Principals in Parish Primary Schools
A Parish Perspective

(A Sub-project within The Queensland Leadership Succession Project.)
This Sub-project was sponsored by:
A coalition of 18 Queensland Catholic Education Authorities, with coordination through the Queensland Catholic Education Commission

September 2007
THE FOLLOWING ISSUES ARE THOSE AROUND WHICH THE RESEARCH SUGGESTS CONVERSATION, AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, COULD BENEFICIALLY BE ENCOURAGED AMONG SCHOOL AUTHORITIES (CEO and RI), PARISH LEADERSHIP REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRINCIPAL.

[THIS LIST OFFERS A STARTING POINT ONLY AND SHOULD BE APPROPRIATELY MODIFIED TO SUIT EACH LOCAL SITUATION.]

- **CLARIFICATION OF THE ROLES OF LEADERS WITHIN ALL PARISH MINISTRIES, INCLUDING SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND THE ORDAINED MINISTRY.**

- **THE PRINCIPAL’S INVOLVEMENT IN THE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL’S PARISH:**
  - Participation in weekend masses;
  - Active parish membership – e.g. Reading Roster; Sacramental Team etc;
  - Meeting attendance - e.g. Regular or ad hoc meetings with the parish leader; Membership of parish teams/committees groups.

- **ENCOURAGING STUDENTS, STAFF AND PARENTS TO BE PART OF THE LITURGICAL; PASTORAL, SOCIAL LIFE OF THE PARISH.**

- **HOW THE PRINCIPAL WILL EXERCISE A LIAISON ROLE BETWEEN SCHOOL AND PARISH.**
  - Strategies for effective communication;
  - Co-sponsoring liturgical/educational/fund raising/social events;
  - Promote two-way flow of participation.

- **ESTABLISHING A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ON THE SHARING OF FACILITIES, RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.**

- **HOW THE PARISH WILL SUPPORT THE PRINCIPAL IN THE MINISTRY OF SCHOOL LEADERSHIP.**

- **SUPPORTING THE PRINCIPAL IN LEARNING THE STORY OF THE PARISH**
  - structure; mission; history, pastoral.