

Out of the many reports presented and other discussions at the PLT meeting on 4th August 2008 the following brief points are highlighted:

### **Young people and Liturgy**

Inspired by interactions on Liturgy with young People in the Schools and Parish and the experience of WYD Fr John spoke of his intention for Liturgy Planning to become more of a key to the future for our Parish.

### **Liturgy Group**

The Spirit of World Youth Day is being maintained under the banner "WYD - The Journey Continues". Resource material is being examined to help in this process into the future.

### **Finance**

As a result of Focus Groups and many discussions across the Parish good progress is being made in designing a Questionnaire to fully survey the whole Parish on its future financial position and future needs. Work is also progressing well towards a strategic financial planning approach.

### **Outreach**

The group remains very active across the parish and amongst many other things has raised over \$2,000 so far for needy causes. A high profile Parish dinner is being organised for 21 March 2009. A new Wellbeing Group is being established in the Parish to better serve particular personal needs within the Parish.

### **Pastoral Associate (Parish Associate)**

A number of applications have been received for this position and are being considered

### **Korean Community**

The Korean Community has invited all parishioners to attend a special Mass to celebrate the 50 years since ordination of Bishop Hilton Deakin. This will be at 11:00am on Sunday 10th August at St Bernadette's Church. Since WYD there have been stronger linkages forged between the Korean Community and the rest of the Parish.

### **Schools**

First Eucharist Liturgy at St Bernadette's last Sunday was highly successful. Questions were asked why support for this Mass is so much higher than for an "ordinary" Mass. Apart from some obvious reasons lessons have been learned about greater involvement in the Liturgy by young people. The Playgroup at St Bernadette's is going very well.

New facilities at MOG were officially opened by Local Member Jenny Macklin. Excellent new enrolments have limited these to local children only.

### **Young People**

Young Peoples Group activities have been very much enjoyed by those participating. New members have joined from those recently confirmed and for the first time now include members from each of our schools together with those who have moved into various Secondary Schools. World Youth Day was very successful in our parish and

the faith, energy and optimism of young Pilgrims (visiting and local) is spreading further into the Parish. Arising from the cooperative WYD effort between our young Korean Community and elsewhere in the Parish a positive new sense of ongoing cooperation has begun.

### **Communication**

The 3 main objectives of the Parish Communication Group are to help create a fuller sense of the activity and life in the Parish, to strengthen the sense of Community, and to help give the parish a more unified focus. These objectives are served by various initiatives, amongst which is the Parish Website. Since March the Website has had 1,748 visits with a record number in July, during World Youth Day period. Visitors have been attracted to the Website from around the World. One of the mechanism for attracting website visits is the "subscription" facility, through which people are periodically kept informed of developments and activities. The PLT agreed to a process to invite and actively encourage all online Parishioners to "subscribe" to the Website so as to be kept informed on all that's happening in and around the Parish. School children are to be invited to create banners promoting the Parish website.

### **Letter from some MOG School Families**

A constructive letter was received from a number of Mother of God School families discussing their needs and requesting information in relation to the Parish community. This will be provided in a response which is to be prepared. Fr John said that there are no plans to sell Parish churches. It is likely that this Parish will have only one Priest within the next two years. The decision to have a Single Mass Centre in this Parish has been made and to be changed would need to be revoked, particularly also as it is now anticipated by the Archdiocese. A detailed Financial Analysis is under way to throw more light on the basis for future plans.

### **P.S. Church Buildings**

Church buildings in the Parish are not subject to asset sales. However the three Churches are items that will need increasing maintenance - and updating.