

## AT Report 2018 .08.28

A fortnight before Fr Linh went on his annual leave, he placed the following notice in our parish weekend bulletin.

“FROM THE PARISH PRIEST It has been almost twelve months since we sold the presbytery in Grovedale, and I am currently comfortable in a leased property in Jan Juc. Over the past twelve months, the Parish Advisory Committee and I have been in constant discussion with the Archdiocese regarding the acquisition of a new presbytery in a more central location within the parish. In light of our Parish Master Plan, various options were investigated against the accessibility and feasibility of the new presbytery, and I am pleased to advise that the Archbishop has given his approval for the parish to acquire a block of land in the Quay 2 Estate, Torquay. We are now in the process of finalising the purchase of Lot 933 Marine Drive, Torquay (cnr Marine Drive & Rosser Boulevard) with the view that the land title will be available in the second quarter of next year. In the coming months, all other necessary processes related to design, building, and finance need to be finalised in order for us to commence building as soon as we gain the title.” (21/22 July 2018)

While he has been away, resting and relaxing, work has been continuing on the processes related to creating a design for a home that will meet the requirements of both Father Linh and the Archdiocese. Naturally Fr Linh has some dreams for his own home, and the Archdiocese sets out standards for a priest’s home, with regard to both the private nature of a home and the public nature of it being a house, which parishioners and community will, at times, come to. Combining these two sets of ideas with the fact that they both need to be accommodated within a specific financial plan is not the easiest of tasks, and so we keep working on developing a design. Once a basic agreed plan has been developed the next stage will be to contact builders and seek quotes for the work. Stay tuned over the coming months.

While Fr. Linh has been away things have not been languishing. The most pressing project of the Parish Advisory Team at the moment is the establishment of the “Nazareth Parish Education Board.” (NPEB)

In the past each school has had its own education board, but as the parish is in this time of enormous growth, and new schools are being established with great rapidity, the desire is for one Education Board only. Being a single entity, the Nazareth Parish Education Board will create the opportunity for Fr Linh, the various principles, parishioners and parents to come together to give support and encouragement to the totality of Catholic education in our parish. It will develop and build on the relationships of trust already established; it will seek to be an agent of transformation from within – strengthening the bonds between parish and schools, between the several schools, and developing a community more deeply imbued in the Holy Spirit; and it will be a body of advice to the parish priest in all matters that pertain to education within the Nazareth Parish.

At this time, the Nazareth Parish Education Board has been convened, with the following members:

- Fr. Linh Tran                      Parish Priest
- Dena Redden                      Principal Nazareth CPS
- Susan Ryan                        Principal Lisieux CPS
- Noel Dillon                        Principal St Therese CPS
- Denise Arnell                      Parishioner
- Veronica Biddle                  Parishioner
- Paul Daffey                        Parishioner
- Marie Emmitt                      Parishioner (Chair)
- Cameron Healy                  Parent
- Alison Mitchell                  Parent
- Michael Timms                  Parent

With manageable representation from all stakeholder holders in Catholic education in our parish, the Nazareth Parish Education Board is to be a collegial body that includes all stakeholders, and it is to be a synodal body that seeks to encourage active and attentive listening to all the stakeholders of education within our parish.

Obviously this too is a work in process so again, be on the lookout for more information over the coming months.