

Father's Day Appeal – “Caring for those who cared.”



The custom of priests retiring is relatively new in Melbourne. Some 40 years ago with the introduction of the “new” canon law Archbishop Knox introduced the practice of priests retiring at age 75. Until then, priests literally “died with their boots on” because an elderly diocesan priest had nowhere to live, apart from his presbytery. In 1990 Archbishop Little established the Priests Retirement Foundation with the motto “*caring for those who cared*”.

Priests are not employees of the Archbishop or the Parish so they are not eligible for “super”. Like everyone else in “the workplace” priests provide for their retirement by contributing 10% of the weekly presbytery collection to the Foundation. Last financial year the Foundation spent \$2.5 million dollars “*caring for those who cared*” – our retired priests.

There are five former priests who served in Seymour who are now being cared for by the *Priests Retirement Foundation*: Fathers: John Vincent Creed 1965-70, John Dargan 1971-74, Eric J Hodgens 1965-67, Leo T Pascoe 1982-89 and Graham Redfern 1989-95.

The Archdiocese currently has 97 retired priests: 8 are aged in their 90’s; 39 in their 80’s; 27 aged between 76-80; 16 aged 66-75 and 7 under 65 due to ill health.

Envelopes have been provided for your assistance. Donations of \$2.00 or more attract a tax deductibility. We request that you return your envelopes to the church and do not post them direct to the PRF. The parish secretary will process the amounts and the envelopes on behalf of the parish.

Ordinations to the Priesthood. Archbishop Denis Hart will ordain four men as priests for the Archdiocese of Melbourne next Saturday at 10.00am in St. Patrick’s Cathedral. Please keep these priests in your prayers. Ordination posters are in the church foyer.



APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER September. The Holy Father’s general intention for the month states: *That in the less developed parts of the world the proclamation of the Word of God may renew people’s hearts, encouraging them to work actively toward authentic social progress*”. The mission intention reads: *That by opening our hearts to love we may put an end to the numerous wars and conflicts which continue to bloody our world*”.



The Feast of the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on Wednesday with Mass beginning at 9.15am. This is also the feast of St. Mary’s College, which substitutes for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of our Parish. The Blessed Virgin Mary occupies a unique place in the history of salvation. Heaven rejoices at her birth. The Lord reserves for her the highest mission ever commended to any creature. We rejoice in the certainty that the Mother of God is our Mother too. Her feast on Wednesday commemorates this very truth.

Change to Mass times this week: There will be no morning Mass on Tuesday.