

Outputs from Yass and Murrumbateman Pastoral Planning Workshops - August 2008

Yass Strengths	Murrumbateman Strengths	Yass Weaknesses	Murrumbateman Weaknesses	Yass Vision	Murrumbateman Vision
A good spirit, welcoming parish, supportive laity, pastoral care	Great sense of community Welcoming community Pastoral Care within the community. High participation rate. Enthusiasm. Ownership of activities. Acceptance/tolerance/involvement of children.	Perception of lack of "ownership" Lack of following/incentive for 13-35 year age group Lack of inclusion of non-practicing partners/spouses		Antioch, youth group, ecumenical youth activities, timing of Youth Mass for each Saturday evening Prayer chain for special intentions Create a strong feeling, of Community, belonging, Faith and acknowledgement of Faith Looking outwards to others	Tap into the broader Catholic presence in Murrumbateman Out-reach to non-practicing members New families, 15-30 year age group Spirituality in the Pub
People are involved at Mass	Diverse age groups who all participate At Mass.	Very few young families at Church Lack of 20-40 year age group Not enough involvement of young people	Virtual non-involvement of 13-20, 20-30, 15-35 age groups. Lack of youth ministry. Low retention rate of teenagers.	Change some practices during Mass, hold hand during the Our Father, sing the Peace be with You More numbers at Church	Community open to the Holy Spirit and the new Pentecost. Regular Youth Mass
Parish is full of history		Upkeep of historic buildings	No Catholic facility to celebrate Mass or to have the Blessed Sacrament. No place to readily come during the week for prayer. Small shared building.	Convert part of the old convent as a memorial to the Sisters of Mercy Sustainable income for the Parish Carbon neutral church, more involvement in nurturing the grounds Create methods of generating finance, other than "planned giving", future of old buildings	Permanent place of worship with a Eucharistic presence.
Morning tea Sunday	Wow morning teas.			Social events within parishioners' homes, family group activities	Connecting with Yass
Good Liturgy program		Numbers at Mass, requires focus, relevant, in particular in the world, importance of "Peace be with you"		Antioch, youth group, ecumenical youth activities, timing of Youth Mass for each Saturday evening	Programs, community/faith building, ie, marriages, youth, faith formation. Regular Adoration/Reconciliation. Murrumbateman based RCIA
Beautifully presented Church (flowers, banners, cleanliness)				Use of the gallery	
WYD experience (hosts, the experience, relationships, an openness), an insight of what could be		In a rut Too much emphasis on processes rather than the celebration		Continue the spirit of WYD, twinning with those who joined us during WYD	Community awareness through advertising the Catholic presence.

Communication with other Churches (openness, ecumenical)	Ecumenical association with the Uniting Church and the Anglican Church communities.		Lack of communication	Perception of "them and us" in relation to the Yass community.		Parish members celebrating Mass at the different centres, Wee Jasper, Murrumbateman, Yass generating stronger links Opportunity to share frank and open scriptures Improvement in communications, local issues in the Bulletin	Maintain and build on the Ecumenical relationships already established	
Two Masses on a weekend				Inconsistent approach to Sunday times, in particular, no service on the 5 th Sunday.			Regularity of Masses	
Weekday Masses				Lack of broader Church services.			A week-day Mass.	
Strong contingent of Extraordinary Ministers and Acolytes	Lay people committed to Celebration of the Word.							
	Broad skills base, which are utilized.		Not using the talents within the community Too critical			Restructure the Parish laity groups		
	Established "sisterhood".		Lack of parents/mothers groups			Regular mums and bubs mass and social activities Men's breakfast, singles lunches, couples suppers		
	Strong musician base.		Music			Regular music practice for Mass, improvement of music		
	Strong contribution to Yass Financially Catechists Musicians Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Acolyte Strong link to Yass via Mt Carmel and therefore school families.		Catechists presentations, only one hour per school term					
			Low St Vincent de Paul membership			Greater membership in St Vincent de Paul	Greater social responsibility, ie, St Vincent de Paul	
Can change together								
New Parish Priest is seeking change								