



Revelations

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

January - June 2026

Cover:
Corpus Christi
Sunday

“The Eucharist is
the greatest gift
Jesus gave to His
Church”

-Fr Novie

Bi-annual edition

2026

Formation, Outreach & Ministry

BY COLLEEN HAMPSON

St Mary's Primary School continues to nurture and strengthen the faith journey of our learners through meaningful connections with our parish community.

A significant focus has been supporting our Year 4 learners as they prepare for and celebrate the Sacraments. Through classroom learning, prayer, reflection and family engagement, students have been encouraged to deepen their understanding of God's presence in their lives and the importance of the sacramental journey within our Catholic faith.

Another highlight was walking alongside members of our parish community in the Big Water Walk. This shared experience strengthened our sense of solidarity and raised awareness of the challenges faced by those without reliable access to clean water. Through this act of witness and service, learners gained a deeper understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and the call to care for those most in need.

Our school community has also been actively involved in the Parish G'day Weekend Masses. These celebrations, hosted by our school community, have provided valuable opportunities for families, parishioners, staff and students to gather in faith, build relationships and strengthen the bonds between school and parish.

We were also excited to introduce a new initiative — G'day Weekday Masses at St Mary's School. These gatherings extend opportunities for parish and school communities to come together, fostering faith, friendship and a stronger sense of belonging. We look forward to seeing this initiative continue to grow and enrich our community connections.

To further strengthen communication and connection, St Mary's provides weekly inserts in the parish bulletin. These regular updates share school news, celebrations and upcoming events, helping parishioners remain informed and connected to the life of the school while fostering a strong sense of partnership between parish and school communities.

On the weekend of Pentecost, the St Mary's Choir brought great joy and spirit to the parish through their uplifting ministry of song. Their enthusiastic participation reflected the gifts of the Holy Spirit celebrated at Pentecost and added a vibrant dimension to the liturgy. The choir's contribution was warmly appreciated by the congregation and showcased the wonderful talents and commitment of our learners.

We thank Father Novie, staff, families and parishioners for their ongoing support and partnership as we continue to work together in nurturing the faith and wellbeing of the young people of St Mary's Primary School.



Serving with Purpose: Altar Servers Training

Our altar servers gathered for a formation and practice session earlier this year, reflecting on their role as servants of God and preparing for the Holy Week liturgies. We are grateful for these young parishioners who continue to grow in faith, reverence, and joyful service to the Church.



"Serving at St Mary's Parish EchUCA has been a profound blessing in my life. I first became an altar server as a young student in Grade 4, never realising that a simple invitation to serve at Mass would become a lifelong journey of faith. Through the years, serving at the altar brought me closer to Christ, formed lasting friendships, and taught me the beauty of prayer and service. After moving to Australia and spending time away from ministry, I was unexpectedly given the opportunity to serve again at St Mary's—just after praying for a way to thank God for the many blessings He had given me and my family. Every time I serve, I experience a deep sense of peace, purpose, and joy. It is a reminder that even one hour spent in God's presence can transform a life forever."

-Michael de Castro

Ladies' Breakfast

Last Saturday, 28th of February, our parish hosted the annual Ladies' Breakfast. This year was truly special, with nearly 100 ladies gathering to share fellowship, laughter, and inspiration. It was a beautiful opportunity to celebrate the dedication and work of the Brigidine Sisters in our community.



Project Compassion & Social Justice

BY FR NOVIE LIM

The Social Justice Ministry has now been divided into three important areas of focus:

- Mission and Project Compassion – led by Jenny Morris
- Care for Creation – led by Gayle and Richard Zakrzewski
- Indigenous Ministry – led by Claire Hogan

Through Mission & Project Compassion, Care for Creation and Indigenous Ministry, our parish continues to put faith into action. Highlights included the Big Water Walk, Laudato Si' Week and National Reconciliation Week, encouraging awareness, reflection and meaningful action for justice, creation and reconciliation.



Easter is such a beautiful experience. Betrayed, excruciating passion, died, rose to absolute glory for us all. I loved all our ceremonies, Holy Thursday is so special to me, I feel blessed to be a part of this Liturgy with our parishioners.

-Carol Purdon

I really enjoyed the Easter Saturday Vigil with the start of Mass beginning out the front with the fire. There is something sacred with blessing the Paschal Candle and entering the church under candlelight.

- Kristy Serpell

A heartfelt thank you to the members of the Liturgy Committee — Mary Atkins, Noela Boyer, Brendan Shingles, Rose Quinn, and Barbara Pavone — for your dedication and hard work in preparing and coordinating the Holy Week celebrations. Your efforts helped make these sacred liturgies both prayerful and successful, enriching the faith experience of our parish community.

Hi,
my name is
AUGGIE

We congratulate

BISHOP RENÉ RAMIREZ RCJ,
who Pope Leo XIV has appointed
the Ninth Bishop of Sandhurst.

Welcome Bishop René back to our Diocese.
 Ordained a priest since June 1998.
 He will succeed Shane Mackinlay, Archbishop of Brisbane.
 We give thanks and pray for his ministry!

BY HANNAH JUROLAN

“

It truly is in the shelter of each other that we find life. Over more than 22 years, each of you has sheltered me, supported me and enriched my life in ways you may never fully know.

Sr. Cecilia
19 April 2026

On 19 April, we bid farewell to Sr Cecilia as she relocated to Melbourne. We thank her for her many years of faithful service, kindness and dedication to our parish and the wider Echuca community. Following Mass, parishioners gathered for a cuppa to express their gratitude and wish her every blessing for this new chapter.



Confirmation & First Communion Masses

BY PAUL TAPE

On 2 May, eight young parishioners received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion. It was a joyful and faith-filled celebration shared by the children, their families and our parish community.

On 3 May, we celebrated another Confirmation and First Communion Mass, with five young parishioners receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Mass was celebrated by Very Rev Brian Boyle, Diocesan Administrator, who reminded us that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. We thank the families and parish community for their support as these young people continue their journey of faith.



G'DAY WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS

A huge thank you to Angela Jefferson, G'Day Weekend Coordinator – Hospitality, and the Team, Nina Sale, Barbara Green, Annie Taylor and Josie Drakatos for their dedication and hard work in helping make each G'Day Weekend a welcoming and successful gathering for our parish community. Held on the third weekend of every month, G'Day Weekend continues to provide a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, friendship and connection. We also extend our sincere gratitude to our generous sponsors, volunteers and parishioners who faithfully support this ministry, especially those who bring a plate to share. Your generosity and community spirit help make G'Day Weekend a cherished part of parish life. Thank you to our G'Day Sponsors: Sacramental Team, Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Committee, Combined Family Groups, Sri Lankan Community and Mary's Makers.



Community Life & Young Adults

ANZAC & FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

During the homily, we reflected on sacrifice on ANZAC Day, remembering those who gave their lives so that others may live in peace.

"Lest we forget" is not only a call to remember, but a call to live differently.

This spirit of sacrifice is also seen in Mary's faithful "yes" and in those who quietly serve others each day. If we want these sacrifices to truly matter, we must begin now through kindness, respect and understanding. Peace begins in us.



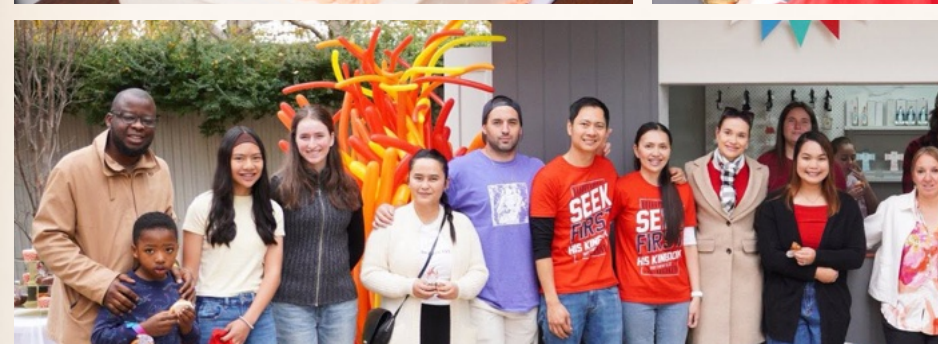
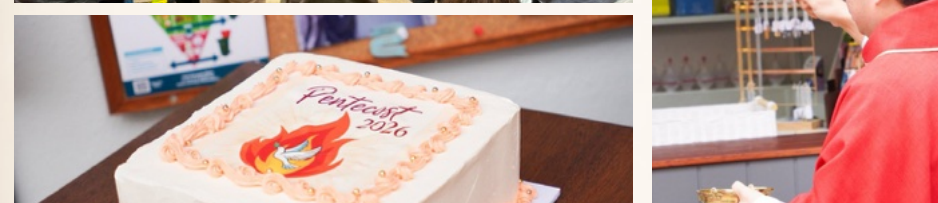
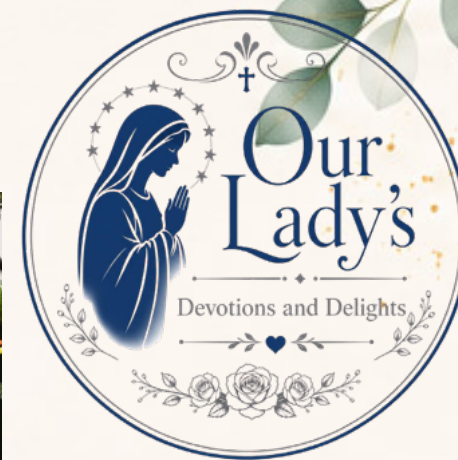
GRIEF, LOSS & VISITING THE SICK

On 14 May, our parish community gathered for a meaningful Grief, Loss and Visiting the Sick session. We thank Louise and Kath for sharing their wisdom and experience, helping us better support those who are sick, grieving or feeling alone. We also thank our Bereavement Team for organising this enriching and faith-filled gathering.



Pentecost Sunday & Blessing of

Our Lady's Devotions and Delights



Last Pentecost Sunday, we joyfully celebrated the blessing of "Our Lady's Devotions & Delights," a humble parish piety store dedicated to nurturing faith and devotion to Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother."

-Abilain Liwanag

2026 Santacruzán



Santacruzán is a cherished Filipino religious and cultural tradition that commemorates the finding of the Holy Cross by St Helena (Reina Elena). More than a procession of queens, it is a celebration of faith, devotion, heritage, and community, bringing generations together in prayer and thanksgiving.



UPCOMING SCHEDULE

18 July
Men's Ministry (G'day Weekend)

19 July
Music Ministry (G'day Weekend)

15 August
Young Adults (G'day Weekend)

16 August
Mini Market (G'day Weekend)

18 August
Parish Strategic Plan Launch

19 September
Couples for Christ (G'day Weekend)

20 September
Social Committee (G'day Weekend)

11 October
Combined Family Groups Luncheon

17 October
Group of friends (G'day Weekend)

18 October
Liturgy & Aged Care Liturgy Teams (G'day Weekend)

06 November
Memorial Liturgy

21 November
Christ the King (Multicultural Mass)

22 November
Christ the King (Multicultural Mass)

06 December
Parish Christmas Party and AGM



Volunteer Spotlight

BY CINDY NARVASA



Bunny Oliver

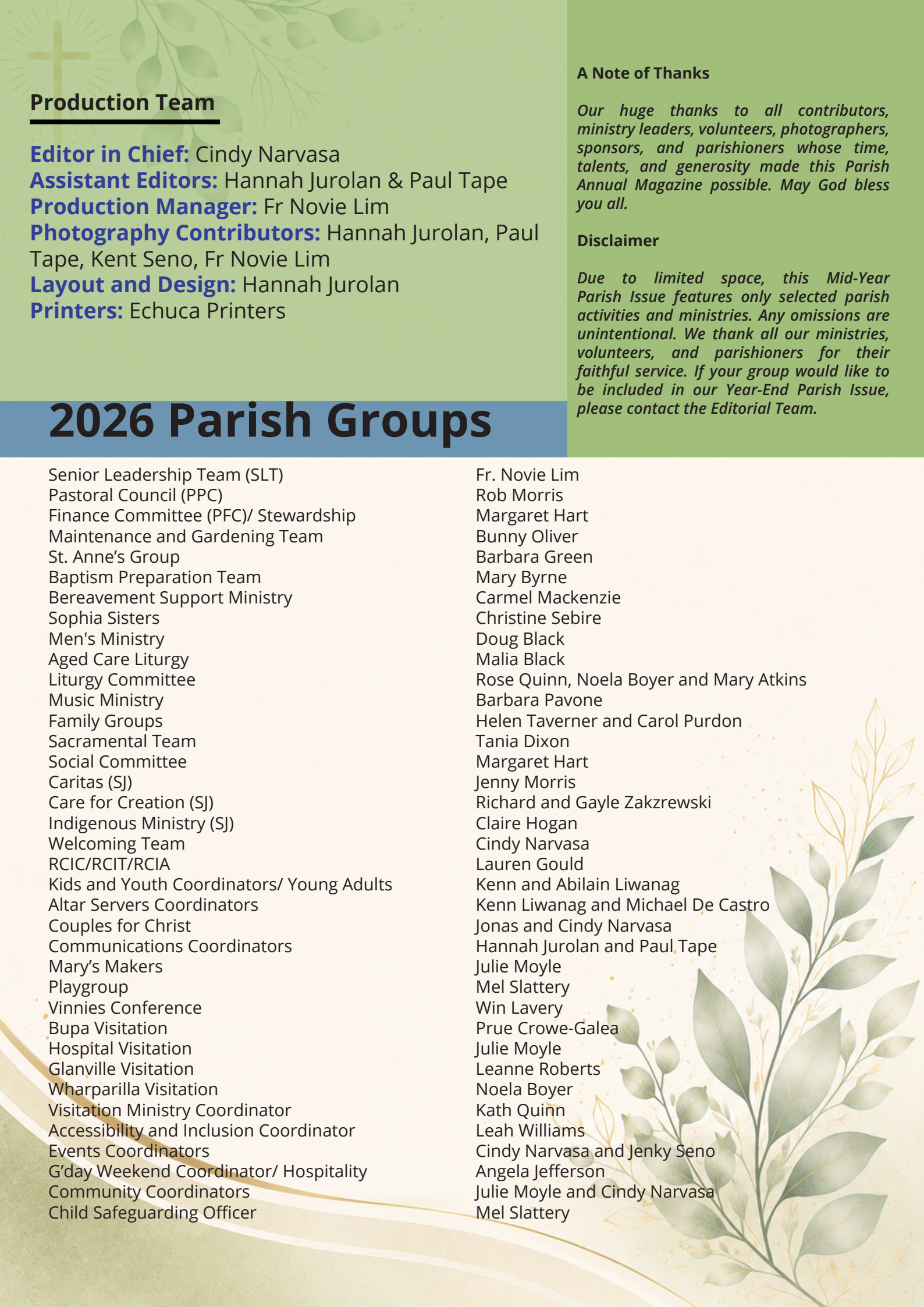
Bunny is our go-to maintenance and gardening support around the parish. From fixing broken light bulbs to helping set up for events, he quietly takes care of just about anything that needs doing. Big or small, Bunny never says no to a job, and his willingness to help behind the scenes keeps so much of parish life running smooth.

Hannah Jurolan

Ever wondered who's behind those beautiful photos on our social media or the eye-catching posters as you walk into church? Meet Hannah. She is our Communications Coordinator and is also part of the Events Team. She helps manage our parish social media and brings a creative touch to our communications, including posters and visual announcements.

With a real gift for capturing meaningful moments, she helps tell the story of our parish through photos, posts, and creative designs.





Production Team

Editor in Chief: Cindy Narvasa

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A Note of Thanks

Our huge thanks to all contributors, ministry leaders, volunteers, photographers, sponsors, and parishioners whose time, talents, and generosity made this Parish Annual Magazine possible. May God bless you all.

Disclaimer

Due to limited space, this Mid-Year Parish Issue features only selected parish activities and ministries. Any omissions are unintentional. We thank all our ministries, volunteers, and parishioners for their faithful service. If your group would like to be included in our Year-End Parish Issue, please contact the Editorial Team.

2026 Parish Groups

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)
Pastoral Council (PPC)
Finance Committee (PFC)/ Stewardship
Maintenance and Gardening Team
St. Anne's Group
Baptism Preparation Team
Bereavement Support Ministry
Sophia Sisters
Men's Ministry
Aged Care Liturgy
Liturgy Committee
Music Ministry
Family Groups
Sacramental Team
Social Committee
Caritas (SJ)
Care for Creation (SJ)
Indigenous Ministry (SJ)
Welcoming Team
RCIC/RCIT/RCIA
Kids and Youth Coordinators/ Young Adults
Altar Servers Coordinators
Couples for Christ
Communications Coordinators
Mary's Makers
Playgroup
Vinnies Conference
Bupa Visitation
Hospital Visitation
Glanville Visitation
Wharparilla Visitation
Visitation Ministry Coordinator
Accessibility and Inclusion Coordinator
Events Coordinators
G'day Weekend Coordinator/ Hospitality
Community Coordinators
Child Safeguarding Officer

Fr. Novie Lim
Rob Morris
Margaret Hart
Bunny Oliver
Barbara Green
Mary Byrne
Carmel Mackenzie
Christine Sebire
Doug Black
Malia Black
Rose Quinn, Noela Boyer and Mary Atkins
Barbara Pavone
Helen Taverner and Carol Purdon
Tania Dixon
Margaret Hart
Jenny Morris
Richard and Gayle Zakzrewski
Claire Hogan
Cindy Narvasa
Lauren Gould
Kenn and Abilain Liwanag
Kenn Liwanag and Michael De Castro
Jonas and Cindy Narvasa
Hannah Jurolan and Paul Tape
Julie Moyle
Mel Slattery
Win Lavery
Prue Crowe-Galea
Julie Moyle
Leanne Roberts
Noela Boyer
Kath Quinn
Leah Williams
Cindy Narvasa and Jenky Seno
Angela Jefferson
Julie Moyle and Cindy Narvasa
Mel Slattery