

Members Present:

Fr. Jude Pirotta (Parish Priest)

Fr. Sylvio Bezzina (Asst. Parish Priest)

Geralyn McCarthy (Chair)

Angel Hartanto, Gerry Balolong, Jenny Fenech,

Apologies: Paul Hughes

Invited Guest: Deacon Royden

Prayer: Angel

Minutes: Jen

The meeting opened at 7.30pm with a reflective song and prayer about the risen Redeemer.

Deacon Royden was invited to outline the approach to his contribution to the parish. He spoke about how he likes to engage fully in many ministries and then slowly release the responsibility on to a strengthened group which can then run with lessened support from himself.

His focus for 2021:

1st ministry: Baptism

- Expanded to about 12 volunteers currently

2nd ministry: Ministering to the Sick

- 20 families and 20 volunteers meeting every fortnight. Included in that ministry is Mecwacare nursing home Healing / Mass
- Aim to grow this ministry. Deacon quoted Pope Francis saying that “The church is a free hospital”

3rd ministry: Faith Ministry

- School of Discipleship Started at St. Peter’s and combined with people from St. James. Currently about 25 St.P and 20 from St.J.

4th ministry: Help Ministry

- Started as a response to the Covid pandemic and the associated needs
- Many volunteers assist with ringing the elderly, supporting those families with needs that go above and beyond what Vinnies can provide

5th ministry: Grief Ministry

- Meeting every month

All of the volunteers assisting in any of these ministries have complied with the Childsafe requirements and have current documentation to support this.

Challenges:

- Recently appointed to work for the archdiocese 4 days a week (mainly working from home) but cannot attend Mass in the parish.

Father Jude asked Royden to be part of the PPCouncil effective immediately.

Business arising from the last meeting:

1. Easter Ceremonies – beautiful, challenging especially for the volunteer ushers, carpark attendants etc.

Priests report:

1. Preparations for the Blessing of the new church extensions by the Archbishop in hand.
2. Sacramental program for children from non-Catholic schools – need replacement
3. Flags – New design required. Fr. Jude showed images for the council to vote on. He spoke about the need to visually show that the parish is continually moving/flowing (so that it doesn't stagnate). 4 designs shown and 1 was decided upon.
4. Camp Australia – lost patronage during Covid so their ability to pay rent was compromised. Discussions with Fr. Jude ensued and a reduction of their rent was agreed upon.
5. Covid restrictions have caused issues for volunteers. They have raised their concerns about being disrespected etc. by a few

New items:

1. Mini Stewardship program – planning to commence once the opening/blessing of the new church extension is over. Aiming for July. To be discussed next meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm

Next Meeting: scheduled for Monday 10th May, 7.30pm

Prayer: Fr. Jude

Minutes: Angel (perhaps can swap with Paul from Feb?)

