

ABM REPORT DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA – 2018 CONFERENCE – ADELAIDE

- Diocese has a strong **support** for mission giving
- Anglicare – where there is a steering committee in place
- ABM – where we have basic financial support from Parishes (17 out of 23) ,3 Organisations and some individuals.
- Funds are sent directly to ABM by 6 Parishes as well as to the Diocese. Most funds are sent to the Diocese.
- The present system has created confusion and one of the first things we will be addressing is to look at is that all money be paid to the diocese who will pay the money quarterly to ABM.
- Eg: We are listed at an income of \$ 2704.75 and according to our Diocesan records, we have a further \$6 500 to pay over which will be attended to early next week. This amount includes collections since 11 July after we paid over \$4507.65 on 1 July.
- Now it may sound like a money affair, but we just wanted to point out what we need to do differently.
- The Parish Support and regular information (monthly) in our Diocesan Newsletter highlights the great support for ABM and once we are able to coordinate things accordingly, we should be able to ensure that all checks and balances are in place.
- One of the challenges as mentioned last year was to re-establish the Diocesan Committee but with smaller congregations and people being over-involved in many activities, this has proved to be difficult. Even our Auxiliary Committee had to disband because of the availability of person power.
- Fortunately, with the restructuring process of the Diocese, we are now looking at combining forces with Anglicare who has a steering committee in place but who is also looking for Parish representatives.
- Our Diocesan Archdeacon will be facilitating a discussion on 2 August to look at how this can happen with the relevant role players and still maintain the individuality of both organisations under the banner of mission giving.
- This will certainly help a small Diocese like ours to advance a Collaborative approach in our ministry matters.

- It is also now envisaged through our Deanery Structures (we have 3 Deaneries) to appoint a coordinator in each to deal with the same. From that angle we will get Parish Representatives and be able to reach our goal.
- It will be helpful for us to get information on planned activities for ABM for 2019 so that we can include that in our Diocesan Calendar which we hope to have completed early November and ensure that there is no overlap between our two main areas of mission support.
- We should say that there are Parishes within our Diocese who are also strong supporters of BCA (Bush Church Aid) and CMS (Church Missionary Society)
- Our main aim for Mission Giving in 2019 is to arrange activities of also bringing people within a Parish together in arranging at least 1 other function whereby which the income will go towards special projects for ABM as the Bishop's Winter Appeal is already a fundraising function for Anglicare.
- So, watch this space...it has been slow going because as a Diocese we had problems at one of our Diocesan Aged Care facilities and other difficulties developing but this is not deterring us from getting where we need to.

Michelle L Bester