



Regents Park Parish

We, the Catholic Communities of Regents Park Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit, commit to building a welcoming, inclusive, Christ-centred community based upon the Gospel values of leadership and service.

STRATEGIC PLAN

2022 - 2026

PRIEST'S FOREWORD

From Fr John Conway

We, the Catholic Communities of Regents Park Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit, commit to building a welcoming, inclusive, Christ-centred community grounded upon the Gospel values of leadership and service.

As you are aware, this is our Parish Mission Statement, and it is this very proclamation that will guide and direct the strategic plan that our Pastoral Leadership Team (PLT), and a number of parishioners from each of our churches have endeavoured to develop over these past few months. Supported by the staff from Evangelisation Brisbane (EB) we have compiled this strategic plan that will drive our call to mission into the future.



Nothing really changes for us, and yet everything can change for us, because through our strategic plan we will focus upon the particular ministries that will enable us to grow together in faith as we set out to participate in the mission of the Church in our own local areas.

Each of the areas of ministry that has been our focus also contains specific ways of being involved and, as our strategic plan comes to life, you will have an opportunity to participate in ministry yourselves.

There has been much work in bringing this living document to life for our parish and I am grateful to the members of the PLT as well as the dedicated parishioners who have given their time to bring all of this together. My thanks also to the members of EB who have shared the journey with us.

Now the strategic plan has come to life. It is up to all of us to make it grow into the future. May God continue to guide us in this endeavour.

Fr John Conway
Parish Priest

From Fr John Hong

From our own experience and the Church's life as a whole, we may be able to say that God has been creating and re-creating the Church and the world. On the local level, in spite of challenges and difficulties such as the impact of the Covid pandemic, our parish has been going on. We can find it hard to deny that God is the most faithful companion on the journey. We carry out our mission particularly in the context of this parish we belong to.

Over the last several months, our Pastoral Leadership Team and dedicated parishioners have developed the strategic plan focusing on particular ministries for the life of our parish family. It is in the light of our Parish Mission Statement to build up 'a welcoming, inclusive, Christ-centred community grounded upon the Gospel values of leadership and service'.

Each of us is a part of the mission and is invited to participate in the ministries set out in the strategic plan which has now been completed. My prayer is that we, with God's guidance and inspiration, endeavour to bring the plan to fulfilment.

As we pray in the Responsorial Psalm at Pentecost, "Lord, send out your spirit and renew the face of the earth", may our parish be renewed always in faith, hope, love and service, for the sake of 'Thy Kingdom come and Thy will be done on earth' in the corner of the world called Regents Park Parish now and in the time to come. May God bless us all!



Fr John Hong
Associate Pastor



CONTENTS

p.04 Mission, Vision and Values

p.05 Organisational Chart

p.06 Whole of Parish

p.07 Adult Faith & Evangelisation

p.09 Children & Families

p.11 Liturgy

p.13 Youth & Young Adults

p.15 Outreach & Service

p.17 Community Life

A photograph of a wooden cross standing in a garden. The cross is made of weathered wood and is positioned on the right side of the frame. The background is filled with lush green trees and bushes. The ground in the foreground is covered with reddish-brown mulch. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**WE THE CATHOLIC
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MISSION

We, the Catholic Communities of Regents Park Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit, commit to building a welcoming, inclusive, Christ-centred community based upon the Gospel values of leadership and service.

VISION

Regents Park Parish has a dream to be a growing community where every Sunday mass feels like Christmas. When people walk into our community, they will experience a space full of vibrancy, joy and love. Our community will be full of people of all ages and demographics, children, families, couples, teenagers, young adults, adults and older adults.

We have a vision to be a community where everyone who encounters us is invited into an experience of family and belonging. We are a community where everyone is greeted like they have been known for years. We dream to be a parish where everyone experiences belonging regardless of where they are in their faith journey.

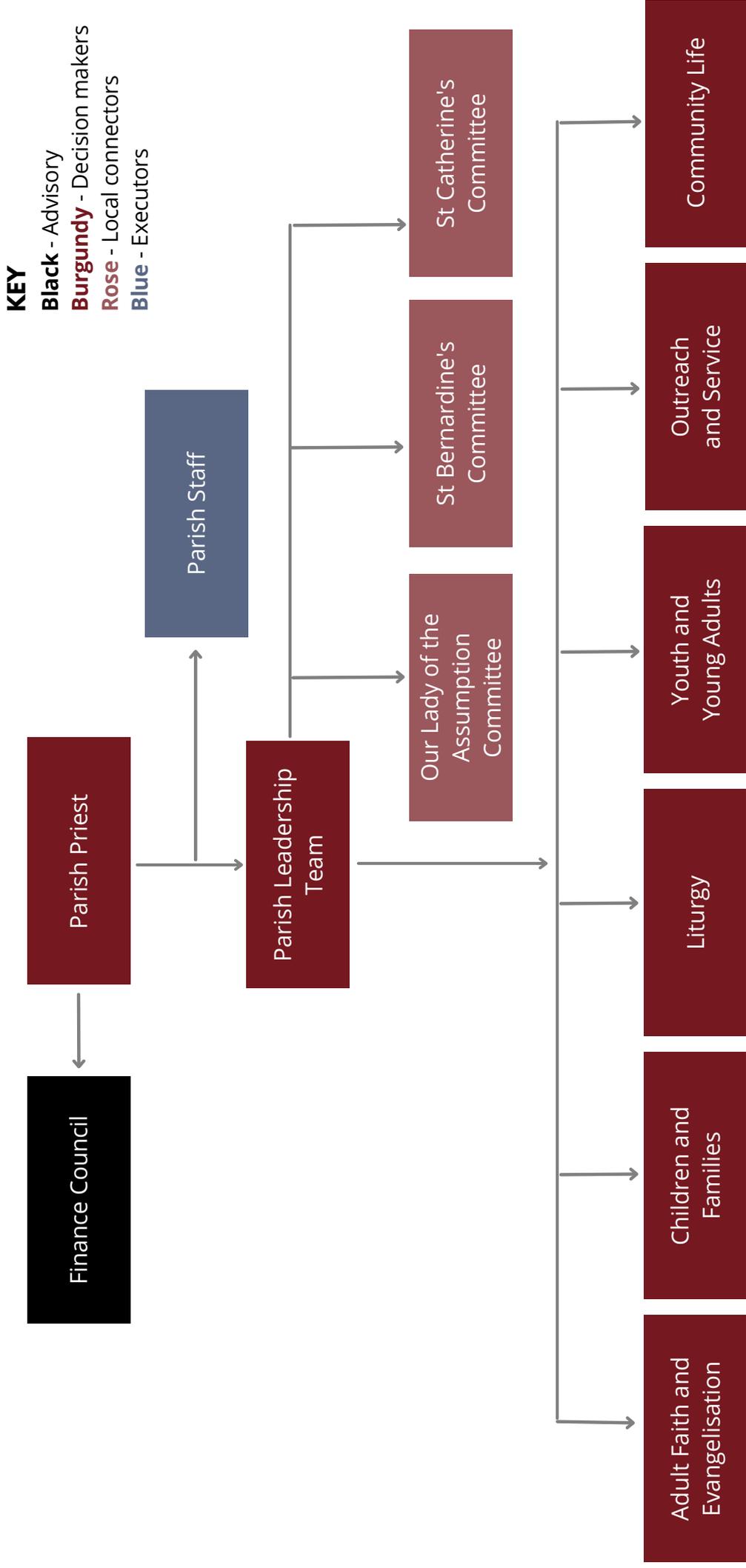
We dream of being a Christ-centred community who are enriched by the mass and encounter Jesus in the Eucharist. We dream that our parish will draw people into the moment of encounter with Christ who then go out beyond the walls of the church to be the face of Christ.

VALUES

- Respectful
- Christ-centred (*Loving, Forgiveness, Living Faith, Authenticity, Intentionality, Pro-Active*)
- Inclusive (*Welcoming, Hospitality, Non-Judgmental*)
- United (*Community*)
- Inspiring (*Faith, Leaders, Community*)
- Service (*Generosity*)



ORGANISATIONAL CHART





WHOLE OF PARISH

The Parish Leadership Team has a vision to take an active leadership role and have a powerful presence in the parish. We have a dream to bring our different skills and strengths together to serve the betterment of our parish as a whole community.

OUTCOME ONE:

ENSURE THAT EVERY TEAM IS FUNCTIONING AND HAS EVERYTHING THEY NEED TO EXECUTE THIS STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIES:

- a Assign PLT members to act as liaisons in support of each ministry team, monthly checking the health and function of the team and seeking to actively support the development and function of the team.
- b Lead a call out annually to invite additional parishioners who have a passion for a ministry area to speak to the team leader of that ministry area about joining the team.
- c Establish quarterly meetings, bringing all ministry teams together to provide ongoing support.

OUTCOME TWO:

THE PARISH HAS A COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING PLAN THAT IS IMPLEMENTED AND REGULARLY REVIEWED

STRATEGIES:

- a Develop a first draft Communication and Marketing Plan applicable to Regents Park Catholic Parish (HC, GB, JC, BP) by 30 April 2022.
- b Identify key individuals, across the three church centres, based upon their Ministry roles, and invite them to participate in revising the Communication and Marketing Plan by 31 May 2022.
- c Implement and monitor (quarterly review) the Communication and Marketing Plan.

OUTCOME THREE:

IDENTIFY LEADERS AND THEIR GIFTS ACROSS THE PARISH AND INVITE THEM TO SERVE WHERE THEIR GIFTS MAY BE UTILISED

STRATEGIES:

- a Include emerging leaders and their engagement in the parish as a regular agenda item at all PLT meetings and in ministry team leader catch-ups.
- b Each PLT member will catch up with one new emerging leader a month.



ADULT FAITH & EVANGELISATION

The Adult Faith and Evangelisation Team has a vision to utilise the resources we have to help our parishioners grow in their understanding of their faith and have a bigger presence in the wider community. We aim to build confidence in our parishioners as they understand their faith better. We seek to answer the question "how can we ignite the spark of faith in others?"

OUTCOME ONE:

ADULT FAITH AND EVANGELISATION FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES ARE PROVIDED EACH YEAR FOR ADULTS TO DEEPEN THEIR FAITH

STRATEGIES:

- a Establish annual retreats for various ministries across the parish.
- b Access 'Going Deeper' resource and have 4 parishioners actively participating.
- c Establish a 'Bible in a year' series group of 3 parishioners.
- d Provide opportunities for Team members to attend Alpha Training Workshop, with the vision to establish Alpha sessions at each church by 2023.

OUTCOME TWO:

ESTABLISH OUTREACH TO WIDER COMMUNITY TO DRAW PEOPLE TO FAITH ENCOUNTERS WITH GOD

STRATEGIES:

- a Establish Alpha in each church by 2023.
- b Create and implement a plan with the RCIA team to include outreach beyond the parish community.
- c In communication with the Children and Families team, establish an inter school-parish team (with parish and school representatives) to link families in the Catholic school to the parish community.
- d Distribute "I am a Catholic" card at every Easter mass and have cards available at every parish gathering.

ADULT FAITH & EVANGELISATION

OUTCOME THREE:

THE PARISH IS PROACTIVE IN REACHING OUT TO NEW PEOPLE AND MEASURING THE IMPACT OF THESE INITIATIVES (WITH A VIEW TO GROW THE PARISH COMMUNITY BY 5%)

STRATEGIES:

- a Create and distribute a QR code which links people to the Parish newsletter and recorded homilies.
- b Identify new parish members and gather their contact details and organise a welcome pack which would include our parish activities, how to get involved and a bi-monthly welcome to parish get together.
- c Actively engage in 2 opportunities and events in the wider community (e.g. school events, deanery events).
- d Have a bi-yearly census for the whole of parish.

OUTCOME FOUR:

REGENTS PARK PARISH HAS A VISIBLE PRESENCE IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY

STRATEGIES:

- a Visibly participate in 2 community events annually (e.g. a 'Catholic Team' at a local charity walk).
- b Establish and maintain ongoing communication with the local SVDP conferences, supporting their efforts where possible.
- c Create a communications plan to advertise all parish events and opportunities by 2023. The plan could include school newsletters, local newspapers, local notice boards, letterbox drop, coupons with local businesses and Alpha signage.

OUTCOME FIVE:

THE PARISH HAS AN ESTABLISHED CONNECTION WITH ALL LOCAL CATHOLIC AND STATE SCHOOLS (IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS AND THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TEAMS)

STRATEGIES:

- a Identify all local schools and ascertain the parish's current connection with all schools local to the parish by 2023.
- b Identify a contact at each school by mid-2023.
- c Collaborate with the Children and Families team to promote the sacramental program in local schools by 2023.



CHILDREN & FAMILIES

The Children and Families Team hope to grow a vibrant family life where parents and children have the chance to engage in their faith alongside each other. We hope to develop strong relationships with parents and their children at the schools connected to the parish and give them opportunities to deepen their faith. We hope that our activities and programs (like the sacramental program) will give families an avenue into parish life.

OUTCOME ONE:

HAVE A TEAM OF 10 PARISHIONERS TO LEAD A VIBRANT, ENGAGING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

STRATEGIES:

- a** Run a regular (six-monthly) training program to develop the skills of children's ministry volunteers.
- b** Do a parish-wide call out and personally invite parishioners who demonstrate a passion for this area to join this ministry.
- c** Establish bi-monthly meetings for planning, delegation of tasks and evaluation of children's ministry.

OUTCOME TWO:

HAVE A STRONG FAMILY PRESENCE WITHIN THE PARISH BY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF ENGAGED FAMILIES TO 20

STRATEGIES:

- a** Establish a monthly family mass that is invitational, welcoming and engaging for families, in which the families together fill the roles of choir, readers, Eucharistic ministers, etc.
- b** Expand family masses to all mass centres by 2024.
- c** In collaboration with the Liturgy Team, run formation workshops to train families to fill the roles of the mass.
- d** Run 2 - 4 family fun events each year (e.g. family fun day, trivia night).
- e** Provide a personal invitation to each family who participates in the sacramental program to continue engaging with the parish by inviting them to participate in the next family fun event.
- f** Build relationships through the sacramental program to encourage continued engagement of children and families by inviting them to family mass.

OUTCOME THREE:

THERE IS A VISIBLE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE SCHOOL AND PARISH

STRATEGIES:

- a** Actively promote family masses and events at all local schools.
- b** Find key opportunities at the local catholic schools for the parish priest to attend.
- c** Contact Evangelisation Brisbane to explore Encounter Catholic Kids Project by October 2022.

OUTCOME FOUR:

CREATE A VIBRANT ENGAGING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

STRATEGIES:

- a** Create a regular children's liturgy of the word in communication with the Liturgy Team.



LITURGY

The Liturgy Team has a vision to celebrate our liturgies with love and to be flexible, supportive and compassionate in our approach. We hope to embrace and celebrate all of our mass volunteers and give them the training they need to be confident in their roles. We hope to draw in different people and use the gifts of those in our community in making our liturgies meaningful and fulfilling.

OUTCOME ONE:

AID THE PARISH IN GROWING THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE MASS

STRATEGIES:

- a** Establish a physical and digital resource library for parishioners to access, that provides education about the Mass (including the Archbishop's video series on the Mass).
- b** Conduct 4 teaching masses a year.

OUTCOME TWO:

POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS AT MASS ARE WELL-MANNED, APPROPRIATE TO EACH CHURCH CONTEXT AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL POSITIVE EXPERIENCE OF THE MASS

STRATEGIES:

- a** Provide quarterly training sessions for PowerPoint operators regarding how to operate and troubleshoot PowerPoint.
- b** Implement different PowerPoints for each Church (re timing).

OUTCOME THREE:

THERE IS VIBRANT AND INCLUSIVE LIVE MUSIC AT EACH SUNDAY MASS ACROSS THE PARISH

STRATEGIES:

- a Create a music team with representatives from each church community to address the musical needs of each church.
- b Create a song list for each church that consist of songs that are easy for the congregation to sing and that will help energise and draw people into our parish.
- c Recruit 2 musicians to cover every weekend Mass in the parish.
- d Grow a culture across the parish that celebrates unity in diversity in our celebration of the liturgy across the mass centres (different PowerPoints at mass centres, simple songs).
- e Where appropriate, liaise with cultural communities within the Parish to instigate choirs.

OUTCOME FOUR:

THE PARISH HAS SUFFICIENT, ADEQUATELY TRAINED ALTAR SERVERS TO CATER TO EVERY SUNDAY MASS AND A PROCESS TO INVITE POTENTIAL ALTAR SERVERS TO VOLUNTEER

STRATEGIES:

- a Run an as-needed training session to equip new altar servers.
- b Conduct an annual refresher training session for all altar servers.
- c Establish a mentorship program in which new altar servers are paired with experienced servers for the first 3 masses they serve at.

OUTCOME FIVE:

INTENTIONALLY BUILD THE VOLUNTEER BASE OF PARISHIONERS WHO CAN TAKE ON ROLES WITHIN MASS

STRATEGIES:

- a Create and maintain a database of Lay Ministers and the roles they play.
- b Yearly review of the rosters to allow new people to put their names down.
- c Conduct annual training for Lay Ministers for each of the roles of Sunday Mass.
- d Have mentors at each Mass to help grow the new volunteers – walk the journey with them.

OUTCOME SIX:

HAVE A MINIMUM OF 2 TRAINED MASS CO-ORDINATORS FOR EACH MASS

STRATEGIES:

- a Liaise with the current Mass Co-ordinators to understand training needs for potential mass coordinators.
- b Document what is necessary for others to take on the role.
- c Ascertain similarities/differences between the churches.
- d Run training sessions for potential Mass Coordinators.



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

The Youth and Young Adults Team seeks to develop and grow the youth of our community. Our vision is to connect with young people in a passionate, relatable, and personal way. We hope to reach out to all youth in our community, those in the schools associated with the parish and those who aren't.

OUTCOME ONE:

THE PARISH HAS A YOUTH GROUP WITH A REGULAR ATTENDANCE OF 30 FAITH-FILLED YOUNG PEOPLE USING EVANGELISATION BRISBANE'S 3 YEAR CURRICULUM

STRATEGIES:

- a** Continue the monthly Youth Mass, Youth Night and Family Mass events throughout 2022. Embark on expanding youth night events to fortnightly by 2023.
- b** Provide vibrant youth nights by including music, encounters with God, small groups, talks and food which cater to the age range of those in attendance.
- c** Establish a "Travelling Youth Day/Night" to Our Lady of the Assumption and St Catherine's Masses to engage with youth at these churches by 2023.
- d** Engage in discussion with all local Catholic high schools about how the youth team can engage with school students (e.g. assembly/lunch time visits, advertising options).
- e** Equip regular youth group attendees to invite peers to youth events.
- f** Establish a communication plan to engage parents in the elements of the youth group (e.g. communicating about the types of activities run).
- g** Establish a plan for advertising the youth group, particularly exploring school channels.
- h** Recruit a youth team member to coordinate the youth group's social media.
- i** Brainstorm ways of empowering youth group attendees to give input into what they want for their youth group (e.g. suggestion boxes).

OUTCOME TWO:

RECRUIT AND TRAIN 10 JUNIOR AND SENIOR LEADERS

STRATEGIES:

- a Run quarterly training/planning sessions to engage and equip senior leaders by 2023 that will move to monthly by 2025.
- b Facilitate senior leaders' growth by providing 3 opportunities for catechesis quarterly (e.g. dinner with Parish Priest, participation in Evangelisation Brisbane Masterclasses).

OUTCOME THREE:

GROW A YOUTH-LED MUSIC MINISTRY TO SERVE AT PARISH EVENTS

STRATEGIES:

- a Recruit a Youth Team Member to co-ordinate music and practice.
- b Recruit 5 musicians to practise monthly by 2023 and increase to fortnightly practices by 2024.
- c Run or attend training sessions quarterly to upskill musicians (could be outsourced e.g. Evangelisation Brisbane or run in-house).

OUTCOME FOUR:

CREATE A YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (18-25)

STRATEGIES:

- a Establish a monthly gathering for YAs in the parish for a meal (either hosted at a YAs house or eating out) by 2023.
- b Circulate any Adult Faith Formation team projects to YAs.



OUTREACH & SERVICE

The Outreach and Service Team aims to serve our community with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society by offering a hand up to those in need.

OUTCOME ONE:

THE PARISH HAS MORE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO ARE IN NEED – INCLUDING FOOD, FURNITURE, CLOTHING, MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, RENT ASSISTANCE AND UTILITIES ASSISTANCE

STRATEGIES:

- a** Develop a planned approach to community grants that will support community needs by early 2022.
- b** Refurbish the parish centre to make it fit-for-purpose by:
 - i. Converting the laundry into a community pantry by mid-2022.
 - ii. Refurbish the kitchen by mid-2023.
 - iii. Make the centre accessible for people with health and mobility issues by the end of 2022.
 - iv. Replace the existing flooring with tiles by mid-2023.
- c** Replace the existing pergola and gardens at St Bernadine's Parish Centre by mid-2023.
- d** Provide input into the Parish Communication and Marketing Plan to target the broader local community by the end of 2022.
- e** Provide training for all volunteers every three months.
- f** Increase our SVDP volunteer base from 13 to 20 by end of 2023.
- g** Engage with three local schools in May/June annually to conduct a Vinnies fundraiser for the annual Winter Appeal (e.g. free dress day for a gold coin; sausage sizzle; bring a pantry item; winter twilight concert at school).

OUTCOME TWO:

THE PARISH HAS A PLANNED COMMUNITY-VISITING PROGRAM (PHONE AND IN PERSON) INCLUDING IN NURSING HOME AND THE INFIRMED IN THEIR HOME

STRATEGIES:

- a** Recruit and inspire 3-5 volunteers to support a fortnightly student visiting program to St Paul de Chartres by the end of 2023.
 - i. Appoint a co-ordinator to work with St Paul de Chartres to plan a visiting program by the end of 2022.
 - ii. Develop an ongoing student visiting program by the end of 2023.
 - iii. Support volunteers with planning activities to conduct when on visits.
- b** Expand the visiting program to those in the community by the end of 2024.
- c** Intentionally build relationships between volunteers and those being visited – ongoing.

OUTCOME THREE:

SVDP PROVIDES EMERGENCY RELIEF AND SPECIALISED SERVICES TO FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS AT RISK AND/OR EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

STRATEGIES:

- a** Locate and purchase blankets in early winter annually.
- b** Provide emergency relief services at the Parish Centre and in-home visits as needed.
- c** Prepare up to 100 meals per month for those in need by the end of 2023.
- d** In consultation with the school, establish a breakfast club for children at St Bernardine's to ensure children have access to breakfast every morning by the start of 2024.
- e** Support St Bernardine's school tuckshop to provide lunches for children who come to school with little or no lunch by the end of 2024.



COMMUNITY LIFE

The Community Life Team have a vision to help the parish grow and strengthen through making people feel welcome, known and supported. We hope to embrace all of the ages and diversity within the parish and draw the community together.

OUTCOME ONE:

HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY AT EACH CHURCH AND AT REGENTS PARK PARISH AS A WHOLE

STRATEGIES:

- a Build on the existing arrangements and organisers and, where necessary, recruit additional team members to establish and / or enhance a “Cuppa” Service after weekend masses by September 2022.
- b Plan and execute an annual parish-wide gathering (e.g. BBQ) with the first event held by September 2022.
- c Plan and execute a “Welfare check” system of RUOK? for existing parishioners who may need support or have not been seen for a while.
- d Plan specific events for the elderly and couples to embrace them into our community.

OUTCOME TWO:

PROMOTE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PARISHIONER INVOLVEMENT IN THE MINISTRIES AND SERVICES OFFERED BY THE PARISH

STRATEGIES:

- a Plan and execute a Parish Ministry Expo advertising the various ministries and services offered by the parish by the end of June 2023 (then bi-annually). The expo will run over three Sundays starting with St Catherine’s, then Our Lady of the Assumption and finally at St Bernardine’s with an ending celebration.
- b Expand on the Time, Talent and Treasure program in conjunction with the Planned Giving Renewal Program with the goal to invite more parishioners into our Parish ministries.
- c Plan and execute a Parish Dinner to be held in early November 2022.
- d Provide opportunity for tea and coffee after funerals.





ST BERNARDINES • OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION • ST CATHERINES

REGENTS PARK PARISH STRATEGIC PLAN

2022 - 2026