

# OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISH

ABN 49 963 842 994

## Partnership of Parishes between Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) Deepdene and All Hallows Balwyn Frequently Asked Questions March 2010

**1. What is the parish partnership and why?**

Fr Joe Hynan, Parish Priest of All Hallows in Balwyn, will be retiring in June at the age of 75. The Archbishop has requested, and Fr Brendan Reed has accepted, the appointment as Parish Priest of All Hallows in Balwyn. Father Brendan Reed will continue his appointment as Parish Priest at OLGC, Deepdene. The simple definition of a parish partnership is that one priest is appointed to two parishes. As the number of priests has been declining, and the percentage of Catholics regularly attending Mass continues to decline, over sixty parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne have formed partnerships.

**2. How will this parish partnership come about?**

For the parish partnership to be effective both parishes will need to work together from now. To this end a Parish Partnership Sub-Committee is currently being formed. It will comprise Fr Brendan Reed, Fr Joe Hynan (until his retirement), some OLGC Parish Leadership Team members and some Parish Leadership Group members from All Hallows parish. The role of the Parish Partnership Sub-Committee will be to ensure a smooth transition into the parish partnership and beyond.

**3. When does the parish partnership take effect?**

The parish partnership will take effect from Fr Joe Hynan's retirement on June 24, 2010.

**4. What will happen to Mass times at OLGC and All Hallows?**

There will need to be a review of Mass times for each parish. Fr Brendan Reed will work closely with the Parish Partnership Sub-Committee and will advise both Parishes of any changes closer to the parish partnership.

**5. How will the Sacraments and other celebrations at OLGC and All Hallows be affected by the parish partnership?**

As with Mass times the celebration of the Sacraments and other events in the church calendar of each parish will be considered by the Parish Partnership Sub-Committee and advice will be given to each parish of any changes.

**6. What will happen to the administration of the parishes in the parish partnership?**

The administration of the parishes will be considered by the Parish Partnership Sub-Committee. There is no doubt that some of the administrative functions will be combined. Parishioners will be kept informed of any changes.

**7. How will the schools of each parish be affected by the parish partnership?**

The parish schools will continue to be run under the leadership of their respective Principals. Fr Brendan Reed will become the Canonical Administrator for both schools after the parish partnership.

**8. How will the parish partnership impact the Future Directions Project of OLGC?**

The Future Directions Project of OLGC, which involves the creation of a Master Plan for all of OLGC's properties, will continue as planned.

