provide snacks and drinks.

For more information, please email Fr Tho on [tho.tran@cam.org.au](mailto:tho.tran@cam.org.au) by **May 20<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Future Events**

- **June: Indoor activities**
  - **July: Indoor activities**
  - **August: Basketball Competition with another Youth Group**
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