



**St James  
The Apostle**

**St James the Apostle Parish  
Parish Council Meeting  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members:**

Fr Jude Pirotta mssp (Parish Priest)  
Geraldyn McCarthy (Chairperson)  
Paul Hughes  
Deacon Royden Dsouza

Fr Silvio Bezzina mssp (Assistant Priest)  
Jenny Fenech  
Gerry Balolong  
Angel Hartanto

**Apologies:** Royden

**Prayers:** Paul

**Minutes:** Angel

**Guest:** Diane Sia

**Presentation:** Diane Sia and Team from Australian Catholic University (ACU) regarding Project Proposal Design development. They conduct a survey looking at potential areas in the parish (e.g., different needs and concerns) that could be addressed and benefited the community. From the survey, the team will create a proposal with the steps and plan for the parish to implement. However, due to the current lockdown the survey responses have been very slow. The Parish will help by sending an email blast to the parish community and ministry leaders.

**Business arising from last meeting:**

1. Lay Leaders' Gathering – no update as the regional meeting is being postponed due to the lockdown.
2. COVID Update – we had 7 masses on one weekend before the snap lockdown 6.0 happened. Reservation via Trybooking for 100 max capacities in the church.
3. Altar Servers and Readers – Fr Silvio dropped in to the three primary schools: St James, St Francis and St Clare. We have 7 students are interested in being altar servers and another 7 students being readers. These students are from St James and St Clare. Awaiting from St Francis.
4. Alpha Program update – they have been meeting regularly and they have 4 meetings since our last PPC meeting with 16 participants (leaders and helpers from both St Peter and St James Parish).

5. Parish Pastoral Council members – Red has given Jenny the timeline of PPC past election. With the uncertainty of covid situation that we have now, it's difficult to decide when we are going to have the election. Should we wait until mass attendance to reach 250? Or, mid December? Jenny will work out the timeline based on mid-December date.
6. Parish House building update – the Parish has engaged Hegedich Lawyers to settle the matter. The builder is still owing \$33K worth of works that yet to be completed. The builder has agreed to pay in instalment fortnightly.
7. Report back from Regional meeting Leading Missionary Renewal on July 24 – this meeting has been rescheduled to late Aug or early Sep. Both Fr Jude and Fr Silvio will attend the meeting at the Maidstone Parish.

### **Parish Priest Report:** Fr Jude

1. Jacinta Fisher has stepped up to take the role of the new church cleaner coordinator. Anna Sia will have a meeting with Jacinta for the handover.
2. Maribel Maniquiz has transitioned well as a Sacramental Program Co-ordinator. We have three catechists: Karen Serrano for Reconciliation, Florence Korapaty for First Eucharist and Beatrice Silva for Confirmation. Lourdes Raghu is also interested in helping with the first communion program.
3. Young Paulists next event “Discerning Life’s Choices” using the Ignatian Discernment Process, with guest speaker Fr Brendan Byrne SJ. This will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> Aug at the Ray Centre.
4. Father’s Day Raffles – Thank you to Judy Porter and Janine Warwick who organised this event and the hampers. Kevin Lloyd has set up the trybooking link for the raffle tickets sale. The proceeds will go towards church building extension fund.
5. Fr Jude would like: 1) if the PPC could get some update in a written report from the Youth Ministry, 2) if Parish and Parish Council could send cards on the school’s feast day to stay connected and acknowledging these feast days. The Parish priests have done a recording for the Feast of St Clare and sent it to Beth Walsh, 3) if we could invite the school principals (both primary & secondary schools) to the PCC Meeting. The Parish need to keep the connections with the schools, especially after MACS took over.
6. Due to lots of uncertainty and with the recent two lockdowns, sadly St James Fete is cancelled. The Parish may need to look at a different way of fundraising strategy - smaller activities that would not cost a lot to do and do not take a lot of time to plan (e.g., regular small raffles, a Trivia Night, cake bake sale at the end of mass). We may need to reach out to the younger groups for their creativity like, YP and Youth

Ministry perhaps to come up with an event and the parish community / parish business owners to donate or sponsor the event.

**Finance Report:** with the many lockdowns that we have and limited mass attendance due to the covid restrictions, our thanksgiving is still down. This is concerning as we have started repaying the loan. A suggestion is made if the parish could write a letter to CAM for a special consideration to reduce the parish quarterly archdiocesan levy.

### **New Business Items**

1. Parish Website and Ministry directory need to be reviewed and updated. We need to create the website more attractive.
2. The Parish may want to hold a parish general meeting / forum to reconnect with the community, information sharing (e.g., to discuss about live after covid), or even get some fundraising ideas to support the parish. Potential date: Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> October.

### **New Business Items to be brought forward to next time**

1. Adult Formation

**Next Meeting:** Monday, 13 September 2021

**Prayer:** Geralyn

**Minutes:** Jenny