



St. Mary's Parish, Greensborough

Parish Annual General Meeting

Sunday 05 March 2017,
11:15 AM – 12:45 PM

Agenda

1. Welcome

2. Prayer - Fr Steven

3. Reports:

Pat Gullone – Chairperson, Pastoral Council

Helen Anderson – Principal, St Mary's School

Jacinta Bright – Pastoral Associate

Paul Girolami - Finance Committee

Peter McKenna - MaD Committee

Marco Hall - School Advisory Board

John Wood - (apology) Strategic Planning Committee Report
presented

Fr Steven Rigo - Parish Priest report

4. Questions

5. Parish Partnership

St. Mary's Parish Greensborough

2017 Annual General Meeting

05 March 2017

Parish Pastoral Council Report

"TO BE A VIBRANT CHRISTIAN

COMMUNITY ENGAGING

WITH THE WORLD"

In the past twenty months the Parish Pastoral Council has been on a journey where a core group developed a charter document along with frequently asked questions to underpin the role of the Parish Pastoral Council. From here the Parish Pastoral Council called for nominations for membership to the PPC, followed by a discernment day where new members joined the PPC. Since this time under the Leadership of Fr. Steven Rigo, Fr. Dong Tran and our Pastoral Associate Jacinta Bright the PPC have been working on several initiatives in line with our mission statement.

In June of 2015, a decision was made for the PPC to go into abeyance and to develop a charter document that restates the mission and purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council. The charter seeks to explain what the PPC commits itself to and what parishioners can expect from their PPC. It was drafted by and in consultation with the Parish Priest/s, Pastoral Associate, members of the PPC and other

parishioners, to reinforce the role of the PPC and inspire other members of the Parish Community to involve themselves in God's mission. The Parish Pastoral Council Charter touched on five areas:

- Theological Values
- Leadership
- Vision
- Community
- Our attitude and orientation as PPC

This was then followed by some frequently asked questions.

Once completed in February 2016, the charter document was made available to all parishioners. This also coincided with the PPC coming out of abeyance and calling for nominations for membership to the PPC. There were several nominations, all of who attended a discernment day. After following the process of discernment the day concluded with five new members joining the Parish Pastoral Council. They are Susan Kempen, Peter McKenna, Michael Lawton, David Marshall and Fiona Scott. The five new members joined the existing members Bernadette Douglas, Tiffany Orbien, Kristel Roxas, Trevor D'Souza and myself.

In line with the feedback that came from the Parish review in March of 2013, the PPC has continued work on four focus areas of mission;

- Welcome
- Outreach
- Resources
- Engaging with School Parents

The above have been the major focus areas of the group along with other initiatives. In August 2016 the newly formed PPC together with parish staff attended a formation weekend where we got to know each other better and understand each other's gifts. In turn this will enable the group to work closer and better with one another and engage members of our community to contribute their ideas and gifts to the parish community.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the PPC members for their hard work, dedication, commitment and collaborative approach to our work and their support of me as Chairperson. I would also like to thank Fr. Steve, Fr. Dong and Jacinta for their support, commitment and leadership. It is these three people who make St Mary's the parish that it is today.

Pat Gullone

Chairperson



Parish AGM Principal's Report 5 March 2017

At the commencement of 2017, there were 556 students enrolled with 379 families.

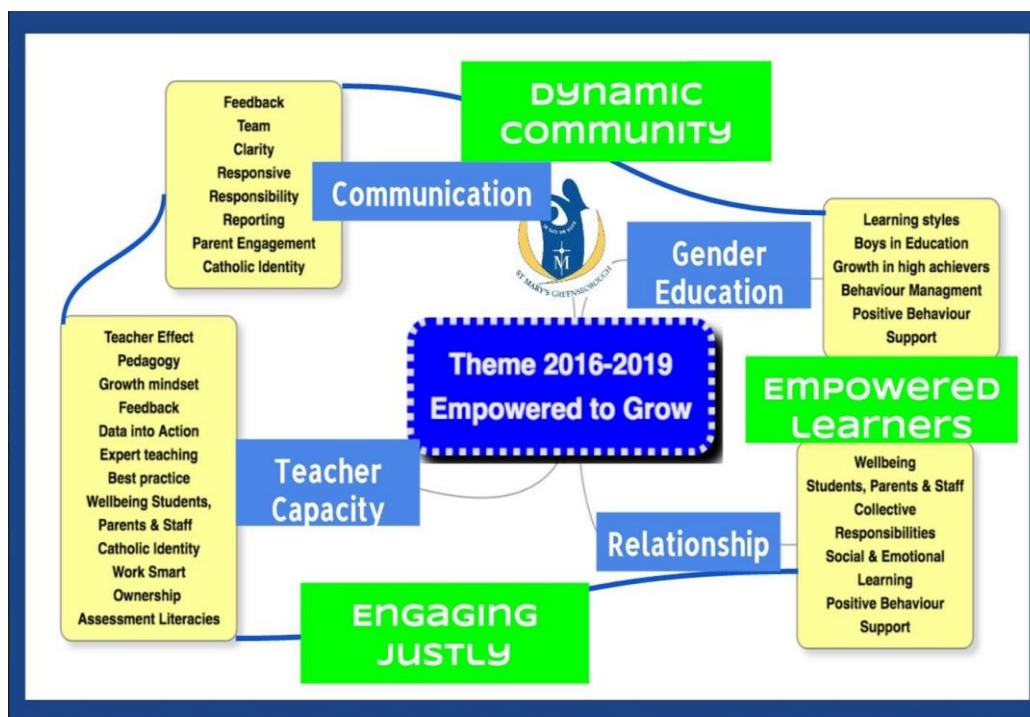
In 2016, our school theme was "Dare to be Disciples." Each Term we focussed on a value that challenged us to live out our theme. In Term 1 we explored Mercy where we followed the example of Mary who asks us to offer love as disciples of Jesus. Through exploring Mercy, it became clear that it is shown through our acts and words of compassion, forgiveness, reconciliation and healing. Throughout Term 2, we worked with the concept of Courage, which is bravery in the face of fear. When being courageous, you don't give up. You try new things, you admit mistakes. In Term 3 we explored the value of Trust. Trust is having faith in someone or something. It is a positive attitude about life. Through trust, you are confident that the right thing will happen without trying to control or make it happen. Even when difficult things happen, trust enables us to see the gift or lesson in the experience. In Term 4 we took Faith as our value. We looked at how Faith allows us to believe in something that cannot be seen or touched. We discussed how Faith, being a gift from God, is a trusting relationship with Him. It helps us to accept and do God's will in the world.

A major focus of our work throughout 2016 was our participation in a Negotiated Review process. Through this process, we worked with a critical external professional to review our progress over the past four years and to set goals and aspirations for the next four years. Although this process entailed many hours of gathering of data, reflection, discussion and analysis, it proved to be a very positive experience which has allowed us to clearly see where we are and where we wish to be in 2020.

As we analysed numerous data sets, it became evident that two areas would set the guiding principle for the next four years - these being Empowerment and Growth. It was clear that to continue to make school improvement, we needed to focus on Empowering all within our community to Grow as people and as learners. Therefore our theme for the ongoing school improvement plan is

EMPOWERED TO GROW

The following mindmap summarizes the findings which emerged through the Review process and guided us as we set our Goals for the next four years.



With our focus being on empowerment and growth, staff worked through a process in-order to come to a shared understanding of what empowerment looked like and developed the following statement:

"Empowered staff have intrinsic motivation, work collaboratively and share responsibility for decision making that builds a dynamic culture of learning. An empowerment culture promotes risk taking, reflection and feedback which drives continual growth in student learning and builds teacher capacity. Staff feel valued, trusted and challenged as they work in alignment with the School's Vision."

Following the Review Process, our reviewer, wrote in her Report:

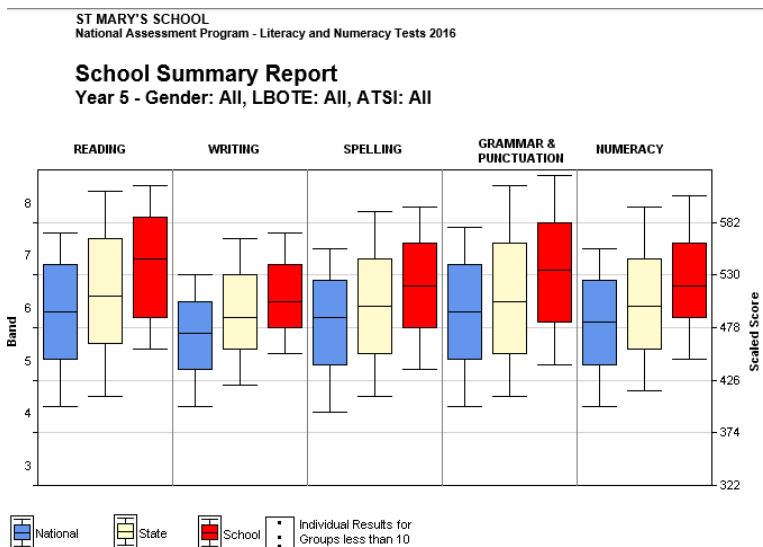
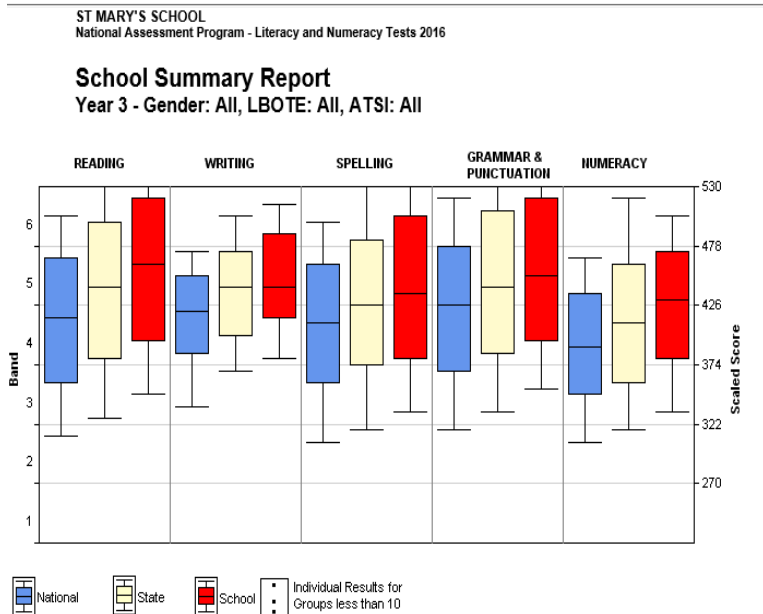
"St Mary's Parish School is:

- Strongly committed to the Catholic Faith and strives to promote Dialogue, as a pervasive thread throughout the school.
- Becoming a dynamic community of empowered learners.
- Transforming teacher practice through collaboration, research, innovation and reflection.
- Using student data to identify, determine and track student learning.
- Engaging teachers, students and their families through the innovative use of digital technology.
- Providing high-level pastoral care for its young people.
- Developing an effective distributed and instructional model of leadership."

In relation to academic achievement, the Review Feedback Report reads:

“Over the past period the major focus has been on the Learning and Teaching sphere, particularly in relation to teacher practice. The review finds that improvement in student learning has been growing over the past four year in the overwhelming majority of NAPLAN areas. 2016 NAPLAN results show that student performance, at both years 3 and 5 are at or above the State mean in all areas of assessment. This is evidence of the success of the school's 'Transforming Pedagogy.' The 2013 to 2016 NAPLAN Relative Growth data show that high Relative Growth levels increased over the review period and reveal that in 2016 Medium and High Relative Growth at St Mary's exceeds the State's four NAPLAN areas. Numeracy Relative Growth indicates that 36.36% of students showed high Relative Growth compared to 25% in the State, similar outcomes are evident for Reading and Writing. This is an exceptional achievement.”

2016 NAPLAN results below show that St. Mary's results were higher than other schools both nationally and in the in the State of Victoria.



Education in Faith

Goals

To provide a Catholic environment that integrates faith, life and culture

Achievements

Social Justice Initiatives

Raising the profile for school leaders, connection to social justice

Student wellbeing and learning

Refined RE Planning process including assessment and reporting

Participated in the Catholic Identity surveys and utilized data to enhance understanding of our Catholic culture

Christian Meditation implemented in all classrooms

Teaching and Learning

Goals

To build and implement contemporary pedagogy and practices to maximize student learning and engagement

Achievements

Worked with unpacking the Victorian Curriculum

Developed a Homework Policy

Placed Literacy Rubrics on SPA

Developed a design for Reports for 2016 using rubrics showing where students' learning is in relation to the whole curriculum

Introduced Digital Portfolios in Google sites for Yrs. 5 and 6

Provided professional learning in the area of Feedback and Appraisal Committed to three forms of feedback – Study Lesson, Peer Observation and Instructional Coaching

Worked on ICON preparation and implementation

Developed Think Write approach to Writing

Developed a Scope and Sequence for Library lessons

Commenced work on a mental computation/moderation rubric

Home and school partnership in Numeracy

Trialled Digital curriculum in Prep (Scratch Junior on iPads) and Yr. 3 (9code.org)

Participated in local connections with different associations i.e. Banyule Council

Further expanded the Learning Expos to showcase student learning

Developed Google Communities to support learning

Developed Google Sites for Learning Journals

Student Wellbeing

Goals

To maximize student wellbeing, engagement and connectedness to school and their learning

Achievements

Expanded student leadership opportunities

Positive behaviour management – put processes in place to cater for student individual needs

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Restorative practices sessions for teachers

Implemented strategies to enhance support for students on the ASD spectrum

Trialled the Friendship Savers Program

School Community

Goals

To build family and community partnerships which support student learning and engagement

Achievements

Raised the profile of school leaders with a connection to Social Justice

Focussed on student wellbeing and its impact on learning

Improved Feedback to parents

Surveyed parents about Parent needs in Education

Held Parent Forums to gain input for future Goal setting

Held a very successful Grandparents' Day and Fathers' Day breakfast

Leadership & Management

Goals

To develop and embed a consistent contemporary learning and teaching culture

Achievements

Completed a successful Negotiated School Review

Developed a Team Charter

Developed a Statement on Empowerment

Developed Meditation protocols in the school

Implemented Feedback strategies for teachers and students

Strategically planned for teacher support

Upgraded to the Infiniti Library Management System

Implemented the Child Safe Standards

Implemented Open Classrooms – one day per Term

Published a fortnightly sheet "Around the Grounds" to highlight student learning and events of the school

Implemented a Volunteer Commitment Agreement to encourage parent participation

Professional Development Days

- Catholic Identity - facilitator Louise Harris (CEM)
- School Improvement Data 'Empowered to Grow - facilitator Glen Pearsal
- The Indigenous Story - facilitator Dean Stewart
- Assessment and Reporting

Buildings and Grounds Development

2016 saw the work in developing the Junior Playground continue through the efforts of the Maintenance and Development (MAD) Team and parent volunteers. A Basketball facility was installed which completed these works.

Projects and Programs 2016

Throughout 2016 we continued with the work initiated through the Learning Assessment Project and the Collaborative Literacy Learning Communities Project.

We successfully became a Googles Apps for Education school (GAFE). Through utilization of this resource, students' learning has been empowered. Collaboration, individual research and timely feedback has enriched learning opportunities. Google Communities have been set up for both students and teachers which has assisted with planning for learning and the sharing of knowledge.

Following a successful trial in 2015 where students in Yr. 5 were provided with one to one Chromebooks, one to one Chromebooks were provided for all students in Yr. 4 to Yr. 6. This tool has been most successful in engaging the learner in all aspects of the curriculum. Yr. 3 students have access to banks of Chromebooks and Prep - Yr. 2 students are using iPads and computers.

Thirty-eight staff from St. Mary's School Bairnsdale visited our school to learn about how we are using contemporary teaching approaches to engage students in their learning. They were particularly interested in how we plan together in Teams, how we differentiate learning in-order to cater for all students, and how data is used to inform teaching. It was a very positive experience for both the staff from St. Mary's in Bairnsdale and also for our staff. We are proud of the expert and evidenced based approaches being used in our classrooms and are always very happy to discuss and share our approaches and practices with other professionals.

St. Mary's was invited to participate in a project with the Australian Council for Education and Research (ACARA) to showcase our work with the Australian Curriculum in meeting the needs of students who have particular learning requirements. This work was filmed so as to be shared with schools across Australia.

The Levelled Literacy Intervention program (LLI), Getting Ready in Numeracy (GRIN) Program, effective use of data, focused, expert teaching, along with a continued focus on improving teacher practice, has resulted in improved student learning for our students. This was very evident in our school assessment results and the results from the annual NAPLAN Assessment.

Student Programs/Activities

FIRE Carrier Program

The FIRE Carrier Program, an acronym for "Friends Igniting Reconciliation through Education," continued strongly in 2016. New students and teachers were inducted as FIRE Carriers and participated in a variety of learning experiences to deepen their understanding of this program.

National Sorry Day

We celebrated Sorry Day on 26 May. The day commenced with Mass at 9.15am where there was a focus on reconciling the past and moving on to being a united country where all people are treated with respect and acknowledgement. In the afternoon, we held a Sorry Day celebration where Sherry Balcombe from the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, performed a smoking ceremony and then our Totem Poles were blessed and unveiled. Through this ceremony, we acknowledged the meaning of Sorry Day and how we can be people who promote reconciliation. Along with the Totem Poles which now take pride of place in our Reflection Garden, we also unveiled a plaque inscribed with the words, "a new world with an ancient past." These words were written by renowned author and human rights advocate, Dr. Arnold Zable, who gave us permission to use his words.

Fund Raising

The students participated in a fun day on Tuesday 22 March to raise money to support the work of Caritas Christi. From a suggestion by the Yr. 2 students through their unit based on Active Citizenship, teachers were asked to come dressed as students and students came dressed as teachers. This was a successful and enjoyable day.

Students in Yr. 4 held a Market Day which was aligned with their inquiry Unit "Design and Technology". Through the sale of items, the students raised \$1250.60 for Catholic Missions.

In celebrating the Feast of the Sacred Heart, through donations, the students raised \$1433.35 to support the work of St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Gracie's Shoeboxes of Fun

Yr. 6 students once again participated in an action project following their Confirmation when they prepared gifts and activities for children in the Children's Cancer Centre at the Royal Children's Hospital through the "**Gracie's Shoeboxes of Fun**" program.

Environmental Program

Through an Inquiry Unit in Term Two 2016 called, "Dare to Keep Greensborough Great", Yr. Two students were involved in a project to create an awareness of the need to care for our local environment. Jim Mead, a guest speaker from Banyule Council, spoke to the students about the functioning of Kalparrin Gardens and about the importance of not littering our waterways. He engaged the students in a project of designing posters displaying the importance of putting litter into rubbish bins. Some of these posters were

then made into large transfers which were then placed near storm water drains around the school grounds. The students enjoyed the opportunity to create these posters and also to create a greater awareness of 'binning' rubbish.

Mathematics Competitions

Twenty-nine students from Yr. 5 and 6 competed in the Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads. A team of 22 Yr. 4 students participated in the Maths Games, a supporting program for the Olympiads. The students were chosen for their high ability in problem solving and ongoing commitment to their learning in the area of mathematics. They undertook weekly sessions to explore a range of problem solving strategies and then sat a competition once a month for 5 months.

Our Olympiad students competed against almost 30 000 other students and the Yr. 4 Maths Games students competed against almost 3 500 other students. All our students demonstrated exceptional growth in their learning and problem solving skills over the 5 months. One student in Olympiads achieved within the top 10% and another in the top 20% with a further 12 in the top 50% or higher. In the Maths Games, 11 students were in the top 20% - 50%

Four Yr. 5 and four Yr. 6 students also represented St Mary's in the North Eastern Zone 'Hit the Target' Maths Competition. In this competition, the students had to work in teams of 4 to create a variety of sums that reached a target number. Students needed to use a range of mental computation strategies and work together as a team. Six other schools competed in this competition.

School Choirs

St Mary's Senior and Junior Choirs took part in the third annual Freedom Choir Festival (Zone/District Choir Festival) on Friday 17th June. The Festival gave our students the opportunity to perform for students from other schools as well as observe other performances.

School Performance

Our School Performance titled "Stay Tuned for Giggle Box" with all students participating was held on Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 September in the George Wood Performing Arts Centre in Ringwood. The script was written by a Team of writers and the content was derived from the students' Inquiry Units. The two nights were extremely entertaining and enjoyed by the audience

Sport

In athletics events six students competed at the Victorian State Athletics Championships. Jordan T competed in the final of the 11 YO Boys High Jump finishing 8th, Jessica B (10 YO Girls) competed in the 1500 M finishing 12th, Anthony SP made the final of the 100m, finishing 6th and Anthony SP, Jett L, Lucas W & Riley O finished a very credible 4th in the final of the 4 x 100 Relay.

In Cross Country Jessica B (10YO Girls) competed in Victorian Cross Country Championships finishing in the top 20.

- Year 6 Boys' Basketball team were runners up in Watsonia District Finals
- Year 6 Girls Netball A Team were runners up in Watsonia District Finals
- Year 6 Girls won the Watsonia District Basketball Final
- Year 6 Girls competed in the Regional Final of the Hoop Time Basketball Competition, finishing as Runners Up
- Year 6 AFL 9's Girls finished as Runners Up at the Regional Competition

Community Involvement

The School Advisory Board met on eight occasions and continued to give valuable advice in relation to the operation of the school. A major focus was on Traffic Management and Safety. A decision was made to lock both the pedestrian and road gates from the William Street entrance to the school. The Parents' Association provided a number of social events and continued to successfully run the Tuck shop and Uniform Shop. Fundraising events were also held. The MAD Team held Working Bees throughout the year and successfully completed the major task of the re-development of the Junior playground. It is through the enthusiastic and generous support of these groups, that we are able to continue to build community and have a real sense of pride in who we are at St. Mary's.

2017 School Improvement Goals:

EDUCATION IN FAITH

To connect faith and life in an authentic manner, deepening students understanding of their world, formed by their Catholic Identity and their call to be of service to others.

Intended Outcomes:

- That students know and understand what it means to be a member of a Catholic faith community.
- That students enter into dialogue and engage in activities that deepen their Catholic Identity.

LEARNING AND TEACHING

To empower students, through rigorous and transformative learning, to be self-regulated thinkers and learners, who engage justly in the world.

Intended Outcomes:

- That students achieve at least one year of growth in Literacy and Numeracy.
- That student engagement improves.
- That students demonstrate greater responsibility and capacity to self-regulate their own learning (PRT).

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

To empower staff to be agents of continuous and transformative growth.

Intended Outcomes:

- That the capacity of leaders is extended and enriched, enabling strong supportive leadership.
- That through dynamic and responsive evidence based action, St Mary's community is at the forefront of best practice in education.
- That enhanced feedback and appraisal processes will facilitate transformative growth.

STUDENT WELLBEING

To empower students to know, understand and value themselves as they grow in relationships with others.

Intended Outcome:

- That students develop the skills and strategies to take responsibility for their actions, positive choices and ongoing personal growth

COMMUNITY

To strengthen community partnerships that empowers the growth of all.

Intended Outcomes:

- That community members engage in clear and respectful communication.
- That the community builds positive relationships that enable participation and contribution in all aspects of school life.



28 February 2017

Helen Anderson

PRINCIPAL

St Mary's Greensborough Parish AGM 2017

Pastoral Associate Report

Spirituality and Faith Formation

In two Parish Reviews, since 2000, parishioners identified that a priority for the parish was 'Welcome'. Over the years initiatives have been tried and developed. These initiatives have focused on trying to make new parishioners feel welcome and by greeting people as they come into the church for Mass on the weekend, or at Christmas and Easter, by handing them newsletters. Another initiative has been having monthly morning teas after 10.00 Mass to encourage parishioners to get to know one another. Some of these initiatives continue, others have fallen away somewhat.

My role, since 2014, has enabled me to gather a group, with members of PPC and other parishioners interested and some with experience of ministry to people on the margins of society, in order to explore Welcome from the perspective of the Gospel.

St Mary's has had a reputation of being a welcoming parish and this is basically true, but not everyone experiences that welcome. Feedback has shown that some are excluded and rejected in. This year saw the group

- Finalise and have ratified by Parish Pastoral Council, a set of Guiding Principles which all parish groups are asked to embrace and enact.
- Conduct education and formation opportunities for various parish groups to assist them to engage with the Guiding Principles and consider how they might enact them in their particular ministry
- Create some improvements in the Gathering Space of the church to make it feel more welcoming.
- Place banners, one on the Gathering Space and one on the foyer of the Administration Building that display the guiding Principles.

Although much of our work has been aimed at embedding a Gospel centred understanding of Welcome in the parish, the groups goal is not limited to making St Mary's parish feel welcome, or enhancing the welcome at St Mary's, but also to assist or affirm parishioners in living with these Principles in their everyday encounters. We don't exist, as Christians, just to make our own community a welcome place, but to bring about compassion, justice, joy, hope and peace in our wider communities, our families and in the world.

Apart from training a small team in the parish to lead retreats, I provide spiritual direction to a small number of people in the parish. However, spirituality is not only expressed through structured activities.

A large focus of my work is about nurturing the spirit of individuals and groups and the wider parish community. The spirituality of a community can be felt, or known through experience as we encounter one another. A spirit of Welcome, for example, enables a transparent and compassionate and inviting community to be known by ourselves and by those who engage with us through funerals, other pastoral encounters, in our liturgies, in our parish and school offices, across the car park, in the tones of voice and in our capacity to be present to each other.

I have enjoyed the opportunities provided me by Fr Steven to share reflections at our Sunday

Masses. I am grateful to both Fr Steven and Fr Dong, for their willingness to make room for me in that way. I am also grateful for the opportunities to share reflections on sacramentality at our Faith Formation Nights for parents of those children preparing for sacraments. To express something from the depth of my being about my experience of God in everyday life brings me great consolation.

Currently I am supporting the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children, which we run jointly with St Francis Xavier Parish, Montmorency. St Mary's does not have any children being brought into the Church this Easter.

Prep Parent Connections Night

Another initiative which nourishes the spirit of the parish, is the Prep Parent Connections Night. Here, we invite prep parents to come along to a night that is steeped in spirituality, although not named that way. Parents are welcomed, they are invited to engage with each other – making connections, they have time to remember and reflect upon this prep child of their and to express in a letter their hopes and desires and feelings of love for this child. It is a night that has been described as a night they will always remember. What we are doing on this night is enabling parents to see the parish who cares for them and their child, engaging them in stillness and reflection and helping them to see God present in their everyday experiences and in the love they have for their child.

Pastoral encounters

Each year I endeavor to make contact with all new prep parents to see if they would like a visit from me, representing the parish. Again, what I hope this visit does, is enable parents to see the parish that surrounds them and cares for them. Occasionally I pick up a pastoral concern and can give further support.

In this last year I spent a little time in an advocacy role for a parent. When I can offer that assistance I see it as another way of expressing God's love.

Formation & Support for ministry

One aspect of my role is providing formation and support for those in ministry. I have provided in this way for Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and Communion to the Sick. Supporting groups, such as assisting the Baptism Team and Pastoral Care Group to recruit more members and the Pastoral Care Group have been some of the ways in which I have done that this year.

Just in relation to the Pastoral Care group, Betty Ryan and Faye Taylor have retired as coordinators of that important ministry. They have given themselves tirelessly for many years organizing a number of other volunteers to cater after funerals. Now that I have established connections with school parents I was able to seek their support so that this ministry may continue. I have a number of parents willing to work with the older group to ensure this ministry into the future.

With much gratitude for the support and care of parishioners,

Jacinta Bright
Pastoral Associate

St Mary's Greensborough Parish AGM 2017 Finance Committee Report

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
	2016	2015		2016	2015
Sacrificial Giving (excl. SBF)	204,048	183,401	General Expenditure	38,674	48,676
Second Collection - Loose	23,646	23,127	Wages(secretary, pastoral associate)	120,277	114,032
Fundraising	69,133	58,150	Pastoral Ep's & Liturgical costs	26,038	16,231
Donations	6,056	8,627	Property Costs (incl. Hall, insurance, security, cleaning, light, power and rates)	66,774	83,002
Rental	58,673	44,643	Fundraising expenses	16,072	24,585
Interest	399	339	Archdiocesan Levies	19,548	19,832
Piety	7,857	8,382	Interest	22,863	27,601
Sundry	19,246	45,986	Capital Expenditure	52,340	48,824
TOTAL	\$389,058	\$ 372,655	TOTAL	\$ 362,586	\$382,783

Parish Support Program: The last round of renewal was conducted March 2016 and the pledges were increased by approx. \$1400

We have discontinued the School Building Fund contribution of 10% it is now at 0.

In 2016 we initiated the Parish Levy for School families not contributing to Sacrificial Giving. We set the levy at \$120 per family we collected 60%.

The Parish has to pay back **\$20,000 per quarter** for the gathering Space. This is servicing a loan of \$768,000 over a period of 15 years.

It has to be stressed that we are in a position to make our repayments, and the money has to be managed. At this stage there are no plans for further works. e.g. renewing the light fittings with better energy efficient technology.

Parish Surrounds

The Finance committee has committed to the school support that will use the balance of the SBF until it has been fully drawn down

The Finance Committee will remain vigilant in monitoring the progress of Parish finances.

Presented by Paul Girolami
Finance Committee



St Mary's Parish
Maintenance and Development Team



Presidents' Report

It is with pleasure that we present this Maintenance and Development Team (**MaD** Team) report to the 2017 Parish Pastoral Council annual general meeting.

With continued commitment to our mission statement; "We are likeminded individuals who come together with a commitment of leadership, friendship, fun, co-operation and achievement who care for our Parish and its parishioners and all buildings, infrastructure and grounds within the St Mary's Church and School boundaries", we are pleased to report that MaD have had a successful year 2016/17.

With the resignation of MaD President John Crapis in late 2016, John Wood and Peter McKenna stepped into a caretaker role as interim co-Presidents until MaD's next AGM which will be held in April 2017.

We would like take the opportunity to thank John Crapis for his contribution and we wish him the very best in all that he does in the future.

John (Woodsy) and Peter (Macca) have met with Helen Anderson (and kept Fr Steven informed) to discuss the future direction of MaD and to slightly refine the yearly working bee calendar to reflect the busier lifestyles to which we all endure these days.

With the blessing of the SAB and the Parish, it was decided to have 6 Working Bees allocated to classes. These were to be listed on Volunteer Form and parents were asked to indicate their attendance at designated Working Bee or choose another if more suitable. Those dates are:

11 February	Year 1
18 March	Prep and Year 6
6 May	Year 3
26 August	Year 2
14 October	Year 4
11 November	Year 5

Another 3 dates would be allocated to 'specialist' working bees with just the MaD Team and with an open invitation to anyone else who would like to join us. Those dates are:

17 June	MaD Team Working Bee
29 July	MaD Team Working Bee
16 December	MaD Team Working Bee

Mid last year, MaD started the junior basketball court project. It would be fair to say that due to inclement weather and other circumstances beyond our control we fell a little behind in completing this great project. We have committed to completion within the next couple of weeks.

We are now in the final stages of designing our next Major Project which is the Footpath Widening and Landscaping Project, from the William Street car park to the Mackillop Learning Centre adjacent to the oval. This has become a priority as there is some erosion occurring which has started to undermine the existing path. It proves to be a great opportunity to construct some very attractive terraced landscaping, install shelters, tree planting and other improvements all subject to final monetary figures of course. It should be pointed out that the MaD team has done this type of work in the past at a greatly reduced cost than otherwise would be the case.

The 11th of February saw our first working bee with a year 1 focus. It was well attended with about 15 families in attendance and we got a lot work done on the gardens in and around our 5 Acres.

On the 16th of February MaD operated the BBQ at the Prep/Buddy Picnic. We cooked over 500 sausages which we served in bread. It was a beautiful evening with families enjoying games, each other's company and something to eat and drink. We also managed to recruit 2 new members who wish to join MaD.

We have suggested that families, in year level groups for the school for example, would be offered an area in the school for them to take responsibility for and to maintain, with the help and guidance of MaD. We hoped that this will build a sense of ownership for their area offering a point of pride and as a contribution to the beautification of our 5 Acres.

As such at the Prep and Year 6 working bee to be held on the 18th March the focus will be on planting around Bonnie's Playground and install a 'digging pit' on Senior Adventure area next to JKC. This area would then be offered to families as "their patch" to maintain.

We look forward to working with all shareholders of our 5 Acres in 2017 and we trust that our commitment to St Mary's continues to be as well received as it has been in the past. We all do what we do as caring parents and parishioners.

Regards

Peter McKenna and John Wood
Co Interim Presidents
MaD.

St Mary's Greensborough

School Advisory Board Chairperson's Report 2016

2016 was a busy year for the SAB as we worked through policies and implemented our traffic management plan.

The main actions of the SAB are conducted through three sub-committees, which report back to the board each month and action is taken as appropriate. These sub-committees are Parent Engagement and Participation, Policy Review and Development and Grounds Management. Here is a summary of what these groups worked on during 2016

1. Parent Engagement and Participation
 - Parent Volunteer Form

The main target for the SAB was to engage the school community into all facets of the school. As in most schools and organisations, most of the volunteer work is done by a few. We worked on a volunteer form as a tool to engage with parents about all the fundraising activities conducted by the school and the parish (school fete) and to increase the number of families becoming involved. In other words, *to strengthen our bonds as a community*. A direct result of this action is also a form of welcome; being welcomed into the community and contributing to its growth and success.

The results have been excellent. The number of first respondents to the form this year is 185 families (as at 27/2) and all fundraising events for the year have a large pool of volunteers.

2. Policies
 - Child Safe Policy

The Child Safe policy is a requirement that must be addressed by the school and we took this opportunity to revise the current policy with an updated and thorough review.

3. Grounds
 - Traffic Management Plan

After consultation with the school community, to address the safety concerns of parents and to create a policy whose purpose is to ensure the safety of all students while on school roadways and carparks and to separate vehicles and pedestrians. The safety of students, staff, parents and parishioners was paramount in our discussions.

The School Advisory Board canvassed the opinions of all parents at the school through the online survey conducted late in 2015 and has developed this plan in partnership with the parish.

- Junior Playground

Completed last year, this is a testament to the hard work of the MaD team, the fundraising efforts of the PA and the selfless dedication from some of the parents who donated materials, machinery and not least, their time.

- Basketball Court

Slated to be completed in the next few weeks.

- Working Bees

After consultation with the MaD team it was decided that the school should revert back to year level working bees. This has been included on the parent volunteer form and the results have been impressive:

Prep/Year 6 – 43 families

Year 1 – 24 families

Year 2 – 28 families

Year 3 – 28 families

Year 4 – 28 families

Year 5 – 22 families

This is truly a remarkable result, considering that in some previous working bees we have had 0 attendees.

4. Parish Pastoral Council

We are also working together with the PPC to build stronger ties and clearer communication between the two groups. To that effect we now have a member of the PPC present at the SAB meetings and have had presentations on the 'Parish Principles of Welcome' from Jacinta Bright and Susan Kempen.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Helen Anderson and Liz Sullivan for their support and guidance during my first year as chairperson of the SAB.

The board wishes to thank Father Steve and the Parish, the hardworking and dedicated families of the school, the MaD team and the PA for their enormous work and support over the last twelve months.

Together, as a community, we can achieve great things.

Marco Hall

Chairperson, School Advisory Board

27/2/2017

Strategic Planning Committee Report

Parish AGM Year 2015/16

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) last met in November 2015, so are due to meet again in the coming months.

Father Steven reported to the SPC that the Parish Review conducted in 2013 didn't call out any works relating to physical assets required in this term therefore the Master Plan is being updated to reflect the current position of the Parish as a whole.

The Strategic Planning Groups last set of Agenda and Minutes (slide with updates), SAB Grounds Committee Submission October 2015 and the current version of the Parish Master Plan, V5 091014 will be available at the Parish Office for anyone wishing to read them.

As can be appreciated the SPC supports the greater needs of the Parish and School in endeavouring to drive the required outcomes. Given the successive growth of the Church and School over the past amazing 6 years, a position of consolidation and maintenance has been adopted to ensure the current liabilities are managed.

The SAB put together a Grounds Sub-Committee in mid 2015 with a Grounds Committee Submission being presented to the SPC during the last Meeting.

The Grounds Committee recommendations were incorporated into the minutes as part of the Maintenance and Capital Plan through to 2018.

The MaD Team has picked up a number of these initiatives as part of their major Projects targets and the plan will need to be reviewed based on current achievements and appropriate funds – See MaD Report for detail.

Strategic Plan

March 2014 - Version 5 Updated October 2014.

Plan is due to be revised to accommodate the next 10 year vision.

Key Achievements since Completion of Major Works:

- School Playgrounds
- Junior Basketball Court
- Mosaics – Showing the incremental history of the Parish and School, have been reinstatement on the wall of the Discovery Centre.
- Design for the Wall of the Arts and Language Centre – Design completed to match Discovery Centre.
- Upkeep of the Memorial Garden Plaques
- Upgrade of MaD Equipment
- Ongoing Maintenance Requirements

John Wood - Chair

On behalf of the Strategic Planning Committee

Parish Priest's AGM Report 2017

(5th March 2017)

Welcome:

On behalf of Jacinta Bright, Dong Tran, Helen Anderson and myself as collaborative leaders of our parish community, I welcome you to our Parish AGM and thank you for your presence that indicates your interest in our parish life.

No one person can know the vast operations within our parish. People who are actively involved in some aspects of parish life cannot possibly know everything in every aspect of its life. Even I, who am supposed to have my fingers on the pulse of all things at St. Mary's find it hard to know everything of all the groups' activities and everything that parishioners do in over the 400 different ministries exercised, but they are led competently by people we entrust. So, if anything, my report is more an expression of heartfelt gratitude to the many parishioners who generously and actively involve themselves in the life of the parish because of their love of Church and the people in our parish.

This AGM is a way to inform you, the parishioners with very wide brush-strokes of our pastoral activities, education & formation, planned developments & our activities that extend us beyond our parish to our deanery, diocese, other churches, our local community as well as our financial status.

Our AGM is also an opportunity for us who exercise leadership in our parish to be accountable to you. So, I would like to thank you for the interest you express by coming today and I'd especially like to publicly thank those who have given their reports for their dedicated service to St. Mary's as well as the so many who are involved in practical ways of ministry, leadership and maintenance.

Parish Leadership:

I'd especially like to thank those I work with directly almost on a daily basis, and upon whom I greatly depend – Jacinta Bright, our PA; Dong Tran, our assistant priest, Helen Anderson, our school principal, our Deputy, Elizabeth Sullivan and school staff; Amelia Morse, our REC, Geraldine Conroy & the team of catechists; Frances Olofsson and Sharon Prosser, our secretaries; Denise Chang-Faux, our communications officer; Maureen Carr & Flo Keely, our sacristans who do so much more than just setting-up for Mass and the many others involved in various liturgical ministries which are the heart of our parish's life; and the following leadership committee chairs and all its members: Pat Gullone, the chair of our PPC; Marco Hall, the chair of our School Advisory Board; John Wood, the chair of our Strategic Planning Committee, Paul Girolami, the chair of our Finance Committee; Marian Tacey, the chair of our Liturgy Committee; our Faith Development Team; the MaD committee; Len Bainbridge, for his work with the weekly collections and the Library committee, as well as the members of the many other groups, committees and school staff.

Parish Property Development:

The Strategic Planning Committee, with its four sub-committees - **School; Church; Parish House & Grounds** continues to operate and meet regularly to monitor & review the developments on our property.

Memorial Garden:

A group was also formed out of the Bereavement Committee which explored the development of a memorial garden near the church. This group had done much work culminating in the development of the garden on the Grimshaw St. side of the church. Members of this group, together with Tina Lazzaro, continue to maintain and develop the garden and with the assistance of the MaD committee members, plaques are installed on a regular basis.

Grounds:

I would like to thank the MaD committee for their work and especially that of Tina Lazzaro, who maintain and beautify our grounds and gardens.

Spirituality and Faith Formation:

Faith formation and holistic education of our parishioners is fundamental to the mission of the church. It is of prime concern that our parish offers the best possible opportunities especially in our primary school for learning and preparing the young for secondary school and for life with an integrated formation of Catholic Christian faith. The Catholic school works in partnership with parents in the raising of their children in faith.

We have again completed a booklet for our parish for parents who have children preparing for the Sacraments. It not only provides practical details specific to our parish, but also a theology of sacramentality so as to enable parents to better understand their Catholic Faith as adults, and so to better equip them in the faith formation of their children.

I place much emphasis on the school being a significant part of the parish's life and much is done to manifest the relationship between school and parish. Together with Helen, I meet with all the parents who have enrolled their child into St Mary's for Prep. I use this opportunity to welcome them, to meet their child and to let them know that they are part of the parish community and I encourage them to make use of opportunities to be involved in the life of the parish. I also try to make it clear to them that we work in partnership for the formation and development of their child, particularly their faith formation and that I have an expectation of them to be active participants in this. Jacinta does much in making links between parish and school; she makes contact with all parents of year Prep children, many of whom she visits and establishes a relationship with them; the Prep parent evenings that enable parents to have a sense of belonging to a community wider than the school. There is also the work of the Faith Development Team; the body which consists of school staff, catechists & parishioners to provide faith formation especially for our children and their parents.

Jacinta and I have placed much emphasis on formation and opportunities for reflection for the various leadership groups in our parish as well as for parishioners generally. We are particularly fortunate to have as our PA one who is qualified as a spiritual director

and who competently leads spiritual formation sessions. I am particularly grateful for the way we work well together. She will outline for you these and other ways faith formation and pastoral care are extended.

The Liturgy of the Word team continue to be formed and lead the Monday morning prayer and reflection on the readings of the day as well as on occasions when Dong and I may be on a conference or on vacation.

It is from this group that a team has been formed to also lead not only the vigils for funerals, but also the funerals themselves when families do not wish to have a Requiem Mass and do not insist on having a priest celebrate the funeral. The team has prepared a brochure "Funerals at St. Mary's" outlining also the rationale behind their ministry and it has now prepared several funeral ceremonies with families, led the ceremonies and have also led the service at the graveside or at the crematorium.

Ministers to the Sick are an important aspect of pastoral care in our parish and I especially wish to thank each of them and particularly their coordination by Anne Smale.

Parish Pastoral Council: Every two years half the members of the Council retire and we extend a call for nominations for membership. We are now at the beginning of a new cycle, our current members having been discerned in the middle of last year. We have already undergone 2 intense formation times, the first on a weekend towards the end of last year and another on a recent Saturday. These formation sessions have focused on our understanding of ourselves and one another in the ways that we think and operate out of our individual types of personalities in order that we might better work together as a team. The PPC, with which I choose to work as a collaborative team, continues to attend to priorities put forward by parishioners who participated in the review process held at the beginning of 2013. The key priorities identified in the Review were to:

- Foster outreach programs and projects
- Support engagement and re-engagement of families
- Hold discussion and "dreaming" forums including a desire to enable feedback to Church hierarchy
- Use modern technologies to communicate effectively and engage with all sectors of the Parish community
- Explore ways to foster new involvement in Parish groups (including old and young people)
- Engage with youth including seeking their input into the Parish Review findings.

Parish Partnership:

On the last day of November last year, the Archbishop, Denis Hart, asked to meet with me and asked that given that Michael McEntee, the parish priest of North Greensborough and Diamond Creek, had taken up an appointment he asked him to do, leaving those 2 parishes vacated, if I would be prepared to take up leadership of them together with my current appointment as PP of St. Mary's. This would be together with Dong Tran and Tao Pham as assistants. I accepted his request of me after a few days spent in discussion those I consult and through prayerful discernment.

I was promised support by the Archbishop to lead in the way I see appropriate. I see this as the opportunity to involve as much lay leadership and active ministry to work with me collaboratively, beginning with Jacinta Bright.

I feel a certain degree of preparation for the task because of the exploration of this and other parish restructuring considerations done over many years with the Deanery "Dreaming A Future Structure Group" which will continue to meet and be of support to us in this endeavor and to prepare for the future when more priests will retire and not be replaced.

Though I face this role with a certain degree of trepidation, I am also excited about opportunities this partnership offers for collaborative leadership and changing structures of parish leadership and administration, consistent with the collaborative ecclesiology of Vatican II.

One of the burdens of being a Parish priest is the administration responsibilities. The only way priests can realistically have governance over several parishes is if the many administrative responsibilities can be taken over by someone who works on his behalf in this area. For several years the "Dreaming Group" have worked on researching the feasibility of a Deanery Manager who would work with parish priests, on their behalf, coordinating and supporting paid and voluntary staff in parishes who exercise these administrative roles.

A meeting with Greg Bennet, the Vicar General, Francis Moore, the Finance Manager and Adrian Klep, the Director of the Office of Development took place on February 28th with the all of the Parish priests of the Deanery to determine the future of the proposal put to the Archdiocese to appoint an appropriately qualified person for this role. The meeting was very successful whereby we arrived at a common understanding of the need for such a person. It is to be seeded as a pilot program in the Archdiocese and a group of 3 priests from the Deanery will work with members of the Diocesan offices to create a job description and advertise the position. It is anticipated that the person would be employed by about the middle of this year.

My plan is to begin to get personnel and groups from each of the parishes who exercise similar roles, to meet one another and over time develop ideas of how they can work together in ways that they can exercise their roles more efficiently and more effectively for both the parishes and schools. This has begun already with principals, RECs, Liturgy groups, Baptismal Preparation groups and etc.

The parish team members from each of the parishes is having a formation day intended to explore ways we can work more effectively and efficiently. This will involve all paid staff (and some voluntary staff) of the parishes, (and not the schools at this stage): priests, secretaries, pastoral associate and workers. This day will be led by Tony Biviano, who has been seconded to us by the Office of Development.

Forthcoming events:

Alpha Program: From early May for 8 weeks, this program will be run by several local Christian churches, including our own, at various venues. Rev. Paul Huglin, one of the Diamond Valley Baptist Church ministers will assist some of our parishioners, including Dong, to lead these sessions.

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse:

Jacinta and I intend to again hold some sessions by which we offer opportunities to gather in a prayerful way to talk about how this all affects us individually and as parishes and what we can do about for ourselves.

In conclusion I would like to express my gratitude to all the parishioners for their support of me and their preparedness to be involved in a whole host of ways to make this the vibrant parish community that it has been and for the support they offer for the future as we embark on the partnership of these 3 parishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Rigo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'S'.

(Parish Priest)