

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. THOMAS MORE

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Dear Friends,

The Parish / Archdiocesan Financial year concludes on December 31<sup>st</sup> each year. This is our Parish Financial statement for the year ended 31. 12.16.

The ordinary financial demands and day to day expenses for our Parish cover a whole lot of items. Our Administration Costs include Admin salaries, Office supplies, Printing costs, Telecommunication costs, Postage and so on. Among the Property costs that must be met there is 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 (Thanksgiving) program – 81% in fact. Sincere thanks once again to all who continue to support our Parish by means of their regular pledged contribution. At this time we are not expecting our regular contributors to increase their offerings but we certainly need to find further ways to continue to meet those day to day expenses.

And if we are to grow our Parish – which is something to which we should all be totally committed – it will be even more important to increase our income. We certainly need to refurbish our Church this year to reflect its importance as a sacred place in which we give glory to God. There is a lot of other pastoral activity to which we should also give attention.

Donations and Bequests are welcome, but they are not things we can control or rely on. That leaves Fundraising. I am grateful to those who have organised such activities as the sale of Tesselaar Bulbs, the sausage sizzles at Bunnings and Masters, the Art Show a while back, the Christmas Hamper Raffles and so on. All of those have made a difference. We need to build on these and find new ways. Already some folk have come up with good ideas and we hope to pursue some of these soon.

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 to our growth. May God continue to bless all that we do.



Fr. Laurie

10<sup>th</sup> March 2017