

## **SYNOD 2003**

Setting hearts on fire with the challenge of following Jesus and transforming the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

**Consultation Phase Final Gathering**

**Report of St Luke's Buranda Sunday November 25, 2001. Present: 14**

## **The three most important strategies overall for the life of this St Luke's Parish, Buranda**

- 1)** Initiate programs based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) to form Catholics— Catholic/State schools and in parishes — in homilies, in CCD programs, children, youth, parents, RCIA and prayer groups.
  - a)** Each parish to donate a copy of the CCC to parents at the baptism of their first child.
  - b)** Base Catholic teacher training on the CCC to ensure assent to doctrine for teaching the faith.
  
- 2)** Evaluate and review seminary formation to conform to *Pastores Dabo Vobis (I Will Give You Shepherds)* , and consider the establishment of one National Seminary for diocesan priests.
  
- 3)** Renew Religious Education In Catholic Schools by:
  - a)** Teaching from the Catechism of the Catholic Church
  - b)** Ensuring that teacher training, evaluation and certification is based on the Catholic Faith and that all teachers assent to all doctrine, and live in conformity with it
  - c)** Replacing sex education with Catholic sexual morality, and arranging formation/discussions for parents on sex education in the home
  - d)** Teaching apologetics (explaining and defending the faith) in Secondary schools

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- 4)** Encourage greater holiness through the Mass by
  - a)** Preaching regularly on the Church's doctrine, faith and morals with more emphasis on the ten Commandments
  - b)** Only using liturgical language approved by the Holy See
  
- 5)** Priests to offer Mass regularly on Sundays and feast days for specific intentions and announce these intentions prior to Mass: e.g., for lapsed Catholics, vocations, non-believers.

## **St. LUKE'S PARISH, BURANDA**

### **STRATEGIES FOR ISSUE 1: (Arranged from heaviest to lightest weighting)**

**To propose creative and effective ways to understand and value the spiritual treasure that the Church has to offer in today's world.**

- 1) Initiate programs based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) to form Catholics — Catholic/State schools and in parishes — in homilies, in CCD programs, children, youth, parents, RCIA and prayer groups.**
    - a) Each parish to donate a copy of the CCC to parents at the baptism of their first child.**
    - b) Base Catholic teacher training on the CCC to ensure assent to doctrine for teaching the faith.**
  - 2) Encourage greater holiness through the Mass by**
    - a) Preaching regularly on the Church's doctrine, faith and morals with more emphasis on the ten Commandments**
    - b) Only using liturgical language approved by the Holy See**
  - 3) Develop Parish fidelity and solidarity by**
    - a) Archbishop/Bishops visiting each parish to celebrate Mass and meet the parishioners once a year, on the initiative of the Archbishop**
    - b) Bishops initiating missions in each parish with faith and morals based on the CCC and the Bible.**
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- 4) Prioritise our utilisation of Religious by requesting them to teach from the Catechism in Catholic schools, in preference to performing social work.**
  - 5) Promote Eucharistic adoration, Benediction, the Rosary, holy hours, and Corpus Christi processions (in parishes and combined) to replace New Age spirituality, Buddhism and Hinduism and the enneagram.**
    - a) Offer more daily early-morning Masses**
    - b) Encourage more fasting and abstinence to develop the spirituality of obedience**
  - 6) Promote a stronger Catholic awareness**
    - a) By using and explaining key Catholic words: Magisterium, Tradition, assent, Pope, Bishops, Religious, doctrine.**
    - b) Parishes to arrange for a Council street sign pointing to "Catholic Church".**
  - 7) Follow Vatican II in encouraging the use of Latin in some hymns and responses in the Mass.**
  - 8) Renew the Catholic media by**
    - a) Ensuring that columnists use Catholic doctrine without theological dissent.**
    - b) Attaching a corrective footnote with true doctrine to any published letters containing ideas contrary to Catholic teaching**
  - 9) Replace Catholic schools with priests supervising or teaching parents to teach Catholic children the faith.**

## St. LUKE'S PARISH, BURANDA

### **STRATEGIES FOR ISSUE 2:** (Arranged from heaviest to lightest weighting)

**To determine creative and effective ways to respond to the spiritual hunger of people today, including emerging believers, Catholics unconnected to a church community, and those who have no religious faith.**

**1)** Priests to offer Mass regularly on Sundays and feast days for specific intentions and announce these intentions prior to Mass: e.g., for lapsed Catholics, vocations, non-believers.

**2)** Implement a comprehensive, targeted media campaign (TV, radio, press and the internet) incorporating the following elements:

**a)** A brief (10-15 second) Angelus spot on TV and radio at Angelus times (0600/1200/1800 hrs)  
[A 10-15 second TV 'commercial' immediately prior to the News would present an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary, accompanied by the ringing of the Angelus bells while a verse of the prayer scrolled across the screen].

**b)** Question and answer segments promoting Catholic doctrine, including marriage and the family

**c)** Promotion of Catholic social teaching, especially on the activities of Pro-Life groups and Pro-Family groups, such as the Australian Family Association and on the National Civic Council whose principles stem from Catholic social teaching

**3)** Toll Church bells before Sunday Masses (with prior approval of the Local Council Environmental Dept.) and use the altar bell during Mass – at start and at Consecration.

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**4)** Encourage parishioners to promote love, responsibility and respect in daily life and to highlight happy religious events

**5)** Plan doorknock crusades by well-formed and prepared laity, using brief, well written pamphlets, with an invitation to further enquires.

## St. LUKE'S PARISH, BURANDA

### **STRATEGIES FOR ISSUE 3:** (Arranged from heaviest to lightest weighting)

**To determine creative and effective ways to respond to, engage with and animate the spiritual life of young people.**

**1) Renew Religious Education In Catholic Schools by:**

**a) Teaching from the Catechism of the Catholic Church**

**b) Ensuring that teacher training, evaluation and certification is based on the Catholic Faith and that all teachers assent to all doctrine, and live in conformity with it**

**c) Replacing sex education with Catholic sexual morality, and arranging formation/discussions for parents on sex education in the home**

**d) Teaching apologetics (explaining and defending the faith) in Secondary schools**

**2) Promote Catholic youth groups. Encourage youth in joyful spirituality and social service and youth activities. Not what the Church can do for us but what can we do for the Church.**

**3) Priests to cultivate a feeling of unity within the Parish by incorporating all age groups in spiritual and social interaction.**

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**4) Implement a comprehensive media (TV, radio, press and the internet) and parish campaign targetted at youth to include:**

**a) Question and Answer media Programmes for youth with their participation and based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church**

**b) Question and Answer segments in the Catholic Press and at Youth Sessions in Parishes, based on Catholic teaching, not on speculation.**

**5) Describe and explain the Symbols and Vestments used at Mass in the Catholic Press and in Parish Bulletins**

**6) Encourage Sodalties like the Legion of Mary, the Holy Name Society and the Patricians.**

## St. LUKE'S PARISH, BURANDA

### STRATEGIES FOR ISSUE 4: (Arranged from heaviest to lightest weighting)

#### To determine creative and effective ways to nurture the mission, ministry and vocation of the priests and people of the archdiocese.

- 1) Evaluate and review seminary formation to conform to *Pastores Dabo Vobis* , and consider the establishment of one National Seminary for diocesan priests.
  - 2) Recruit faithful Priests from overseas.
  - 3) Priests and Religious to dress in appropriate attire so that they are easily recognised as Catholic priests and religious.
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- 4) Encourage Priests to be more available to Parishioners for discussion and social interaction to boost confidence in laity and in priests.
  - 5) Archbishop to initiate a Priest to visit Boys' Schools/Nun for Girls' Schools annually, to discuss vocations.
  - 6) Archbishop to ask Priests to teach on moral issues (such as contraception, abortion and euthanasia) and social issues in homilies.
  - 7) Include teachings from *Christifideles Laici* in homilies and in Secondary Schools, to encourage better appreciation of the laity's role in the family, the world, and the Church.
  - 8) Initiate more perpetual adoration Novena's, devotions, and prayer for Vocations.
  - 9) Eliminate false impressions that the laity can: give the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick; be called Chaplains; hear confessions; read the Gospel and give the homily, as these functions are reserved for Priests.
  - 10) Encourage laity in more alms giving and showing more appreciation for direction and work of Priests.