

PPC Minutes Meeting Sunday 13th July - St Francis of Assisi Parish Meeting Room, 7pm.

Work on Parish Vision Statement:

The PPC is intending to consult on the final Parish Vision statement. Even if not final version, it was decided that an interim version of the Vision statement can be used for purposes such as the August Spirituality of Generosity Campaign, before the fully consulted Parish Vision Statement is in time finalised.

Thoughts included the addition of adding some aspects of the Archdiocesan Vision Statement and incorporating this into the SFOA Parish Vision Statement – “We are missionary disciples of Christ...” – after the section on “God’s Kingdom”use the diocesan sentences. Suggestion was a workgroup that looked after the aspects of consultation, as well as, if need be, redesign and advance the ‘5 Areas’ on the boxes in the current interim PPC Vision Statement. The Communications Work Group has been working on aspects of Parish Vision Consultation and after the Spirituality of Generosity campaign, there is every possibility that the parish could be asked for feedback.

The PPC/or workgroup will work on the detail behind each of the 5 boxed aspects in due course.

Communications Working Group Progress (CWG):

The CWG has undertaken an overview of the different communication sources and channels that are used by the Parish. There was discussion by the PPC of the potential to strategize existing communication channels e.g. MailChimp. Frameworks were outlined for the CWG for evaluation, and an Excel Spreadsheet of what has been learnt will be kept.

The PPC discussed the high number of emails received by the office and the priests. The potential for a ‘top 10 contact list’ of personnel/co-ordinators who could help with the triage of emails was considered. However, it was noted that the Website still serves as a reference point to many parishioners, in addition to the word of mouth that came from the priests during announcements at masses. Some former blueprints of similar ‘top 10 contact list’ exist but only describe the contacts from former parish communities (St Peter and Paul’s, St Benedict’s). In addition, the need for a Parish Directory/Booklet was also considered.

The scope of the CWG pertains also to looking at the effectiveness of the noticeboards out in the foyer and the way they communicated pertinent news/information to parishioners

UPDATE 23/8/25: The CWG has progressed through meetings and has sent through a set of Recommendations to the PPC, to be considered in the next PPC meeting on the 24th August.

Welcome Ministry:

The PPC is looking to refresh the Welcome Ministry (this was also considered by the CWG). A few parishioners who have had experience in hospitality are potential possibilities at co-ordinating this.

James Fouhy has agreed to look into setting up an fostering a workgroup.

Church Building Care/co-ordination with Finance Committee:

The PPC considered whether Sacristans should come together and meet soon about responsibilities they can execute without emailing the Parish Office for assistance. This concerns the high administrative demands and number of email requests already placed on the Parish Office for support. Decisions relating to sacristy duties can easily be streamlined for sacristans to take charge.

ADW Spirituality of Generosity:

Both members of the Finance Committee and the PPC will work together for presentations after Communion time in mass during August's Spirituality of Generosity campaign. They will work with the ADW resources already given to parishes, including a video of Archbishop Paul launching the campaign in the first week of the campaign. A schedule for PPC and Finance Committee members to present on different weeks of August will be drawn up and working with the resources, each member assigned will work with each other and agree on what is presented.

UPDATE 23/8/25: PPC/FC Members have circulated feedback about the progress of the campaign. The final weeks of the campaign will draw on such feedback. Thank you!

Hope and Renewal Summit - Divine Renovation:

The 2nd Oct is the Clergy Day Formation – so discussion amongst the PPC was to decide on who might attend from the 3rd Oct or draw from the Hope and Renewal Summit in Palmerston North. Some aspects of the summit also raised discussion about the Alpha Programme in the Parish. After Alpha, what were the possibilities of continued faith engagement and how can evangelisation, growth and renewal be measured? Perhaps continue the focus on Alpha videos and the way they connect with prayer, even, for example, Lectio Divina.

October 4th - St Francis of Assisi Parish Patronal Feast Day, and Suzanne Aubert:

Sunday 5th October is the closest Sunday for both St Francis of Assisi and Suzanne Aubert to be celebrated in 2025. Suggestion was raised that the 5th be used to celebrate St Francis of Assisi, and the celebration of Venerable Suzanne Aubert could be achieved on the previous Sunday (28th September). The month of September leading up to the 4th October is also the Season of Creation. It could be that a co-ordinated effort to mark the significance of Venerable Suzanne Aubert involve a parish visit/pilgrimage to the Home of Compassion in Island Bay close to the first Sunday of October.

For any liturgical needs and demands for these two feasts, it is suggested by the PPC that everyone keeps the liturgy committee (and especially the chair of the liturgy committee) informed about any special aspects celebrated during the masses.

PPC Meetings:

The next meeting is Sunday 24th August, 7pm.

Subsequently the PPC has currently decided to meet thereafter on the Sunday 12th October and then 23rd November.