



## **Parish of the Nativity of the Lord**

Book+Circle – August 2023

**Small Miracles” by Anne Booth.**

### **About the Book**

A novel about a shrinking community of three nuns who play the lottery to try to raise money to repair their convent. A charming, witty book about faith, community, friendship, and love.

### **How did the book make us feel?**

- This was a delightful read full of love, positivity and humour that was uplifting.
- The book had a feel good factor about it, ending on a positive and hopeful note.

### **What did we think were the book’s main strengths?**

The story-line was captivating. It was very easy to read perhaps reflecting the author being previously better known for writing children’s books.

“Love” shone through the range of relationships. It was possible to relate to the characters in their strengths as well as the difficulties that life presented.

There were spiritual messages within the dramas played out and the way that prayers were offered within these different situations “rang true”.

The movement from being insular and inward looking to being within the world and open to experiences was a strong theme and, with the “happy ever after” ending created a sense of joy, affirming that “all shall be well”.

### **What did we think were the book’s main weaknesses?**

One reader felt that the storyline leading up to the lottery win was a bit slow.

Some of the characters were somewhat stereotypical.

The story was set in the 1990s so it felt a bit dated.

### **Would we recommend that this book is read by others?**

- Yes, although Anne Booth’s books so far have been targeted at children.
- Anyone wanting a light, easy read with a feel good factor.

### **Other thoughts about the book**

The novel brought out the difficulties in community life, especially in those with smaller numbers or faced with the prospect of amalgamating with other orders

### **Next Book & Diary Dates**

- **Meeting Thursday 19 October @ 8.00pm**
- Book: Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist by Brandt Pitre
  
- **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November after 10am Mass.**
- Book: How Christianity Saved Civilization – and must do so again” By Mike Aquilina and James L. Papandrea.
  
- **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 8pm**

Meeting Room at St Joseph’s