

RWL  
11 May 2017

**Minutes of the St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
Thursday 6 April 2017 at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church Hall, Newlands**

**Present:** Fr Peter, Fr Doug, Fr Sebastian, Robert McClean (Chair), Graham Cooper, Tony de Joux, Oliver Hartwich, Eustie Kamath, Shirley O'Brien, Mark Westerbeke, Lucienne Hensel and Deborah Lim (Secretary).

**Apologies:** Marita Basabas, Eric De Souza

Meeting opened with a prayer led by Fr Sebastian.

Motion was made by Robert, and seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of 9 February 2017. Motion carried. Minutes are now to be loaded onto the Parish website.

### Social Justice Update

Over 40 people attended the talk by Msgr Gerard Burns on 5 April. Well represented by Presbyterians, Anglicans, Uniting Church and Catholics. Eustie will follow up with the people who attended.

### Stewardship Day in the Parish – Follow Up

Feedback highlighted it was a positive event and was a good opportunity for the 3 Church communities to get together. However it was brought up that there was very little information provided about the upcoming Synod. The challenge now is to incorporate the ideas from Stewardship Day into our Parish Strategic Plan. Fr Peter also acknowledged the efforts made by Lorraine McArthur in coordinating the event.

### Parish Strategic Plan

Oliver tabled updated Strategic Plan which now includes strategies to achieve the intended outcomes. New strategies highlighted include a Parish Magazine to provide an additional communication channel and also a Parish Feast Day celebration in October. There is a need to implement some form of New Evangelisation on the plan. Next step is to determine the performance indicators.

*Action: All Council members to email ideas on key performance indicators. This is to be done before Easter.*

### Archdiocesan Synod

Lucienne Hansel, a member of the Launch Out programme which requires Study and Pastoral Experience, sat in on the meeting. She will work closely with our Parish in preparing for the Synod.

Key points about the Synod:

- Not discussion-based; more focus on prayer and discernment (Ignatian).
- 9 key themes
- Groups will need to discuss each theme leading up to the Synod. We need to identify facilitators to lead these groups and Lucienne will train them.
- Suggestions to start with established groups first, e.g. Pastoral Council.
- Our 13 Synod participants - To date, 13 nominations have been received. The Pastoral Team and Robert will profile these nominees to decide if they fit the recommended criteria. If not, they may be kept as backups, and new nominees sought.

## **Ohariu Cemetery Update**

Application will be made to the Ohariu and Mill Road Funding to restore the site. A landscaper will be providing a quote and an archaeologist has offered her free services. Challenge 2000 will also help out with tidying the lawns.

*Action: Robert to prepare report on this project for Finance Committee meeting on 2 May.*

## **Easter**

No issues raised about upcoming Easter service apart from lack of volunteers for various ministries.

## **Health and Safety**

Nothing raised.

## **General Correspondence**

- Letter dated 13 February from Challenge 2000 advising that the Marist Community has purchased the Old Brigidine Convent on Wanaka Street. Challenge 2000 will be moving into these premises and expressed interest in purchasing the property at 27 Dr Taylor Terrace.
- Response dated 15 February from Fr Peter to John Robinson, Business Manager of Challenge 2000 Trust, congratulating them and advising that plans for the property at 27 Dr Taylor Terrace are currently undefined.

## **Other Business**

- Syro-Malabar Masses are held at Newlands twice a month. Fr Sebastian advised that the Parish receives a donation from this community who also provide their own altar breads.
- Questions about fixing of the Newlands Church roof were asked. Fr Peter advised this is to be looked at as part of a consideration of all our buildings. A professional report is underway into all our building stock and it is likely that at the next PPC meeting, we will have heard back from one of the authors of this report.
- Prayers are requested for the Cardinal of Tonga who is currently in hospital in Auckland.

Meeting concluded at approximately 9.15pm.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm at St Benedict's Presbytery, Khandallah.**