

PARISH AMALGAMATION

Dear Parishioners,

As we move through the consultative process of Amalgamation our next step is our first consultation meeting with our communities. It is a time to think about our parish, its history, and our role in it. Each community will have a consultative session as listed below, they will be held after all Masses, and you can join any session that suits your diary. These Consultative meetings will take place as follows:

St Joseph's: **5.30pm** Mass Saturday **12/9** and Sunday **11am** Mass **13/9**

St Anthony's: **10.30am** Mass Sunday **13/9**

Holy Spirit: **5pm** Mass Saturday **19/9** and Sunday **9.30am** Mass **20/9**

St Mary's: **10am** Mass and **5.30pm** Masses Sunday **4/10**

We hope one of these times suit your diary and look forward to seeing you there. Transition Team

QA: What does it mean that our finances are going to be amalgamated?

At present, we have been operating under 3 separate entities with 3 ABNs as a Mission group of parishes. We pay most expenses three times whether it be utilities, council rates, software licenses, Archdiocesan levies and charges, three insurances, etc. We have one accountant who oversees three sets of books, reports quarterly to the tax office for three ABNs, prepares 3 quarterly finance reports, has to review three reconciliations monthly and prepare three financial statements annually. We also pay invoices for services used across all three parishes, with the associated costs and GST apportioned accordingly.

As an Amalgamated parish, we would be one entity, under 1 ABN with all licenses and payments being paid out of one account. Each parish is financially viable, there are no loans, each parish has investments at CDF enjoying excellent interest rates, each parish has buildings that are being rented commercially. The major costs for all churches cover maintenance, insurance, safety requirements, purchase of new assets, utility bills, salaries etc. The major costs regarding the use of funds is discussed by the finance teams and advice is recommended to Fr Shabin for his consideration and approval. Amalgamation will save time and effort in administration, reporting, compliance with worksafe, the ATO and the annual return to the ACNC. This centralization will streamline processes and decision making and communication. The intention of amalgamation is not to disadvantage any community, but to simplify administration and strengthen the responsible stewardship of parish resources.

D: Cosa significa che le nostre finanze saranno accorpate?

Attualmente le nostre tre parrocchie operano come tre entità distinte, ciascuna con il proprio ABN. Ciò significa che molte spese vengono sostenute tre volte, come utenze, tasse comunali, licenze software, contributi e oneri diocesani, assicurazioni e altri costi amministrativi.

Inoltre, il nostro contabile gestisce tre contabilità separate, tre serie di rapporti finanziari e tre dichiarazioni annuali. Anche le spese condivise tra le parrocchie devono essere ripartite e contabilizzate separatamente.

Con l'amalgamazione, le tre parrocchie diventeranno un'unica entità con un solo ABN, un unico sistema contabile e un'unica struttura amministrativa. Tutte le parrocchie sono finanziariamente solide: non hanno prestiti, possiedono investimenti presso il CDF e dispongono di immobili affittati commercialmente. Le principali spese riguardano manutenzione, assicurazioni, requisiti di sicurezza, nuove attrezzature, utenze e stipendi. Le decisioni sull'utilizzo dei fondi continueranno a essere valutate dai gruppi finanziari e sottoposte a Fr Shabin per approvazione. L'amalgamazione non ha lo scopo di svantaggiare alcuna comunità, ma di semplificare l'amministrazione, ridurre il carico burocratico, migliorare l'efficienza e rafforzare una gestione responsabile delle risorse parrocchiali.