

**SAINT JOSEPH'S PARISH  
UPPER HUTT**

**STRATEGIC PLAN  
2008**

***We, the catholic people of St  
Joseph's parish, challenged to  
follow Christ, led and  
empowered by his Spirit, are  
called to proclaim the active  
presence of God in our parish  
and community by:  
Celebrating God in our lives,  
Sharing our living faith,  
Growing in community,  
And working for justice and  
peace.***

## **CELEBRATING GOD IN OUR LIVES**

**We will bring God's Word and Eucharist to all by being open and flexible in prayer, liturgy and spirituality so that our celebrations are meaningful and connected to people's experience.**

### Formation for Ministry

- Induction programmes will be provided for all liturgical ministries
- A mentoring system for ministry will be established
- Our Parish will encourage young people into all areas of ministry

### Biculturalism and multiculturalism

- We will live out our bi-cultural partnership within our multicultural context, reflecting this in our use of Te Reo Maori, and continuing to reflect both aspects in our prayer and liturgy
- We will continue to involve different cultural groups in our Sunday liturgy

### Education

- Our parish will prepare all parishioners for the introduction of the new Roman Missal by making 'Worshipping Under Southern Skies' the focus of homilies

## SHARING OUR LIVING FAITH

**We are reflective, Spirit-filled people, outward looking and mission-oriented, learning and sharing with people of all beliefs, ages and cultures.**

Our parish provides life-long growth in faith through

- Sacramental programmes
- Educational programmes
- Personal formation programmes
- Formation for ministry
- Discernment of gifts

The development, implementation, facilitation and presentation of these programmes is a very large task. The parish council may ask for expressions of interest in a co-ordinating role and set aside a budget to fund the role.

Our parish will use and nurture the existing talents and gifts available within our parish, rather than looking elsewhere.

## GROWING IN COMMUNITY

**We aspire to be a welcoming, inclusive church and a community that fosters healing and forgiveness. We care for the needs of our parishioners.**

### A Welcoming Community

- The Welcoming Ministry is recognised and those called to this ministry receive formation.
- We are a church that reaches out to the wider community and other churches in order to build relationships by demonstrating the love of Christ.
- We will invite and encourage Maori parishioners to lead us in understanding Maoritanga and incorporating it into parish life.
- We will foster the participation of the different cultural groups within our parish

### The Young Church

St Joseph's will have an innovative approach to building a youth community. There are two aspects to this :

Youth activities and opportunities  
Youth involvement in parish activities

Our focus for 2007/2008 is largely in supporting our young people to attend World Youth Day.

- We will be ready to harness the enthusiasm of the young people who attend World Youth Day
- We will be open to accepting the challenge of their enthusiasm to bring about change in our parish

Our 3 year plan will be to ensure that all young people in our parish, especially those who attended World Youth Day, will be Leaders in our midst, inspiring us with their zeal.

### Ministry and Local Leadership

- We will use the gifts within our parish
- We will support all ministers to carry out their ministry and undertake on-going development and formation
- We will utilise the learning of those trained in Family Ministry to empower parishioners involved in sacraments or spiritual growth.

## **WORKING FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE**

**St Joseph's parish is focused on ensuring justice for all and that we are catalysts for building a peaceful community. We want the spirit of justice, peace and reconciliation to be at the heart of all we do.**

- Our parish will challenge structures that disenfranchise groups in our parish
- Our parish will promote Justice for the poor and disenfranchised as a way of life, not an option, but at the heart of our faith
- Development and educational programmes will be provided and all parishioners be encouraged to participate
- A budget for justice will be set in place to help the poor and marginalized.