

# Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish

Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Martin de Porres and  
St. Anthony in the Fields

ONE PARISH, SHARING ONE FAITH IN CHRIST

18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2008

Dear Parishioners,

It has been a number of months since I was appointed Parish Priest to the Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish and I thank the community for the support received over that time.

In August, I met with the Executive of the Parish Councils and we decided on a process that would move the communities of OLG, St Martins and St Anthonys to greater integration in a process of collaboration, consultation and community input.

I have invited a number of your Parish Councillors, including 3 from St Anthonys, to form a Steering Committee to assist me and my fellow priests in achieving the goal of **ONE PARISH, SHARING ONE FAITH IN CHRIST**. The goal date to complete the integration is Pentecost Sunday 2010. A Unity Mass will be held on Pentecost Sunday 2010 to celebrate this achievement.

In the current format, we have many duplicated processes, the time demands of these duplications has particular impact on the Priests and the energy they require to attend to the spiritual needs of the Parish. For practical reasons we need to move to bring about a Parish structure that supports the larger Parish. We do, however, acknowledge we must always take into consideration the emotional needs of those involved.

In starting the process our first step will be to 'GET ORGANISED'. The existing PPC's have met in October, and will be inviting all Parish Groups to start the process of Group integration. Each group will be given a clear direction and will be asked to report back on how and when integration of the Group will be completed. On 5<sup>th</sup> November 2008 and 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2008 there will be the first joint meetings of the two PPC's. These meetings will guide the progress of the integration of the Parish Groups and the Parish in general to insure we meet the goal date in 2010. At any time during the integration process Parishioners should feel free to air any issues or concerns with the Parish Councillors.

**COMUNICATION** is a key issue in this integration process, to make sure everyone is kept informed the weekly Bulletin will be used to communicate the progress of the integration. The Bulletin will be supported by the Parish Web site, school newsletters and the news letter the 'Terry graph'.

Our main goal in all this is to grow our community into a strong, vibrant and welcoming Parish . We ask you to assist where you can and pray for the success of this process.

May the Holy Spirit guide us in all we do

Fr Michael O'Toole