



**Minutes of the St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Thursday 10 August 2017 at 7.30pm in St Peter & Paul's Church Hall**

Present: Fr Peter, Fr Doug, Eustie Kamath (Acting Chair), Marita Basabas, Graham Cooper, Eric D'Souza, Oliver Hartwich, Shirley O'Brien, Mark Westerbeke and Deborah Lim (Secretary).

Apologies: Tony de Joux and Robert McClean

Opening prayer was led by Shirley.

Motion was made by Eustie, and seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of 13 July. Motion carried. Minutes are now to be loaded onto Parish website.

Synod Preparation Process

Katrin Eickhorst presented summary of Synod responses from the 4 groups (3 PFG and Liturgy Committee of St Ben's) which she facilitated as part of her Launch Out project. PPC now need to respond to this feedback with actions to be put into place. This will be discussed by PPC once members have had a chance to read all the feedback.

Synod Update

Lucienne Hensel's notes were tabled. Fr Peter and Eustie have jointly authored a positive reference in relation to Lucienne's assessment for this is a Lay Leader training exercise.

Parish Gathering

Kevin McCormack has now suggested that the event with a speaker followed by a social should be held in September.

Parish Feast Day

Council members brainstormed on various ideas, with key comments as follows:

- St Andrew's is an ideal location but will it be useable?
- Only 8 to 9 weeks to Feast Day – is there sufficient time to prepare?
- Perhaps have a low-key celebration this year.
- Have 1 large concelebrated Mass - Is this logistically possible?
- Have huge family gathering followed by games and food.
- Invite both schools and students can participate.
- Have exhibition with stalls allocated to different Parish groups to promote their activities.

Correspondence from Sr Judith McGinley tabled with suggestions in regards to Feast Day, including choosing weekend of 30 Sept/1 Oct or 7/8 Oct to be St Francis weekend and having both schools celebrate together on actual Feast Day i.e. 4 Oct.

Action: Eustie will approach PFG to see if they can assist with planning.

Year of Mercy

Fr Peter tabled letter from Cardinal John. Pope Francis has asked that a day be set aside to honour the Scriptures. The weekend chosen is 28/29 Oct when it is suggested there will be only 1 reading i.e. the Gospel which is to be proclaimed using Lectio Divina. Lectio Divina training is scheduled for 7 and 12 Oct. Fr Peter and Fr Doug will discuss and nominate 2 to 3 people from each Church to attend this training.

Social Justice Week

Caritas brochures will be distributed during Social Justice Week, 10-16 Sept. The dates are not ideal as they are very close to Synod and elections. Challenge 2000 will be running one of the Masses in Johnsonville.

Submissions of Building Report

To date, about 18 responses have been received. Summary tabled, which reflects a wide range of responses. Finance Committee will meet again on 29 Aug to review all responses and recommendations will be reported to Strategic Planning Committee and PPC. It is important to keep in mind the future of the Parish and all wider issues.

Mass Times

Eustie tabled several letters from parishioners from St Ben's community voicing their dissatisfaction with the current Mass times and requesting they revert back to 6pm and 9am. Discussion followed and PPC is satisfied times can change back. However, this may have to be reviewed again in future depending on outcome of Building Report and future plans. Fr Doug will now seek confirmation from the Khandallah congregation this weekend that they will be happy with Mass times changing.

General Correspondence

Email from John Lawson tabled requesting for reinstatement of AGM. PPC agreed this is not the best time, but will look at organising an event in the future, after the Synod. Format to be decided. Eustie will draft response to John.

Other Business

All music groups from Johnsonville and Newlands will be gathering together for an evening on 18 Aug.

Meeting concluded at approximately 9pm with closing prayer.

Next Meeting

Thursday, 14th September, 7.30pm at St Benedict's Presbytery, Khandallah.