

Father Laurence Murphy



Laurence Murphy was born and raised in Ireland. At the young age of 12, when he was walking back from the movies, he told his sisters that he wanted to become a priest. They laughed it off and thought nothing of it. However, a year later, Laurence expressed his desire to become a priest to Fr Francis who worked with young people interested in joining the priesthood. When Fr Francis asked Laurence why he wanted to become a priest, he responded 'because I want to help people'. So upon completing his secondary schooling, he moved to England to study to become a priest and was ordained by the Salvatorian Fathers there. Fr Laurence also studied teaching whilst he was in England.

At the age of 30, Fr Laurence made the trek to Australia. He was a parish Priest and Principal of St Anthony's whilst it was on the Beaconsfield Ave site and when the school was rebuilt on the Church site in Greenmount. Fr Laurence played a central role in getting the new school grounds ready for students and taught sport during his 18 years at St Anthony's. He got to know the students and parents really well, fostering a strong faith community.

Upon leaving St Anthony's, Fr Laurence moved to Sacred Heart College in Sorrento where he coached basketball and soccer. He later moved to the Nollamara parish and after twelve years of dedicated service there, retired.

We have been extremely fortunate to have Fr Laurence come to our school in recent times to speak to the students and share his journey as a priest and educator. His charisms and love of sport still live on in our community.

