

The Lenten Pilgrimage to Polish Hill River



Lenten pilgrimages to Polish Hill River have been a long-standing tradition of the Polish community in Adelaide.

This year's pilgrimage, titled "In the Cross is Salvation," took place on Saturday, March 26, and was organized by Father Michał Skiba with parishioners from Salisbury, Croydon, and Unley.

People of all ages participated, with many younger attendees assisting the elderly and weaker pilgrims. There were also individuals in wheelchairs.

On the day before the pilgrimage, a group of volunteers prepared the site for the event—cleaning, cooking, and more. The hot meal prepared by the team from Salisbury was delicious the next day. The selection was impressive, making it hard to choose from the many dishes, so we ended up asking for everything one by one.

The pilgrimage began with the Stations of the Cross, during which Father Michał related each station to our lives and the current tragic events happening in the world. The faithful united in prayer.

Following this, a Holy Mass was celebrated by Bishop Karol Kulczycki from Port Pirie, with the participation of priests Stanisław Lipski and Michał Skiba. After lunch, the bishop warmly invited everyone to Port Pirie for a Mass in honor of the Homeland and the Polish community living in Australia. The celebration will take place on Saturday, April 30, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

The pilgrimage concluded with the traditional Lenten service of "Gorzkie Żale," led by Father Stanisław Lipski. However, for the volunteers, the day was not yet over, as they stayed longer to clean and restore the site.

Leszek Gajewski