

Dear Parish Friends,

Our worship is filled with scripture, song, and story about God's generosity to us and our response of thanksgiving. In our weekly celebration of Holy Eucharist, we offer our thanks and praise in the opening words of the eucharistic prayer. On various occasions we renew our baptismal vows and affirm our commitment to participate in God's mission of bringing about justice, healing, reconciliation and peace. We believe that we are called as individuals, families, congregations, and as a denomination to follow in the way of Jesus who proclaimed the nearness of God's kingdom.

We strive to show our gratitude for all that God has given, by caring for one another, welcoming the stranger and supporting those in need. Over the coming weeks, we will share stories about why we give, how our generosity of time, talent and treasure makes a difference in our parish and wider community, and how through our ministry we serve God's mission.

Sun May 15 - Announcement of upcoming *Giving Our Thanks and Praise* programme; Parishioner story: "Why I give"

Sun May 29 - Week 1 - Parish households will have received a package containing an invitation letter and other materials to consider their giving; Parishioner story: "What difference does...[a parish ministry/activity] make to me"?

Sun June 5 - Week 2 - Parishioner story: How does a particular aspect of...[worship, pastoral care, learning, outreach] impact me/parish/wider community?; giving responses to be picked up (or mailed back) next week

Sun June 12 - Week 3 - Parishioner story: How does a particular aspect of...[worship, pastoral care, learning, outreach] impact me/parish/wider community?; thanksgiving for people's generosity

We invite your participation in *Giving our thanks and praise* to further equip our parish in living out its purpose:

Celebrating ~ Sharing ~ Nurturing

Faith ~ Hope ~ Community

With thanksgiving for your presence and gifts,

Leadership Team: *Jim D, Di P, Jennifer S, Wendy W*