

CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. THOMAS MORE

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Dear Friends,

The most important event in our Parish during the last twelve months was, no doubt, the refurbishment of our Church. The response from parishioners has been most favourable and I believe we have a "freshened up" sacred place in which we give glory to God. My sincere thanks to the Refurb, Committee who worked on the design and made practical suggestions and to all for your patience during the weeks when Mass was celebrated in the Gymnasium.

The Parish / Archdiocesan Financial year concludes on December 31st each year. This is our Parish Financial statement for the year ended 31.12.17.

The ordinary financial demands and day to day expenses for our Parish cover a whole lot of items. Our Administration Costs include Admin. Salaries, Insurances, Office supplies, Printing costs, Telecommunication costs and Postage. Property costs that must be met include Property Insurance, Maintenance, Cleaning costs and Utilities. Our Pastoral expenses include Pastoral salaries, Liturgical expenses, Catechetical resources etc.

You will see that by far the most significant part of our income is by means of the Stewardship program – last year it was 75%. Once again I really do want to say thanks to all our regular contributors. As I have said very often the pledged offerings are our bread and butter and enable us to budget and plan accordingly.

A number of significant changes will happen in our parish in the near future and our Parish Finance Committee has recommended that we delay the renewal of the Stewardship Campaign until a more appropriate time. At this time we are not necessarily expecting our regular contributors to increase their offerings but our other fundraising activities take on added importance at this time and we hope that you will continue to support these on a regular basis by your financial generosity and your time.

I am most grateful to those who organized the Bunnings Sausage sizzle, the Antiques and Collectables Fair, the Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle, and all who supported the Hamper Raffles and the monthly Home Made / Home Grown stall. All of these have made a difference and we need to build on these during the next twelve months.

We are a community of faith and discipleship. I hope you will continue to find comfort and support in our community whilst finding ways to contribute your own time and talent. May God continue to bless all that we do.



Fr. Laurie
June 20, 2018