

FINANCE COMMUNICATION

A) PARISH ACCOUNTANT

Please be informed that Alf Teuma stepped down as Parish Accountant after serving the parish for several years. Alf has been a great and humble servant of the parish in the area of accounts and his record keeping has been impeccable. He dedicated numerous hours every week to keep the parish going. It will take a mountain of people to replace him. When the lockdown is eased to the level that we can fully come back to celebrating public Masses, we shall organise an event to express our gratitude to Alf for the outstanding service he has rendered. I have now asked Chris Park to oversee the general operations of the Parish Accounts. Mary Marsh will run the Gift Aid Scheme while Sam Craig will be accounts clerk and Anne Lewis will run the 100 Plus Club.

B) LEGACY FROM BERYL GAUNT

On a positive note the people of the parish will be pleased to know that Beryl Gaunt left a third of her estate to St Joseph's Church which translates to £560,000. The diocese has regulations to be followed in cases where large legacies are left to individual parishes. The Parish Finance Committee is currently in dialogue with the diocese as a certain percentage will be expected to trickle into the central administration of the diocese of which St Joseph is a part and a certain sum will be donated to the Poor Parish Fund as there are parishes in the diocese which cannot make ends meet. As for the rest, the Parish Finance Committee will carefully identify areas where some of the money could be used for the benefit of our community, the wider community and how much will need to be invested. I am so proud of our strong Parish Finance Committee in the persons of Chris Park, Chris Burger, Mike Walsh and Mary Marsh. Should anyone wish to contribute ideas for how to use Beryl Gaunt's gift to benefit the community and honour her memory, please have a word with a member of the Finance Committee.

For some time now, the parish has been saved by a few legacies, otherwise it would be running at a loss as expenditure continues to rise and income shrinks. It is my hope and prayer that Beryl Gaunt's generous donation will not send a signal that the parish no longer requires regular support. The diocese only considers a parish viable if the ordinary offerings meet the ordinary expenses of the parish. So this is an opportunity for me and the Finance Committee to recognise and thank all parishioners for your regular support. Thank you.

Fr Naz, 20 June 2020