

ETCC NEWSLETTER



Our annual youth retreat

The East Timorese youth retreat was held at infant Saviour Parish at Burleigh Heads on Easter Monday, 21st 2014. There were 35 young people men and women were taken part of this retreat. These young people enjoyed being in retreat and were able to relax and put all the business of student, work and family life aside and were able to embrace a special moment of this time. There was such an overwhelming experience; being able to build new friendships, share laughter and tears and more importantly renew their faith.

The feedback we received from the group was that, most of them were experienced a meaningful moment where they have given time and space to spend with God and themselves as individual and as group, making the retreat moment an even more precious and memorable experience.

One of the lovely sessions over the retreat was to share the Gospel passages and to relate to the message of them to their own lives. The theme of the retreat was to realise how God loved us unconditionally no matter what. They really felt that they were able to share openly with others about this and how they respond to God's loved unconditionally, making it such a special moment.

They also have time for games and funs where there were lots of laughter shared and the afternoon was enjoyed by all. The retreat was concluded with liturgy of prayer. The liturgy of prayer was lovely service which they also have an opportunity shared with each other based on the gospel of the day. There was a real sense of community, belonging and care.

So many memories of these young people created on this retreat day which they will keep with them for a long time. In particular the affirmations they all wrote for one another at the end of the retreat and sharing these in a final prayer brought tears of joy to many. They are looking forward to the next retreat.

Here are some of the photos taken during the session

