

# Companions of St Laurence

Many people who have been associated with the Brotherhood over the years will be interested to learn of the proposed foundation of an organisation called "The Companions of St Laurence".

The Brotherhood has always had a strong band of supporters behind it and the need for an organisation which would give them a more personal involvement with the Brotherhood and its work has been felt for some time. It is proposed that the organisation should be open to members of any religious denomination who are also committed to the fight against poverty. This would include people actually involved in the work of the Brotherhood as well as interested people in all walks of life in the wider community.

The Companions would meet three times a year, for a service on St Laurence day, August 10; the Brotherhood of St Laurence Foundation Festival on December 8; and for an Annual General Meeting when the Executive Director would make a report on current activities. From time to time the Secretary or Chaplain would send out intercessions for the use of the Companions.

It is visualised that the Companions of St Laurence would pray for the work of the Brotherhood; exercise personal stewardship of any financial

contributions; and, where they are able, undertake some service either through the Brotherhood or some other organisation with similar objects. The inaugural meeting of The Companions will take place on Sunday, June 7, at 2.30 p.m., at "Avalon", off the Geelong Road, near Lara. Any interested people should contact the Revd P. J. Hollingworth, 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.

Father Tucker writes:

"I am very glad to learn that plans are being made for the formation of an organisation to be known as The Companions of St Laurence. When the Brotherhood was founded I used to send out a small leaflet to the Brotherhood of St Laurence Friends of those days. Besides telling something of our doings and plans for the future, the leaflet contained some subjects for special intercession. I can well believe that those prayers helped to enable us to become established and helped us in those early, somewhat difficult years.

"In these days of expansion and opportunities for further expansion it is of great importance that the Brotherhood should have behind it a band of people living under a simple Rule of life and undertaking to pray for the Brotherhood according to its needs.

"There is always a danger of the

Brotherhood relying only on human aid and thus becoming no more than a flourishing Social Service organisation. It should be that and far more. "With the prayers of the Companions and others, it can be put on a firmer spiritual foundation than at present. I commend the idea of Companions of St Laurence to all who read this."