

NEWSLETTER

All Saints Parish Hall Update

WE'VE HIT \$68,000



Thanks to the generosity of so many donors, the All Saints Parish Hall Appeal is off to a flying start. We are delighted to share that we've already raised \$68,000—a significant step towards our ultimate goal of \$460,000. These funds, securely held by the National Trust, will be dedicated to urgent structural repairs including new flooring, reinforced foundations, and vital treatments to address damp and water damage.

Thank You to Our Donors

We are deeply grateful to both individuals and organisations who have already contributed. Your kindness is helping preserve a much-loved Fitzroy landmark.

Special thanks go to:

- The Scanlon Foundation — whose work focuses on fostering social cohesion and supporting diverse communities across Australia.
- Connellan Industries — are commercial builders and refurbishment specialists.
- Nelson Alexander Real Estate — for installing our billboard.
- Sacred Heart Primary School, Fitzroy — where staff and students have enthusiastically joined in the appeal.

Seeking Corporate Sponsors

We warmly invite other businesses to join us as partners in this historic project. By becoming a corporate sponsor, your organisation will be helping safeguard the hall's heritage while ensuring it continues to serve local groups and families for generations to come.

For enquiries or to arrange a personalised tour of the hall, please contact Fr Max Vodola at 0417 588 965 or email fitzroy@cam.org.au.

ACU STUDENTS JOIN US

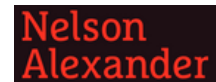
Fresh Energy, Fresh Ideas

Our Parish Hall Appeal has been enriched by the contribution of three talented students from Australian Catholic University (ACU). Bringing their studies and skills into practice, they've added creativity and enthusiasm to our team:

- Sarah — a Marketing student, who helped shape campaign messaging and visual materials.
- Sam — a Commerce student majoring in Human Relations, who supported outreach and strengthened community engagement.
- Andrew — a Commerce student majoring in Accounting, who provided insight into financial management and reporting.

Together, they've worked alongside our appeal committee and professional advisors to design brochures, billboards, and newsletters. They also played a vital role in formalising our partnerships with the National Trust and GiveNow.

We are grateful for their professionalism, fresh perspectives, and generosity of spirit. Their involvement is a shining example of how young people can contribute to community heritage projects—and we look forward to seeing all they achieve in the future.



CELEBRATION OF ITALIAN HERITAGE

The All Saints Parish Hall has long been a place where community and culture come together. In the 1960s, it was home to the newly founded Italian Catholic Federation (Federazione Cattolica Italiana), established to support the growing number of Italian migrants in Melbourne. The Federation gave those far from family a space to connect through faith, friendship, and celebration.

Thanks to beautiful photos generously shared by long-standing members, we can look back on those vibrant days when the hall came alive with wedding receptions, gala balls, and fundraising events. The images show men and women dressed in their finest, dancing and celebrating beneath elaborately decorated ceilings.

The Federation's beginnings at All Saints marked the start of something bigger. From Fitzroy, it grew to branches across Melbourne, regional Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland, leaving a lasting legacy of faith and culture.

As we work today to restore the Parish Hall, we honour the stories it holds—stories of migration, resilience, and joy. These memories remind us that the hall has always been more than bricks and mortar; it is the heart of our community's shared history.

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF UGO AND ORIELLA ROMANIN



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