

ST AUGUSTINE'S PARISH YASS RENEWAL PROCESS WEEK 1: 28/2 & 1/3 2026

180+ RESPONSES – THANK YOU

Where is the Holy Spirit Active in our Community? *What do we value about our Parish community?*

- I love the parish I go to because they always welcome me
- The Holy Spirit is in our daily lives – the holy Spirit travels within all our areas i.e. land, water, air, fire and winds and will always. Aunt Pam
- They always have the has jobs for me to do and the supper
- The children's liturgy Children's ministry Children's liturgy Children's liturgy
- The Holy Spirit's in our hearts
- I love my parish because it is a safe welcoming place to come when you need
- Saturday morning rosary, mass, adoration, morning prayer and reconciliation is a beautiful combination. I feel the Holy Spirit is most active whenever the sacraments, sacred prayer and liturgies are on offer.
- I also see the Holy Spirit active in our different parish groups and in areas of service to the parish and the greater community, especially by those who's efforts of faith and works are often unseen.
- Last but not least, I have observed the Holy Spirit active in our parish community and in local families over many years. We've seen our children grow in faith with their catholic friends, and now they are going on to fill important roles in our community.
- Sometimes it has amazing people and always has jobs ready to go for the kids and some adults
- I have to say the supper is amazing and the kids liturgy is amazing
- SVDP. Vinnies. I value the St. Vincent de Paul Society - you work for all people in our town. Saint Vincent de Paul Society Vinnies Vinnies (6+ responses)
- Sacrament prep programme
- The Holy Spirit loves our voices
- In my heart I am grateful to the Holy Spirit for my mum, family, friends, food, class, water, Jesus, pets
- The mosaic of the Parish – increasing diversity culturally and in our thoughts and approaches
- My parish house is great and big
- I'm grateful for my cousin named Jacob
- Welcoming to us as a young family - was a lovely environment for our kids to grow up in faith -thankful for local Murrumbateman Mass
- In the past, youth group
- Opportunities for faith formation (eg run by Perry Healy)
- The Holy Spirit is in our hearts - alive in the Gospel
- I like doing the jobs collections for the poor people.
- Everyone can come... Don't need to make a booking.
- Children's liturgy. Children's Liturgy. Children's liturgy. Children's liturgy.
- The kindness of the parishioners
- Holy Spirit is in the Catholic schools. Holy Spirit is at the church.
- Always feeling welcome. Always being there when needed.
- It often happens that I come to church feeling worried/anxious and then the sermon helps me to the point that I leave feeling calm.
- When everyone is together in church listening to stories of God and Jesus and also the gospel.
- Very active PPC and PFC. People willing to give their time and energy to those committees.
- The setting of the church in the countryside: a beacon of light among ? light the full church
- Seeing a full church is very heartening.
- Appreciative of the friendship of all around me.
- Long-term friendships,
- Music ministry. The music is outstanding Great music/singing at Murrumbateman.
- People who volunteer in the Murrumbateman Catholic community – the best group I have ever encountered.
- The parishioners are very welcoming Murrumbateman Catholic Community – accepting, nonjudgemental, open.

- How welcoming people are in the community and being part of an actual community here
- The above has been the heart of the most community since its establishment 40 years ago.
- I value the Muzz community vibe there is a different atmosphere here to Yass
- We value the way we are welcomed not judged but embraced.
- We value that our children who are the future of the church are made to feel part of the Murrumbateman arm of the Parish. It makes them want to come to mass.
- Both sides of the Parish welcome newcomers.
- The dedication and commitment of the people.
- The support shown when people are in need.
- Different opportunities for people to lead and serve those in our community.
- We are growing and our gatherings (Lenten group)s are welcoming.
- The people and the community and all the friends that you make in the new people that you meet.
- The people and the community and dedication they have towards the church.
- At mass when we are brought together around God's table and when we talk and connect with each other after mass.
- Very new parishioners - have been made to feel very welcomed.
- People in the street.
- To have a church hall,
- Father Peter
- People who come to mass and we are part of our community.
- I feel the Holy Spirit in our community when I get asked to contribute in mass such as the bells
- With our beautiful children at mass.
- The warm welcome my family and I got when we recently moved into the area. My children were encouraged to participate. They feel important. I feel at ease coming to mass like I am not new.
- Friendly, welcoming, community, Murrumbateman.
- The welcoming nature of our parish community.
- Being able to attend weekly mass in Bateman.
- All the opportunities contribute to the mass and Parish activities.
- The wonderful people who make up our Parish and all the new people who are joining the Parish.
- The opportunity the Parish creates to know God and Jesus.
- The togetherness and kind friendship - very community minded
- Community - the ability to build relationships across generations and social status
- Magical protection. Everyone is welcome.
- It feels peaceful.
- The silent workers in the Parish e.g. acolytes, all workers, collectors, moving pews etc.
- RCIA group – make of faith feeding for adults.
- I think the Holy Spirit is the core of our faith and I think we should create more interest through the RCIA to encourage more to learn about our faith.
- The RCIA process showed us the welcoming nature of the church. It should be advertised widely to invite others in to continue the learning of existing parishioners.
- History of our Parish. We have a priest. We have great facilities – Church – Chapel. Volunteers.
- Something for youth every second week.
- Somewhere to worship every day
- Friends Sense of community.
- Lots of unsung people behind the scenes quietly doing their part
- I like the security of having a spiritual place nearby.
- I like the rhythm of the church calendar during the year.
- I value that as a community we support each group EG prison ministry, Gwen Warmington Lodge, Morning Tea.
- I value the food at the community – brings us together
- The opportunities for adoration on liturgy of the hours on Saturdays. The schedule of the sacrament of reconciliation on the weekly basis.

- The Gift of our historic church buildings
- Relationships
- Perry Healey educational courses
- Murrumbateman musicians
- Father My
- Well-Read mum group
- Parish Council leaders
- Memories of significant events in this church
- Community spirit which is the Parish.
- Friendship – looking after each other – trying to welcome everyone especially new parishioners
- Very welcoming as a community.
- The congregation family – the support they show each other
- I value how welcoming the church has been to my family.
- Friendliness. Welcoming and a beautiful emphasis on hospitality.
- Peaceful place Kindness
- Generous Sharing above all in the Eucharist
- The church is itself a calm meditative place.
- I like the sharing in songs we know and praying the liturgy
- The support shown for the congregation in the school. This shows a great connection with the Holy Spirit and value for the community and growth.
- Peace. Helping one another achieve their goals.
- Helping members in our community who are ageing through care and service.
- I like the availability of masses, Sunday, weekdays etc. And district masses.
- I love the welcoming people in the Parish and I love and enjoy how kind they all are.
- Weekday masses, Saturday morning mass, Exposition and Reconciliation
- Connection between the school Mount Carmel and the Parish
- In the friendliness of the community towards each other and to visitors. In the person of the parish priest. In the music ministry. In the many roles of Parish members play in the running of the church – from a visitor to your lovely Parish.
- The way in which our priest and acolytes reverently bring the crucified Christ to dwell with us in the liturgy.
- The strong sense of community that we have in our parish of Yass, Murrumbateman and Gunning
- The desire of people within our community have to be in relationship with one another
- The strong connection with our Catholic school.
- The formation and learning opportunities through the recent short courses offered in our Parish.
- Relationships established for us and for our children that encourage us to hold firm to the faith in the midst of our culture.
- Parish is welcoming to newcomers. Wonderful school. Willing and open to exploring of new ideas/approaches such as this exercise.
- Community spirit. Friendship – getting to know others in same commitments of faith prayer and grow a value the inclusiveness of the Parish community through morning tea and children's liturgy.
- I believe that the Holy Spirit is within everyone just by attending church and participating in this.
- I value the community of believers praying together
- I value the singing of our love of God.
- I value the words of the gospel in the sermon.
- Reverence for the Eucharist Availability of the sacraments
- Devotion to Saint Joseph
- To feel close to one another, things to get through the Parish and the opportunities that brings for my spiritual journey.
- Be able to understand one another and understand God's love to bring me closer to God
- Grateful that we have weekday and Sunday mass at all so many parishes do not
- Grateful for our school which the Parish needs to guard with its life after what happened to the secondary school.
- Saturday adoration, rosary, mass and confession.
- The people (regulars) during this mass and weekday mass sharing our love of Christ.

- Weekday Mass
- I value the fact that we are able to attend mass and have a priest.
- Value Father Peter's leadership.
- The people who give up their time
- Special people to take communion to the sick
- Our music ministry
- Father Peter
- Sense of community. Accepting Community
- Very blessed to have the wonderful Parish Priest Fr Peter.
- I value that as we still have a priest to lead spiritually and who welcomes all
- Great parish priest – leadership words of wisdom and inspiration.
- The Spirit I feel is active in our parish in the leadership of our priest.
- In the way many parishioners perform duties in our Parish life which enable us to function as a living community.
- Lord we place our trust in you – I feel love here.
- We have mass five days a week
- Having a priest to minister us, having people who help him
- Having a special place to talk to God
- Yass has a resident priest – a good priest
- Mass
- Our great parish priest
- As a new parishioner it was quite overwhelming how welcoming everyone had been. The sense of community is not something I felt at my previous parish.
- When people take time to greet each other by name, to offer and show that they're aware of the context that individual people are in.
- Acknowledging people in the street that you know from church it's a sense of belonging to community.
- Welcoming.
- Very blessed to have a wonderful parish priest that we have. Very approachable and welcoming. That's a blessing.
- I'm conscious that we've got a greater variety of people in the body of the mass attending church these days. There's a lot more different backgrounds that are embracing their faith and feel comfortable attending with one another. A multicultural congregation.
- I'm glad that we've got the children's liturgies. And the morning teas!
- Gunning parish through their welcome and hospitality
- Taking communion to the sick and aged
- Mass in aged care facilities
- In the teachers who are active witnesses of faith in school, at mass and in the community, in the kids and families who are coming forward to be baptised and receive the sacraments. In good music during liturgy. The fellowship after mass during a cuppa and the people who know each other by name.
- In the growing diversity of our community; increasing numbers of families and children; children's liturgy; morning tea and welcome
- In the Christian organisations that work within the broader community
- In bringing people together to share our faith, even if it is only once a week

SOME FUTURE THOUGHTS – RECEIVED THIS TIME BUT WILL BE ADDED TO QUESTION 2 RESPONSES

- Make St Augustine's a welcoming place for the whole community – ok?
- Dear All – if the Aboriginal community/Koori/Indig/don't come to St Augustine's then go to the community i.e. all in the area
- Consider holding Latin Mass from time to time – the Church's enduring connection to the past is one of its greatest strengths
- Volunteers are needed - To see younger people join in that ministry
- To see more younger people come to Mass and to realise what it's about