



NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN CURSILLO MENS 50



EVENT THEME.

After much prayer the word "Peace" kept recurring in my mind. I recalled a small quote from my distant past that cemented the theme for me:

The true peace of God surpasses any of our dreams. In our search for peace it is possible to find bits of peace here and there in the world. But it will be fleeting. The only Peace that satisfies or lasts is with God, through Christ Jesus, a peace that surpasses our comprehension.

The biblical text which supported the theme for the weekend was Philippians 4: 6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Team prayer:

Almighty God, We bless you for our lives, we thank you for your abundant mercy and grace. Lord, we ask you to give us peace in mind, body, soul, and spirit. So that we can heal and remove the stressors in our lives and in the lives of others. Amen.

And; the Team song

When Peace Like a River (It Is well With My Soul) Mission Praise; 757 continued the theme.

CANDIDATES. Ten candidates attended the weekend and they were another blessing. They came from differing faith journeys and were from a wide age range but they fitted in very well, in fact the first song was sang with such enthusiasm and enjoyment, that we team members felt that the weekend would be something special, and it was. Throughout our time together the candidates were open to the timetable which made everything run smoothly, almost too smoothly- we were always ahead of time. In addition they were eager to assist and help where they could. It was a joy to be in their company. The parishes of St. Paul's , Stockton; Church of the Good Shepherd, Kotara; All Saints, "ANEW" New Lambton; Holy Apostles, Woy Woy; St Francis Medowie/Williamtown and St James Wyong, were represented. In addition, a candidate from New Vine church was a wonderful addition to the group. The candidates were divided into three tables:

St. Andrew:



St Matthew:



St Thomas:



TEAM



(Top Table)

Team composition was truly God given. It was a small team, and my thanks goes to all team members who worked over and above their expected workload to make the weekend successful.

VENUE

- a. Catalina Conference Centre
- b. All lunches & dinners were supplied by Anglican Catering. The meals could not be faulted, a vegetarian candidate was well catered for.
- c. To keep with the happiness of the weekend all graces were sung.

SPECIAL NOTE:

For something different Saturday night was a BBQ. All team members and candidates were responsible for cooking the meat. It was relaxed and created a great community spirit which then flowed into the evening Trivia night.