

14 Dec 2017

Eric D Souza

**Minutes of the St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Thursday 9th November 2017 at 7.30pm in St Benedict's Church Presbytery**

Present: Fr Peter, Fr Doug, Eustie Kamath (Chair), Marita Basabas, Tony de Joux, Shirley O'Brien, Mark Westerbeke and Deborah Lim (Secretary).

Apologies: Graham Cooper, Oliver Hartwich, Robert McClean

Opening prayer was led by Eustie.

Motion was made by Eustie, and seconded, to approve the minutes of the meeting of 12th October. Motion carried. Minutes are now to be loaded onto Parish website.

Future Modus Operandi

Eustie suggested some changes to the way the PPC operates and welcomes any other recommendations from Council members:

- More action is needed after each PPC meeting. Can we assign a person for each task and set timelines for completion? Tasks to be recorded in an Action Register (format to be finalised – Tony will forward a worksheet currently being used at the Hospice) and will be updated at each meeting.
- Minutes will now be published on the Parish website after each meeting, and marked as “Draft”.

Newlands Presbytery

Tony queried Health and Safety issues relating to Presbytery and given its current state, whether or not it was suitable for Fr Sebastian to move in back in October. His concern is noted. A water pipe has burst in the Presbytery recently and repairs will be covered by insurance.

Pastoral Council Retreat

Eustie suggested having the retreat over a few weekday nights at Challenge 2000. However, it was agreed it would be more effective if members could get together for a weekend. Mark will now organise this and contact each Council member to establish a suitable weekend and venue.

Lectio Divina

Feedback has been positive. Cardinal John has indicated this may now be done twice a year.

Post Synod Review

Cardinal John expressed his appreciation in a letter which was read out at all Masses last weekend. Fr Peter was impressed with the management of the Synod, especially contribution from the young people. PPC now need to take into account the Synod outcomes as they move forward with Pastoral Plans.

Expo

Begins this weekend and runs till the end of November. The Expo at the Newlands Community Centre will be held on 19 November. Feedback forms will be made available. All feedback, once collated, will be presented back to Finance Committee and PPC. Eustie is happy for any parishioner to contact him and give verbal feedback, if preferred.

Christmas Services

- 12 Noon Mass at Johnsonville on Sunday, 24th December is cancelled.
- Two family Vigil Masses in Johnsonville (5pm & 7pm); one in Khandallah.
- Two midnight Masses; one each in Johnsonville and Khandallah.
- Two Christmas Day Masses in Johnsonville; one in Khandallah.

Other Business

- Fr Peter will be attending the next Ministry Formation Day when there will be a presentation on Health and Safety and Emergency Procedures.
- Current PPC members were appointed for a 2-year term which ends in February 2018. Some councillors have indicated they will be standing down. Others are happy to continue. This will be decided over the next few months.
- Eustie attended the Newlands Community afternoon tea and observes they are hurting from the Church closure. Eustie feels that healing and conciliation is needed before everyone can move forward. He tabled a draft letter, in which he acknowledges the pain and hurt caused. Eustie will now forward this letter to Fr Peter, Fr Doug and Tony, who will consider the wording and whether it is appropriate to be issued.
- Locks at St Andrew's Church were changed, however, access is still possible using the keypad. St Vincent de Paul Society Newlands will be using the Church foyer to set up the Christmas hampers.

General Correspondence

None tabled.

Meeting concluded at approximately 9.10pm with closing prayer.

Next Meeting

Thursday, 14th December, 7.30pm at Parish Office, Johnsonville.