

St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu Parish

Leadership Formation Team - Minutes of zoom meeting on Monday, 8 June 2020, at 5pm

Attendees: John Lawson, Paul Betham, John Kleinsman, Kitty McKinley, Thomas Davis, Pete Roe, Tim Gordon, Anna Mika-Hunt
Apologies:

1. Opening prayer/reflection
2. LFT 2 June 2020 Meeting minutes confirmed
3. Action log updated

4. Vision for St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu Parish

A note of gratitude and thanks will be included in this weekends newsletter to parishioners for living out the Parish Vision in so many ways through some of the darkest days of the COVID-19 lockdown which included:

1. The Prayer Tree gave shelter to many;
2. The hungry were fed and supported in their most challenging time;
3. The sick and lonely were visited;
4. Those who mourned were comforted albeit for some of the time;
5. We prayed together as a Parish in on-line weekly liturgies and we broke the Word of God by ourselves or with our bubble buddies, we shared the broken Eucharist in our *Little Churches*;
6. Neighbours, parishioners and local businesses donated food and goods for our Church Food Bank; and
7. Generous anonymous donors poked cash under our Church doors for the needy.

The Vision Statement will be published in this weekends newsletter as a reflection on bringing our vision to life in our Parish. The Vision of the Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu Parish, was woven from many strands of consultation, discernment and prayer.

"We envisage a Parish that is

strong in its faith and commitment to follow Christ, strong in its sense of community, welcoming, culturally diverse and culturally safe, inclusive and hospitable to all people, and willing to be actively and effectively engaged in bringing about a more just and equitable society where the intrinsic dignity of all people is reflected in its ecclesiastical, social and political structures and practices."

5. Our Parish in Alert Level 1

LFT noted the Government's decision to move to Alert Level 1 at midnight on Monday, 8 June 2020.

After careful and due consideration of all relevant matters, LFT agreed that **for the next 6 weeks, Masses in our Parish will be as follows:**

1. **Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass St Andrew's;
Sunday 9am Mass St Benedict's; and
Sunday 10:30am Mass Sts Peter & Paul's**

With the exception of the Feast of Sts Peter & Paul on Sunday, 28 June 2020, where Masses will be as follows:

**Saturday 5pm Vigil Mass Sts Peter & Paul's; and
Sunday 10:30am Combined Parish Mass St Andrew's.**

2. **Parish Mass of Thanksgiving**

On the weekend of the Feast of Sts Peter and Paul we will gather as a Parish on Sunday 28 June at St Andrew's at 10:30am for a Mass in which we can reconnect as a Parish, give thanks and give support to those who are suffering as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown. There will only be one other Parish Mass – a Vigil Mass at Sts Peter & Paul's at 5pm on Saturday 27 June. There will be an open invitation for parishioners to share their COVID-19 lockdown experience.

6. Review of *Little Churches*

LFT noted that *Little Churches* may have been a response to a specific need during lockdown, but it may also now

present an opportunity for a new model of outreach in our Parish to reach out and *Be Church* in the neighborhood and wider community. After some discussion on this matter it was decided that a meeting will be called in the near future to discuss the future of *Little Churches*. In the meantime, the prayers and thoughts of parishioners would be encouraged and welcomed.

7. Communications update

Tim reported that with the move to Alert Level 1, things were ready to move on a number of fronts including the Parish database, Website, and Parish App.

8. Finance update

Anna reported that a draft set of financial statements for the previous financial year is under preparation and will be presented to LFT when ready for comment and feedback. Anna also gave a verbal update on DCM and will come back to LFT with some recommendations on this in due course.

9. General business

LFT noted that recent guidelines from the Bishops for our liturgical practices remain in place for the meantime:

1. Holy Communion – The faithful are to receive Holy Communion in the hand only, and not from the chalice;
2. Sign of Peace – The exchange of peace can be spoken by word, by a gesture such as bowing, or by a pause for silent prayer for peace. At this stage, people should not feel obliged to shake hands; and
3. Holy Water Fonts – these are to remain without Holy Water for the meantime.

These guidelines will be re-evaluated as further health advice is given, or in one month's time.

10. Next zoom meeting Monday, 15 June 2020, at 5pm