

Parish Pastoral Council 12 February, 2020
Report on Ecumenism

The most recent meeting of the Band of Brothers' Men's Breakfast, organised by the Vine Church which I was able to attend, occurred on Saturday 7 November last at Zac's Place in Pritchett Street, Yass, where the speaker was Keith Todd, whom I understand to be developing a congregation at Murrumbateman. The Vine Church has since organised support for the Emergency Services in the wake of the bushfire crisis.

At the most recent meeting of the Yass Ministers which I was able to attend, on 28 November last, I drew attention to the Uluru Statement, which I had previously circulated to the members of the group on 26 September last year.

Dr Carmel Bendon's talk on "Julian of Norwich, Medieval Mystic for Today", in the series Learning of Other Faiths, was very well attended and very well received. It was very pleasing to see some members of the Circle of Sisters of St Clement's Church at the talk.

I have held over the theme of the role of women in the church till the first half of this year and will return to the idea of pursuing it in the foundation of major works of charity, including St Vincent de Paul, with reference to St Louise de Marillac and Blessed Rosalie Rendu, as well as Anglicare and other denominational groups.

I have assisted Paul Trezise in contacting the members of the Yass Ministers with the details of the Taizé services which he is organising in Murrumbateman and we remain hopeful of developing the present congregation at the services in the Uniting Church there.

I was particularly pleased to see that an ecumenical service was held in Wagga Wagga recently in support of the immigrant workers in the fruit industry in Batlow and Tumut in the wake of the bushfire crisis. Described as a Multi-Faith Prayer Service, it was co-ordinated by the Muslim Association Riverina Wagga Wagga and attended by the leaders of the Christian churches in Wagga.

Bryan Coleborne
12 February, 2020