

**Report to parishioners at all masses re Presbytery re-building project 11/12<sup>th</sup> May 2019,**  
presented by Dennis Barker Chairman of the Parish Leadership Team

When the parish moved to this site in 2000, the **Archdiocese required that we purchase a Presbytery**. It was opportune that a house next to our property was for sale in 2001. The Archdiocese **building report** at the time listed quite a few **issues**, including significant concerns about the brick columns, but the house was suitable to rent. It was not immediately needed as a Presbytery, as Fr Peter owned his own home. Fr Vincent lived in the house for 7 ½ years.

In Feb 2018 Fr Vincent asked a qualified building surveyor to do a second condition report, which indicated the building had deteriorated, with significant structural damage & was unsound.

In light of this report, at the April 2018 meeting, the Parish Council and Finance Committee considered several options & **resolved to demolish and rebuild a purpose built presbytery**.

In October 2018 a Presbytery Building Committee was formed, including parishioners with backgrounds in building surveying, town planning, building design, law and finance.

An option was to construct 2 units, one for the priest & another to rent or sell. However Archdiocese guidelines indicated that it would be difficult to pursue and only one dwelling could be built on the site.

The Archdiocese gave approval for **demolition** just before Easter. Quotes had been submitted & a contractor chosen, so that work has been completed.

We are also required to get Archdiocese permission & planning approval, before rebuilding. A **third, revised application** will be submitted to the Planning, Building & Finance committee for the June meeting in Melbourne.

The Presbytery Building committee meets regularly. With their expertise, all local permits & approvals are in place. **Fr Sang has had detailed input into the final presbytery design**.

**Financially**, we are fortunate that the Parish has reserve funds from the relocation from High Street and the sale of the Mt Moriac church, so there should be **no debt incurred, to fund the project**.

Once Archdiocese approval has been received and a **building timeline** is known, a further update will be provided.

I am available after mass, for any queries.