

“IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE”

[ST PAUL, ACTS 20:35]

Everything we have is a gift from God, ultimately, we take credit for nothing. Everything we have and everything we do is indeed a result of a gift that God has placed into our hands.

In this Jubilee Year of Hope, a time of thanksgiving, renewal and prayer, we focus on returning a portion of our gifts to God. As a Parish family, the gifts we return are our time, our talent and our financial support so that the Mission entrusted to us by Jesus, primarily to live the Gospel and then to spread it and pass it on to the future generations, is effectively carried out in our times.

We are very grateful for your ongoing financial support and urge you to please take time to think about how you can continue your support going forward, in particular, **increasing your pledge** if you can, to help us make ends meet. **Our Parish continues to face a range of financial challenges**, with large increases in our insurance premiums and the cost of utilities, electricity, gas and water along with ongoing maintenance costs—our forward projections are now showing that the Parish will be in a deficit position next year.

Who could/should give?

- Everybody - It is your Parish!
- New parishioners - Welcome!
- Parents of children at our Schools
- Those currently unpledged!
- Young people - It is your parish also!
- Regular visitors - Please make a commitment.
- Current contributors - Many thanks!

NEED TO INCREASE OUR PLANNED GIVING RATE

Financial projections for the next 3 years based on current income, increasing annual costs and essential maintenance work, particularly at Leongatha, measured against a background of limited cash reserves:

YEAR	ANNUAL SURPLUS/DEFECIT
2025/26	\$ Break Even
2026/27	\$ 16,000 (LOSS)
2027/28	\$ 29,400 (LOSS)

Every effort is made to ensure costs are kept to a minimum, but without a substantial increase in income, currently running at \$125,000 net pa, we will be unable to fund all the ongoing maintenance & operations issues for God's beautiful Churches in Leongatha, Mirboo North and Meeniyan.

INCOME **STATIC**
Income from Planned Giving and cash collections static for many years

EXPENDITURE INCREASING SIGNIFICANTLY

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26 est	2026/27 est	2027/28 est
Insurance	\$47,396	\$23,844	\$27,000	\$31,000	\$35,000
Property	\$35,723	\$29,160	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$45,000
All Other	\$136,769	\$138,617	\$142,000	\$146,000	\$150,000

Please Note: All monies pledged by Leongatha parishioners will be used to meet Leongatha Parish's needs.

Our responsibility

For around 130 years, previous generations have made very significant contributions & sacrifices to provide our current facilities so that the Evangelisation Mission is made possible in our time.

As a Parish family, it is now our responsibility to ensure that we maintain and become stewards of these beautiful facilities for the life of our Parish and for future generations.

Presbytery Collection [2nd Collection]

The 2nd Collection is our contribution to supporting our Priest. We must be grateful, when we are blessed with a “shepherd” in our midst, we must also look after him. The second collection provides for his accommodation, utilities, food & car operating costs. Do you realise that a priest in regional Gippsland drives an average of 50,000 KM annually? Since this fund is not supported by the Diocese of Sale, your regular contribution to the 2nd Collection is very important!

Something from everyone
helps lighten the burden!

How Much Weekly?

- Be realistic in the 21st Century.
- Equivalent to a night out
- Consider one hour's income.
- Gods' generosity will not be outdone.

St. Laurence's Parish, Leongatha

St. Laurence's, Leongatha - St. Kevin's, Meeniyah - St. Joseph's, Mirboo North - St. Andrew's Union Church, Tarwin Lower

'Working Together to pay our way'

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The purpose of this brochure is to advise you of plans for renewal of our stewardship Program. The Program will be conducted during October by members of our Parish. **Your fellow parishioners are running this program.**

11/12 Oct 25 - Announcement Sunday 18/19 Oct 25 - Spiritual Dimension of Giving Sunday
25/26 Oct 25 - Pledge Sunday

NEW PROGRAM COMMENCES 15/16 Nov 2025

Bequests & Donations

In addition to Planned Giving have you thought of:

- * Setting a small portion to the Parish in your Will?
- * A 'one-off' donation for a particular Parish need?
- * A donation in memory of a family member

For more information contact the Parish Office

PO Box 166 Leongatha Vic. 3953

Ph. 03 56 622 020

Email: leongatha@cdsale.org.au

"When God blesses you financially, don't raise your standard of living, raise your standard of GIVING."

-Mark Batterson ©Godfruits

Stewardship Prayer

Loving Father, we thank you for the gift of our Parish Community. Help us to grow in faith and in sacrificial love for you and each other.

We ask your blessing so that we can plan the future of our parish with confidence. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please kindly complete:

Name

Address

.....Postcode

PhoneEmail

Present Envelope

Number (if known)

My new pledge will be : Church \$.....☐ weekly ☐ month ☐ quarter ☐ half year ☐ year (tick)

My new pledge will be : Presbytery \$.....☐ weekly ☐ month ☐ quarter ☐ half year ☐ year (tick) **Total Pledge\$.....**

Please tick one: ☐ Send me offering envelopes ☐ Send me details on direct debit ☐ Debit my credit card

Complete details:- ☐ Master Card ☐ VISA Name on Card

I understand that this authority may be cancelled in writing at any time.

Card Number _ _ _ _ _ Exp. _ _ / _ _ / _ _

Each ☐ month/ ☐ quarter for the term of _ _ years or until further notice, with the sum of \$

Signature