



# St Anthony's Parish KINGSCLIFF

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6<sup>th</sup> May, 2021

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

*"With Gratitude for the Past and Hope for the Future"*

As advised by the Parish Finance Council, it is time once again to undertake a renewal of the Parish Planned Giving Program. This renewal is vitally important for the well-being of our parish. Your commitment to the life of the parish through your generosity of time, talents, energy and resources is greatly appreciated. The parish would not be what it is without these gifts.

As your Parish Priest I do not like speaking about planned giving programs and money; however it is a necessity from time to time to ask parishioners to think about their financial support of the parish through the planned giving program.

On the weekend (15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> May) Jim O'Brien, the Diocesan Planned Giving Officer, will speak about the Planned Giving Renewal program at each of the Masses when you will have an opportunity to respond to the financial needs of the parish by completing a gifting form.

A parish stands on the shoulders of those who have gone before; past generations made sacrifices in order to establish this parish. This generosity has been part of the fabric of this parish for the past 60 years. We would not be in the great position that we are in if it were not for past generations and their wonderful generosity. For this we are grateful. Our parishioners, past and present, have demonstrated clearly how a parish can function effectively, providing essential buildings and undertaking a wide range of ministries. These various ministries were undertaken by the parish in order to strengthen and deepen the faith life of our parish community.

*One of the main reasons for a parish to exist is to nourish the faith of its people and to show to the world that the love of God is alive and active in our local community. A way for parishioners to do this is through their personal commitment and generosity by preparing to give up something of themselves and their resources for the love of God and others.*

Many have been generous, and I sincerely thank you for that generosity. It is with confidence that I appeal to you for your ongoing support in meeting the various challenges in the future.

St Paul wrote *"each one should give what they have decided in their own mind... for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7)

It is with these sentiments that we as a parish will be able to meet the various challenges that we will encounter in the future due to the rapid changes our society will encounter. Much can be done to expand existing works and ministries, and to introduce new ones to meet growing needs. Our only limitation is resources.

In these coming days, I ask you to think and pray about the various aspects of our planned giving program and the contribution you can make to it.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Fr Paul McDonald  
Parish Priest

Mr Shane Martin  
Parish Finance Council Chair