

Parish Leadership Team Meeting, Monday 1 September 2008

*Brief Summary:

Parish Survey:

- Sue invited feedback on the draft Strategic Planning Parish Questionnaire which will be used to ascertain parish views on the future parish. It is expected to be distributed to all Parishioners by the end of Term 3.

Parish General:

- Fr John reported on Fr Frank O'Loughlin's Presentation to the School Community and also on a weekend meeting on Retirement in the clergy.
- Left to itself, unsupported, the Church as we currently know it may head towards obscurity.
- Amongst other things this underlies the need to evolve the Liturgy in ways that young people better accept.
- The Church/Parish community also needs to get together and embrace change.
- There may be only one priest within the Ivanhoe Parish within the next year or two.
- Survival as a Parish will require a huge mind change within our Parish community.

Liturgy:

- Merle reported that there has been emphasis on continuing the spirit of WYD.
- Good content resources are available to support Children's Liturgy and there are ongoing plans via the School and Parish Newsletters and Website to remind parents about this monthly opportunity on First Sundays.

Finance:

- The new Finance committee is now operating smoothly and starting to streamline financial management.

Communication:

- Effort will continue toward encouraging every online Parishioner to register for periodic email updates on Parish issues and events via the (free) Website "subscriber" facility .
- A new Census of the Parish community is being planned.
- Consideration is to be given to potential use of technology to assist where there are serious priest shortages.

Outreach:

- A very full programme of activities for the rest of this year with bus trips, fund-raising film events, social lunch and card games.

Korean Community:

- Looking at facilities for running Sunday School classes.
- Looking at greater participation in Parish events and commensurate financial contribution to the Parish.

School Community:

- Healing Mass & Fr O'Loughlin talk at St B's well received. Playgroup thriving and has successfully also attracted external funding of \$2500.
- MOG has a waiting list for Preps in 2009. Students produced great Website Banner and the meeting warmly thanked them for their great work on this.
- MI asked Leadership Group to consider changing meeting times to reduce the heavy load on Principals. PLT agreed to have two-monthly rather than monthly meetings, extended in time by half an hour.
- MI Prep enrolments going very well and shortly to be finalised.
- MI parents want to ensure their input into Parish Survey questionnaire design.

Wellbeing:

- A new Parish "Wellbeing" Group has been developed and will be launched on Oct 5. A schedule of activities has been produced
- The Wellbeing Group will launch "drop-in" coffee/chat at the Parish office on Wednesdays from 9:45am, starting Wednesday 3rd September
- The Group will rely on and is now seeking more volunteers (even ad hoc).

* n.b. these are not Minutes of the meeting.