19 July

Peter Quin SJ is Parish Priest of St Ignatius' Toowong, Qld. Peter is passionate about liturgy and parish life that is engaging. His vision of Church embraces the new while referencing tradition, and in true Ignatian style seeks to use the gifts and resources available to further the Kingdom of God in this time and place.

Chris Geraghty

16 Aug

Ruth van Herk has had careers that cover such diverse backgrounds as Nursing, Marriage & Motherhood, Theological Studies, 15 years as a Personal and Relationship Counsellor and 10 years as a coordinator and advisor for Community Men's Sheds. She is the Director of the St John of God Institute of Counselling and an advisor to the Board of the Australian Men's Shed Association.

20 Sept

Lisa Lyndon is a 40 something mum, wife, and Social Worker - who can't detach herself from parish life because she's a sucker for a great and moving hymn. Lisa grew up with a very friendship/relationship based and musically based spirituality, and is now discerning all things “feminine and faith” with a daughter of her own to raise.

Teresa Pirola BA,BTh,MTh(Hons) is a joyful author who has spent thirty years in pastoral ministries at parish, diocesan and ecclesial levels. Her current initiative, “Light of Torah” (www.lightoftorah.net) encourages us to draw on the riches of Jewish commentaries and storytelling. Teresa is a single woman who experienced a clear call to a “priestly” vocation in August 2000.

18 Oct

Bob Birchall has been married to an inspiring woman for over 30 years and helped raise their three children to adulthood. He has managed complex organisations in the health, aged care and disability sectors including on the Board of a major Health Fund, but always wondered “What's it all about”. Tonight he tries to answer the question!

Richard McLachlan

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**Northern Sydney Region Program 2010**

The Union Hotel
cnr Pacific Hwy & West St, North Sydney
3rd Monday of the Month
7:30 - 9:00pm

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**Ground Swell**

The fire that ignites

“No one lights a lamp and puts it in a place where it will be hidden, or under a bowl. Instead he puts it on its stand, so that those who come in may see the light” Lk 8

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**Our Mission Statement**

“We are believers from the Northern Sydney Region who aim to foster a culture of conversation to explore the nature of our religious heritage. We celebrate our diversity in a spirit of mutual respect, openness and good humour.”
**Groundswell: The fire that ignites...**

15 March  … Youth
Paddy Mayoh and Sophie Kearns

19 April  … My Journey
Alison Healey and Jan Brady

17 May  … Among Generations
Robyn Gallagher and Susan Neylan

21 June  … Indigenous Dialogue
Prof Sarah Madison and TBA

19 July  … A Vision of church
Peter Quinn SJ and Chris Geraghty

16 Aug  … Men's Sheds & "Counselling"
Ruth van Herk and Friend

20 Sept  … Women's Spirituality
Lisa Lyndon and Teresa Pirola

18 Oct  … Men's Spirituality
Bob Birchall and Richard McLachlan

**SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

15 March
Paddy Mayoh, ss a 4th yr student in Asia Pacific studies (Chinese) and Law at ANU, and is soon off to Beijing as the PM’s Endeavour Award Scholar. Paddy volunteered in Ghana as English teacher & worker for an NGO in HIV education. He worked in Cambodia and now works with the Burgmann Dooaggee Community Partnership which facilitates cultural exchange programs between the indigenous and non-indigenous community.

Sophie Kearns is the Dir of Character Education at Loreto Kirribilli. With a long held fascination of our spiritual nature, her role permits a deeper exploration of this field.

19 April
Alison Healey has a life-time dedication to The Grail and has held a number of leadership positions at local, national and international levels. She has extensive academic qualifications and is particularly interested in social justice and related issues.

Jan Brady is leading a busy retirement after working for over forty years in technical and leadership positions in the Australian Public Service. She is currently the Treasurer of Catalyst for Renewal and is an active member of the North Sydney Spirituality in the Pub committee.

17 May
Robyn Gallagher is a mother of two young children who helped establish the Eden Play Group based within the Calvary retirement Community in 2008. Over the years Robyn has worked in Education and in the area of Faith Formation and Spirituality.

Susan Neylan, an infants teacher and mother of 5, is a pastoral carer at Calvary Retirement Community at Ryde. Inspired by the vision of the Eden Alternative in the aged care environment she sought out the idea and implementation of a playgroup meeting in the facility in response to the plague of helplessness, loneliness and boredom suffered by many of our elders.

18 Oct
Dr Sarah Maddison, , Senior Associate Dean (Arts and Social Sciences) Acting Deputy Director of the just launched Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Research Unit at UNSW.

Second Speaker TBA