



# COOLANGATTA - TUGUN CATHOLIC PARISH

Parish Community of St Augustine and St Monica



We recognise the traditional owners of this land - The Kombumberri people. 'Coolangatta' means place of 'Splendid Lookout'

## Our Parish Plans and Organises

### Parish Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council consists of the parish priest and ministry co-ordinator, together with a group of parishioners chosen by the parish community of both churches, to serve for 3 years (with the option of an extension of a further 3 years).

The Parish Pastoral Council share responsibility for building a vital Christian community, focused on living and promoting God's values of love, justice and peace, by:  
researching and identifying needs, ideas, hopes and challenges of parishioners; developing, implementing, reviewing and improving pastoral programs;  
ensuring that parishioners have available to them all they need, to grow in holiness and to discover and live out their personal and communal call to mission.

These stated responsibilities help shape the agendas and the actions taken by the Parish Pastoral Council at their monthly meetings. Each member brings to the meetings their ideas, their energies and their special interests, but the common thread which binds all members together is their belief that they are responding to a call, with the parish priest, to do God's work.

### Parish Finance Council

*The Code of Canon Law 537 makes it obligatory that there be a Finance Council in each parish to assist the parish priest in regard to his responsibilities for financial and administrative matters.*

*Archbishop John Bathersby DD, in a booklet that contains Archdiocesan policy, stated: "I cannot emphasise too strongly how essential a Parish Finance Council is for the effective management of a modern parish. Without its existence it is impossible for priest and people to work together responsibly in the overall mission of the local church".*

The Parish Finance Council meets every four to six weeks and also advises the Parish on the Parish on the parish financial position when necessary. An audited annual report of the parish finances is presented to all parishioners and is published in the parish newsletter.

It is important that the Finance Council consist of members whose life experiences are varied. The current council consists of members with experience in the building/construction industry, accounting/finance, legal practice, education and business management.

Faithful people pass around the collection plate at each of the weekend Masses. Again a group organises and counts the money collected, including donations for special appeals.

### Collectors and Counters

These faithful people pass around the collection plate at each of the weekend Masses. Again a group organises, counts and banks the money collected, including donations for special appeals. Banking arrangements are performed by a recognized security company.

**Flag Marshal** maintains the parish's collection of flags and daily raises and lowers the flags pertinent to the situation. Flags include the Vatican, Archdiocesan, Parish, Australian flag, Indigenous flag, Mongolian and German flags (to recognise our World Youth Day visitors in 2009) and some sporting flags.