



**Pauline Cook**  
Diocese of Sale

Pauline has been an outstanding parishioner of St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church at Benambra (Omeo parish in remote area of Far East Gippsland, Victoria) for decades.

Her participation has touched pretty well every facet of parish life over the past 40 years. It has included an extended involvement in the celebration of liturgy in Benambra, including over 10 years where half the Sunday liturgies are lay led. Pauline has been an outstanding leader. She has been involved in parish liturgy groups, assisting parishioners with preparation for and celebration of funerals and weddings, baptisms, and sacraments of Initiation.

Pauline was for many years a catechist at the Benambra Primary School. She has also participated in and helped lead many aspects of adult formation in the parish including parish weekends at Millgrove, ongoing formation within the Region, often at Bairnsdale 150km away, and faith formation such as Lenten groups.

She has been a member of the Regional Pastoral group, participating in Regional Meetings and activities throughout East Gippsland. She has been and is involved in numerous local community groups, as well as parish activities.

She brings to all her various involvements a deep faith, prayerfulness, a desire for learning and finding new ways in rapidly changing times and in a parish which no longer has a resident priest. This has led to a long and fruitful involvement in ecumenical prayer, worship, and faith development.

All of this is against the background of her family. Pauline and her husband, John, have raised a large family and remain heavily involved with a large extended family.

Pauline and John have always extended an extraordinarily warm welcome to the priests and sisters who have ministered in the Omeo Parish, and who now visit from Bairnsdale. They have provided unfailing kindness and support for them in all their endeavours.