



OUR 2023 PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM

Welcome to the final week of our Parish Renewal Program – the Parish Commitment Weekend.

Last week we considered our **engagement** in parish life. How our involvement in parish groups & ministries is central to building parish community – and central to actively living our faith through service to others. This week we turn our attention to **parish finances**.

WE ASK FOR YOUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

What is the current state of our Thanksgiving income?

- Thanksgiving is traditionally a major source of parish income
- It suffered during the COVID-19 years – so we need a significant increase to fund our priorities
- This is a challenge – but can be achieved with the support of ALL parish families

What does my financial support pay for?

Thanksgiving

- Supporting our parish mission, pastoral care and outreach programs
- Professional parish staff
- The operating costs of the parish – insurance, utilities etc.
- The maintenance of our church and parish facilities

Presbytery

- Support for Fr Thomas, our Parish Priest
- Support for retired priests through the Priests Retirement Foundation
- Support for less advantaged priests through the Priests Remuneration Fund
- Support for the Archbishop & Bishops

How much should I pledge?

- It is now 7 years since we conducted a Renewal Program, so we are asking all families to review and renew their commitments. How do you use your discretionary income – after

paying the essentials? Is support of your parish a priority for you? We simply ask that your financial support with a Thanksgiving pledge is a meaningful one in your own individual circumstances.

- We unashamedly ask those with the greatest capacity to contribute the most – reserving special thanks for those on restricted incomes whose continued support is very much appreciated

How do I pledge?

- Use the Commitment form from the Program brochure
- Download the Commitment form from the parish website
- Use the Commitment form available in hard copy at all Masses this weekend – Sat 28 & Sun 29 October
- Return your completed pledge at Mass this weekend – or to the Parish Office no later than Wed 1 November

THOUGHTS FROM OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Q: Why do you think it is important to support our parish financially through our Thanksgiving Program?

“Our parish cannot operate without our strong, regular financial support. This support is vital for funding our parish mission – our pastoral & outreach initiatives, our professional parish staff, maintenance of our beautiful church and general operational expenses. Remember, if we don’t do it – who will?”

“Our commitment to a regular Thanksgiving pledge is not an expense or an impost. It is OUR INVESTMENT in our great parish. It is an offering of thanks to God – and a clear expression that we are committed to the parish – that it means something to us.”

POPE FRANCIS SAYS

“The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel.”

