

PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM

ST ANDREW'S PARISH
WERRIBEE



*“Big enough to serve –
small enough to care”*

**FAITH
ENGAGEMENT
COMMITMENT**

DEAR FRIENDS

Welcome to our Parish Renewal Program!

We are blessed to be part of such a wonderful parish!

We are already one of the largest parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne – a richly diverse, multi-cultural parish, in one of the fastest growing parts of Melbourne. With six Primary Schools and two Secondary Colleges, we have a strong commitment to a Catholic education for our children.

As you will see in this brochure, plans are well underway for our third church and what will be the seventh Parish Primary School in Tarneit and our third College in Jubilee. Aside from the obvious financial considerations for the new church, this growth will continue to bring fresh challenges. How do we provide the essential faith support and pastoral care to meet this growing demand? With God's guidance we know that our mission driven commitment will continue to inform and direct our responses.

This Renewal Program is timely. It is our opportunity to 'take stock', to review and renew our personal commitment to our journey. This brochure gives details on the Program, highlights our priorities, and shows the role that we all can play.

Always remember that this parish is YOURS – it belongs to all parishioners. As co-owners, you all have a responsibility to care, to be involved, to nurture, and to grow the parish. I therefore encourage you all to take full advantage of this opportunity. Get involved with the Program, follow along at Mass, and on our parish website and socials. Discuss the themes with your family, friends, and fellow parishioners. Let us all then renew our commitments as individuals and as a community, to enhance our parish through prayer and formation, involvement in service through our parish ministries, and in our meaningful financial support through a regular Stewardship pledge.

By doing so we will ensure we have the human and financial resources to do not only what needs to be done, but importantly what could be done to further the mission of our parish. In this exciting new era for the parish, I invite us all to take up the challenge – we need the support of every parishioner.

I thank you in advance for your strong, faith filled response.

Fr Albert Yogarajah
Parish Priest



OUR FUTURE

WHO WE ARE

We strive to be “... *a vibrant Catholic Community, nourished by Christ the river of life, celebrating the diversity of giftedness of all God’s people.*”

We live that vision through our values:

- *Relationship* – nurturing an evolving relationship with God, connected in faith and love with others and the whole of creation
- *Community* – creating a warm inclusive community, where all work together and all care for each other and where each person is welcomed, valued, and respected
- *Celebration* – gathering to share our lives and celebrate God’s loving presence in sacraments and liturgy
- *Formation* – deepening our understanding and experience of God, our Christian tradition, and our lives, empowering and enabling us to grow to our fullest potential
- *Outreach* – living the Gospel teachings and offering service to those in need in the parish and wider community

THE WEEKEND EXPERIENCE

The ‘Weekend Experience’ refers to everything that happens when we come together for weekly Mass. We want it to remain the high point of our faith celebrations, and we need to do everything possible to make it so. This is not just about our regulars and is particularly important for visitors and potential parishioners who we would like to become a part of our St Andrew’s family. We have identified three areas key to the Weekend Experience:

- *Vibrant Liturgy* – reflective homilies, proficient Readers and Extraordinary Ministers, and quality music, which has the power to lift the spirit and speak to the soul. We will continue prioritising quality music at weekend Masses. Do you have skills to contribute? Do you sing well or play an instrument? If so, we would welcome your involvement in this vital ministry
- *Good use of Technology* – PowerPoint presentations that add to our involvement and which are particularly beneficial to those unfamiliar with the structure and flow of the Mass. We would love your assistance. It is not too difficult, and training can be provided

- *Warm Welcome* – we proudly state that we are a welcoming and caring community. We need to ensure that everything we do reaffirms this commitment. How do we greet each other? How do we make newcomers feel at home? Would a first-time visitor to our parish be eager to return a second time? Our Welcome Ministry at each weekend Mass is valued – greeting attendees with a smile, distributing newsletters, introducing newcomers, assisting with finding spare seats at our major celebrations at Christmas, Easter etc.

OUR PRIORITIES

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Our historic church needs some work:

- Heating and cooling – upgrade our current system to provide better comfort for parishioners
- Audio/Visual – upgrade our current ageing system with four new TV screens
- Gathering space – provide a dedicated space for fellowship and a 'cuppa' after Mass

OUR LADY OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS CHURCH

- The time has arrived! After many years of hard work, and the support of so many wonderful parishioners, we are ready to commence the planning and construction of our new church! We have a name, and we have a site – let the work begin!
- It is an exciting opportunity for the parish. St Andrew's Church is no longer capable of meeting the demands of our rapidly growing parish. Our community Masses at Our Lady of the Southern Cross Primary School are already attracting 400 parishioners



- The final cost is estimated at \$7million. Together, we have already saved \$1.5million which will enable us to finalise planning and engage architects in July, with completion planned by 2027
- The project is a major undertaking for the parish and will require substantial loan repayments – so we need a significant increase in our major source of parish income, your regular pledges to Stewardship

OUR MISSIONARY FOCUS

Our challenge is how best to respond to Pope Francis' call that our parish "... *be animated by a missionary spirit, where faith is communicated, and charity is seen.*" This will require your ongoing support as we commit to focusing on our missionary response with the following priorities:

LIVING OUR FAITH

- Pastoral care and outreach are important to us – clear expressions of our faith in action
- Ministry of Care – wonderful group of parishioners who visit and take Communion to residents in the five Aged Care facilities and two hospitals in our area
- St Vincent de Paul – we have a very active Conference
- East Timor seasonal workers – working with the Archdiocese and Council to provide pastoral care and outreach. Planning for East Timorese Mass at St Andrew's

YOUTH MINISTRY

- We have a vibrant Ministry under the leadership of Fr James – we will continue to invest in this priority area of engagement
- Youth Group (13-17 years) and Young Adults Group (18-25years)





- We were delighted to be able to send 10 of our young parishioners and two leaders to WYD 2023 in Portugal

MAKING AND GROWING DISCIPLES

- Our parish endeavours to accompany all as we grow in relationship with God and share our gifts with each other across the whole lifespan
- Under the guidance of our Pastoral Worker, Kemp Vinson we have a “Come and See” approach to bring adults closer to God – through ALPHA, RCIA and Ministry engagement
- ALPHA – a safe space to share questions about life, faith and meaning



PARISH FIRST
BUILDING BETTER PARISHES

Produced by Parish First P/L based on information supplied by
St Andrew's Parish
105 Greaves Street Nth, Werribee VIC 3030
(t) 9741 4144 (e) werribee@cam.org.au
www.melbcatholic.org/s/werribee

MY FINANCIAL PLEDGE TO St Andrew's Parish, Werribee

Surname: _____ Given name: _____

Address: _____ Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Email: _____ Mobile: _____ Phone: _____

My age group is: ☐ under 20 ☐ 20-29 ☐ 30-39 ☐ 40-49 ☐ 50-59 ☐ 60-69 ☐ 70-79 ☐ 80-89 ☐ 90+

Credit Card

Please debit my Credit Card for \$ _____

every ☐ month ☐ quarter ☐ half-year ☐ year

Name on Card: _____

Please tick ☐  ☐ 

Expiry Date: ____ / ____

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

I understand that I may cancel this authority in writing at any time.

Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Direct Debit (from a nominated bank account – forms available from the Parish Office)

My financial pledge will be: \$ _____

every ☐ month ☐ quarter ☐ half-year ☐ year

Envelopes (envelopes available from the Parish Office)

My financial pledge will be: \$ _____

every ☐ week ☐ month ☐ quarter ☐ half-year ☐ year

Our Privacy Commitment

The information collected on this card is for Parish information and use only. Be assured that Parish First P/L and our Parish are committed to upholding and maintaining the Privacy Principles and Legislative requirements as set out in the Statutory Regulations of the Australian and Victorian Governments. This relates particularly to the gathering, recording, storing and disclosure of information relating to parish operations and the provision of religious and pastoral care services. We will never disclose your personal information to other third parties for other fundraising purposes without your consent.

- RCIA Program – accompanying adults joining the Church family
- Ministry engagement – involvement in the life of the parish through our many groups and ministries
- For our younger parishioners we have the RCIC and Home-Based Religious Education (HBRE) programs
- Engaging in sacrament preparation and celebration
- Children's Liturgy is available at 9.30am and 11.00am Sunday Masses
- Opportunities to encounter God and grow in faith through reflection, prayer and worship

BUILDING OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

We strive to build the parish community you want your family to live in. To do so we need your energy, your gifts and talents, and your commitment to doing three important things:

- Celebrate our faith together as a parish community – prioritising weekend Mass
- Be actively involved in at least one parish Group or Ministry
- Make a meaningful pledge of financial support to the Stewardship Program



OUR STEWARDSHIP REALITY

If we are to properly fund our mission priorities, the upgrades to St Andrew's Church and prepare for our new Our Lady of the Southern Cross Church – we need to significantly increase pledged Stewardship Income. We have set ourselves a real challenge – to achieve a minimum increase of 40%. Challenging YES – but ACHIEVABLE with your support.

HOW DO WE FUND THESE VITAL PRIORITIES?

- Stewardship Income remains our major source of parish revenue
- Whilst donations are always helpful – we really need all parish families to make an on-going pledge commitment to the Stewardship Program
- We prefer a monthly direct debit or credit card deduction – but the traditional cash envelopes are also available

WHO DO WE NEED TO PLEDGE?

- *Current contributors* – thank you! Please review your current pledge and make a new Stewardship commitment during this Renewal Program
- *New to the parish* – please 'come on board' and make your commitment with a pledge to the Stewardship Program. This is now your spiritual home so please partner with your fellow parishioners in building our parish community
- *Our parish school families* – our parish is central to the Catholic education of our children, so please 'come on board' and make your commitment with a pledge to the Stewardship Program

HOW MUCH SHOULD I PLEDGE?

- We simply ask that you contribute to the very best of your ability. How do you use your discretionary income? Is parish support a financial priority for you?
- We unashamedly ask those with the greatest capacity to contribute the most
- We reserve special thanks for those on restricted incomes – your continued support is greatly appreciated

OUR FINANCIALS

INCOME

ITEM	2023	2024	2025 (Budget)
Stewardship (Pledges)	266,000	285,000	300,000
Interest (Bank)	16,000	9,000	8,000
Sale of Resources	31,000		
Other	29,000	22,000	20,000
Total Parish Income	342,000	316,000	328,000

EXPENDITURE

ITEM	2023	2024	2025 (Budget)
Staff	91,000	109,000	149,000
Insurance		41,000	41,000
Archdiocese Levies	45,000	34,000	34,000
Elec/Gas/Water	21,000	22,000	22,000
Motor Vehicle Exp.	10,000	15,000	15,000
Photocopy/Stationery	11,000	13,000	13,000
Church Requisites	18,000	8,000	12,000
Maintenance	8,000	15,000	10,000
Other	40,000	44,000	47,000
Total	244,000	301,000	343,000

OVERALL POSITION

Income	342,000	316,000	328,000
Expenditure	244,000	301,000	343,000
Surplus /(Loss)	98,000	15,000	(15,000)

WHAT WE ASK OF YOU

Our **BIG** challenge in this Program is to increase
PLEDGED STEWARDSHIP INCOME

*from \$5,500 to
min of \$7,700 per week*