

**Auction of promises:** are often elements of a larger event. You offer, by auction, services or favours (dog-walking, grass-cutting...) comic experiences (maybe you can get your priest to sing a pop song?) or celebrity favours.

**Charity car wash:** one of the classics. Grab some hoses, sponges, towels, buckets, soap, markers, poster board and hard workers and you have all the makings for a car wash fundraiser! Hold it right at the church. Make certain the actual location for cars to be washed is near an outdoor water spout.



**Sales and bazaars** are best if combined with another event. They are likely to be more profitable if you concentrate on quality rather than quantity. Smarten up the tables and stalls and find decorative ways of displaying your goods. Ensure you have an adequate change float and try to arrange some volunteers, helping you manning the stall and clearing up afterwards.

**Concert:** Do you have a parish youth band, or any bands at your uni? You can put on a concert and make money by charging admission. Decide what type of concert would work best in your parish and make sure you schedule a rehearsal with a sound and light check. You can additionally hold a raffle or sell refreshments.

**Cake stalls / tea & coffee / breakfasts:** Food stalls are a great way to raise funds. But don't expect to raise huge amounts of money all at once; to attract customers, you can't charge too much. Best is to have food sales after Sunday Mass or to combine them with another parish event. To keep your costs low, try to get food donated to you. You could:

- Sell home-made cakes with tea and coffee
- Have a smoothie bar
- Sell hot chocolate after Mass on a cold winter day



## Ideas and guidelines for parish fundraising

**Quiz night:** One of the most popular fundraising activities and quite easy to organize. You invite people to join a quiz and make money by selling tickets. You could also sell snacks and refreshments for some extra cash. Make sure the questions are audible everywhere in the room; you might consider having them on Power Point at the same time. When getting the questions together, judge your likely audience; while some people are good at sport or music, others could feel left out. Balance 'too easy' against the feel-good factor of having been able to answer a lot of the questions. You will also have to think about prizes, but they don't need to be too expensive. You could always write to cinemas or exhibitions to see if they give away any free tickets or vouchers. The main point is for people to have a fun evening.

**Charity sports match:** put together two or more scratch teams of parish people (or others). You can make money by getting people to pay a little to join the team and sell tickets to the audience. You can also sell food & drinks.

**Organizing a Party:** There are lots of possibilities for organizing a party, but it usually requires a bit of work. It usually works quite well to have a theme for your party (fancy dress / anything seasonal / karaoke...). Get some music, sell food and drinks (best if you get them donated somewhere), set up a bar and sell non-alcoholic cocktails (selling alcohol is not allowed if you don't have a licence!). Last time I organised a line dance and it was awesome!!