

Pope Benedict XVI's introduction to his Encyclical Letter *Caritas in Veritate* (Charity in Truth) tell us that '*charity is at the heart of the Church's social doctrine. Every responsibility and every commitment spelt out by that doctrine is derived from charity*'. It is with this vision in mind that we wish to initiate a renewed and optimistic dialogue between the four pillars of our Parish community – the church, our homes, school, and the parish centre. This is in order to promote and affirm our shared values and the spiritual and social bonds that unite us as a living and active community open to everyone, both Catholic and non-Catholic.

In order to further these aims we have selected a group of parishioners who have convened hoping visit the homes of all our school families in 2018. This is being done to allow families the opportunity to pose any questions they may have about the parish community, and to allow us to explain more fully what kind of things are going on in the life of the parish, in which they are welcome to take part.

If you wish to be part of this initiative, an application form will be sent out to all families associated with the school in the near future.

Holy Mass is offered at St. Ambrose's church every Sunday at 11 am. & 6 pm.

On Holy Days of Obligation Masses are offered at 9:30 am. & 7:30 pm.

Our parish offers a variety of groups and fraternal organisations including the Union of Catholic Mothers, Friendship Club, Ambrosians, Choir, Catholic Men's Society, Rambling Group and Craft Club among others, all of which are keen to welcome new members. Parish groups meet on set dates throughout the year and often host annual lunches, dinners and other social events for their members.

Complementing this is the Parish Centre – which hosts a large number of events, parties and social gatherings throughout the year.

Over the coming year we intend to both broaden and deepen the links between the various parts of the parish, with a special focus on the life of the school and the families attached to it. In this way, we hope to foster a greater degree of trust, cooperation and sense of community across the parish.

With this in mind, we look forward to meeting with you and your families.

Yours sincerely,



Fr. Douglas Lamb (Parish Priest)