

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISH

ABN 49 963 842 994

Partnership of Parishes between Our Lady of Good Counsel, Deepdene and All Hallows, Balwyn Update: May 2010

The Parish Partnership will take effect on Fr Joe Hynan's retirement on June 24, 2010.

The Parish Partnership Sub-Committee (comprising Fr Brendan Reed, Fr Joe Hynan and representatives of the leadership teams of both OLGC and All Hallows) has been planning for a smooth transition into the first stage of the Parish Partnership. The first stage is the period immediately following Fr Joe Hynan's retirement.

The Parish Partnership Sub-Committee has used the following Mission Statement to underpin its planning:

To ensure continued pastoral care and pastoral services to every parishioner within the parishes of All Hallows and Our Lady of Good Counsel.

Naturally, there will be changes to the way both parishes work. The Parish Partnership must be set up in a way that makes it sustainable for one priest while ensuring the above Mission is achieved. In the spirit of developing a successful partnership, both parishes have agreed that some concessions are necessary.

In the planning of the first stage of the Parish Partnership the following pastoral and administrative activities of each parish are being considered:

- **Parish Administration:** One parish office at OLGC will exist to serve both parishes.
- **Mass times:** there are currently seven weekend Masses between both parishes. Mass rationalization will occur across both parishes for weekend and weekday Masses. At this stage it is proposed that:

Sunday Mass times will be:

OLGC: Saturday 5.30pm, Sunday 10.30am and 5.00pm.

All Hallows: Sunday 9.00am.

Weekday Mass times will be:

OLGC: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.15am.

All Hallows: Tuesday and Thursday at 9.15am.

Reconciliation will be celebrated prior to the Saturday evening Mass at OLGC.

Parishioners are warmly welcome to attend whichever Mass suits them best, irrespective of location.

- **First Communion and Confirmation:** the 2010 dates will remain the same in both parishes.
- **Communion to the sick:** will continue with a combined roster.
- **Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals:** will continue to be available at both parishes through the OLGC Parish Office.
- **Schools:** Both primary schools will continue to operate as normal.
- **Caretaking of properties:** appropriate measures will be put in place to manage both parishes securely.

More details will be available in June prior to the first stage of the Parish Partnership coming into effect.

The Parish Partnership is both exciting and challenging. By working together we have the opportunity to make this a truly successful partnership and reap the benefits of a stronger, richer and enthusiastic parish community. There is not only the opportunity to promote and grow the pastoral services of each of OLGC and All Hallows, but to promote and grow participation, diversity and the OLGC/All Hallows community.

For more background information on the Parish Partnership, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions document released in March 2010. This document is on the OLGC website: www.olgc.com.au Your feedback is welcome at parish@olgc.com.au and allhallowbalwyn@bigpond.com



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