MY DEAR PARISHIONERS,

On behalf of our parish family – parishioners, our Parish Leadership Team and staff and the teachers and staff of our parish school – I welcome you.

We are a wonderful community – benefitting from the faith, diversity and talents of our parishioners. We owe a debt of gratitude to the hard work and generosity of those who established our parish.

It is important we honour their legacy by ensuring that we not only maintain our parish but continue to grow in faith, life and love. This is only possible with your prayerful support and your personal and financial engagement. This is why we are undertaking a renewal of our Stewardship Program – last undertaken in 2014.

This Program brochure is designed to introduce you to what lies ahead. The renewal will provide a wonderful opportunity to reflect, as individuals, and together as a community, on what it means to be a part of our parish family. We have identified our priorities for the future – for our church and parish facilities, our commitment to pastoral care and faith development.

In coming weeks there will be speakers, videos and special materials. It is important that we hear YOUR voice. I invite and encourage you to be involved in the Program and contribute to its success by being involved as it unfolds – at Mass and by following us on our updated parish website and Facebook.

May we continue to be a parish rich in faith, rich in service and committed to each other. I commend the Stewardship Program renewal to you and encourage you to be actively involved.

Yours in Christ,

Ir hay

Fr Ray Zammit mssp Parish Administrator, St Thomas Aqinas Norlane and St John the Evangelist Rippleside

OUR PARISH TEAM

- Fr Ray Zammit mssp Parish Administrator
- Parish Pastoral Team
- Matekino Olsen Parish Secretary
- Rod Sims Principal of St Thomas Aquinas Primary School

WHO WE ARE

- "Go Make Disciples" three simple words that guide us in everything we do, acting as a template for all parish activity
- We are a welcoming and inclusive community of faith, serving the people of Norlane and Rippleside
- We may be small in number but are enriched by a wonderful sense of community that brings us together
- We invite everyone to join in and contribute to sustaining and building our parish family. We are all enriched by sharing our faith, energy and talents with and for one another

REASONS FOR CELEBRATION

- We welcome approximately 100 parishioners each week to Mass and the Sacraments
- We continue to provide a wonderful academic and faith education for our parish children 150 children in 2018
- We provide pastoral care and outreach to the disadvantaged, sick and elderly through our support ministries
- We have established a monthly Vietnamese Mass, fortnightly Filipino Prayer Group and fortnightly Latin Mass

OUR HOPES & DREAM

OUR MINISTRY FOCUS

- Our people remain our greatest asset & our greatest priority
- We need to continue to provide quality pastoral care to our parishioners and our school families, as well as outreach to the wider community
- Fr Ray receives wonderful assistance from the Parish Pastoral Team of Betty Hurst (Chair), Vinko Ljubanovic, Hung Nguyen, Julia Mioduchowski, Rod Sims (Principal) and Michael Manganelli (Vice Principal)
- The Pastoral Team does exceptional work but we want to engage more people in our parish groups and ministries
- We all have something to offer the parish we encourage you to "put your hand up" and complete the Parish Groups and Ministries form prepared for this Program

ST THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH

- St Thomas' has undergone a significant renovation since our last Program to make a more welcoming and liturgically improved space – the entrance has been tiled and the baptismal font moved to be placed as the centrepiece; the sanctuary has been remodelled; seating reconfigured; audio/ visual upgraded and carpet replaced in some parts
- The next priority is to paint the interior as many parts are wearing
- *Our Dream* is to have the resources to upgrade the heating and consider a camera to enhance our major celebrations

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

- Whilst the church is in generally good condition, the ceiling needs treating and painting
- We need to upgrade the outside toilets

OUR PARISH SCHOOL

- Under the leadership of Principal, Rod Sims we will continue to provide a quality catholic academic and faith education for our children looking to support the current growth in enrolments
- Continue the wonderful pastoral care initiative that is the 'Breakfast Club' – providing a good breakfast and good start to the day for students 5 days per week - with the ongoing support of students from Sacred Heart and St Joseph's Secondary Colleges

INAITIE: EFMAIII:	10	51 Plume St
Address:	Postcode: By Sunday 2	Norlane VIC 3214 By Sunday 28 October 2018
Phone: Mobile:	My age group is: □under 30 □ 30-39 □ 40-49 □ 50-59 □ 60-69 □ 70+	60-69 70+
Credit Card Please debit my Credit Card with the sum of: \$	Direct Debit from a nominated bank account (Forms available from the Parish Office)	
Every: 🗆 month 🗌 quarter 🗆 half-year 🗌 year	My Pledge will be: \$	
Name on Card:	Every: 🗆 fortnight 🗆 month 🗌 quarter 🗌 half-year 🔄 year	ear
Please only Astercard VISA Expiry Date:/	Envelopes (Available from the Parish Office)	
	My Pledge will be: \$	
I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS AUTHORITY MAY BE CANCELLED IN WRITING AT MY OPTION	Every: 🗆 week 🛛 month 🗌 quarter 🗍 half-year 🗍 year	ear
Signature: Date: Date://	Produced by the PARISH DEVELOPMENT OFFICE	

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR PARISHES

Parishes must be in contact with homes. with people's lives, with the life of society.

They have to be houses where the door is always open so as to go forth toward others.

And it is important that this going-forth follows a clear proposal of faith.

The doors must be opened so that Jesus can go out with all the joy of his message.

Let us pray for our parishes, that they not be simple offices, but that animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.

POPE FRANCIS – September 2017



Produced by the Parish Development Office of the Archdiocese of Melbourne based on information supplied by the Parish.



The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

WHAT WE ASK OF YOU

FAITH

- · Come together to celebrate the Eucharist
- Commit to learning and growing in faith

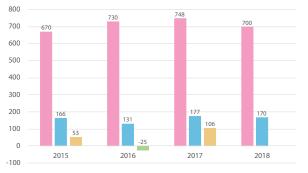
COMMUNITY

- Help grow our sense of community
- Be involved in at least one parish ministry

FUTURF

- Support our parish generously
- Make your meaningful financial pledge to the Stewardship Program

OUR WEEKLY FINANCES



Stewardship Income (pledges) Loose Plate Profit Loss

- Stewardship Income (pledges) should be able to meet our operating costs
- However it cannot so we must rely on uncommitted income from loose plate and special efforts to make up the difference
- As the graph clearly shows we are 'walking a tightrope' either just above or just below the level required
- We need YOUR help to increase our level of pledged Stewardship Income

OUR STEWARDSHIP INCOME CHALLENGE

To increase Stewardship Income from \$700 to a minimum of \$950 per week

"

The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it. – MICHELANGELO

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

WHERE WILL MY CONTRIBUTIONS GO?

- Your Stewardship Pledge will help meet basic operating needs - insurance, utility bills, staff wages etc.
- It will help maintain our two churches and parish facilities
- It will support programs of faith education, pastoral care & outreach
- Please don't forget your support of the Presbytery collection which will help support Father Ray and other priests of the Archdiocese in unfortunate circumstances, as well as contribute to care for the growing number of retired priests

WHO SHOULD GIVE AND HOW MUCH?

- Every parish family no one is excluded
- There is no set amount because everyone is different
- Give generously in proportion to what you have received
- Those that have less give less those that have more give more

WHY SHOULD I GIVE?

- Out of gratitude for our many blessings
- The more the parish receives, the more we can do, the more outreach we can provide
- The more we can be a parish "... animated by a missionary spirit, a place where faith is communicated and charity is seen" – Pope Francis

YOUR LASTING LEGACY

- Have you considered St Thomas Aguinas and St John The Evangelist or the Archdiocese of Melbourne in your Will?
- Your beguest could be a lasting legacy to our parish community
- For information please contact Fr Ray or the Parish Office

PARISH.LIFE.

FAITH **COMMUNIT FUTURE**

St Thomas Aquinas – Norlane St John The Evangelist – Rippleside Stewardship 2018