

Members Present: Fr. Jude Pirotta (Parish Priest), Fr. Sylvio Bezzina (Asst. Parish Priest) Royden D'Souza (Deacon) Geralyn McCarthy (Chair) Angel Hartanto, Gerry Balolong, Jenny Fenech, Paul Hughes

Prayer: Geralyn -Prayer of Christian Hope

Minutes: Jenny

Agenda Items.

1. Future Restructuring of Parishes. Update. Fr. Joe Caddy called Fr. Jude to reassure us that we wouldn't lose our church and that the boundary would be moved back to Hogan's Rd. St. Peter's to remain distinctly their own parish.

2. COVID Pandemic. Fr. Jude was discussing with Lorraine McCarthy the comparison with faith gatherings in Sydney requiring double vaccinations before parishioners would be eligible to join a congregation. Probably expecting the Vic. government to have the same requirements.

3. Parish Pastoral Council elections. Considering the current situation with the pandemic, it has been agreed to place the elections on hold for the moment.

4. Parish House. Still waiting for the builder to honour his commitment. He still owes \$ 33,000. Father has put it in the hands on Adele Hedgich (solicitor) a parishioner to negotiate with him.

5. Youth Ministry. Next meeting Red would be asked to provide a written report for PPC to discuss and review.

6. Ministries. Another ministry that we would like to invite is the Vinnies ministry. They are struggling at the moment mainly because many of the usual volunteers are not comfortable being outside of their homes during the pandemic and are not able to contribute. Playgroup have been very proactive and are still meeting regularly. The Knights are continuing to meet as is the Men's ministry. Women of Faith. We need and update on where they are at currently. When we are back in earnest we need to gather and reconnect with all ministries.

7. Parish Meeting October 17th. People are fatigued. Perhaps it is better to leave it. Re assess the situation perhaps looking towards Nov/Dec. As soon as we can we should put it back on the calendar.

Parish Priest's Report:

1. MSSP Lay. This group are still meeting every month via zoom and last meeting met with Fr. Mark Grima keeping the connection going.

2. YP's latest zoom event with Fr. Brendan Byrne was well supported and the conversation there and afterwards has been extremely positive.

3. Sacramental Program. The sacramental program is moving forward and the new leadership has taken a while to adjust but is settling into the new role well now.

4. Meeting with MACS with regards to the 2 parish primary schools St. Francis and St. Clare's that were built after 2007.

Finance Report:

Angel reported that she has submitted applications to the government for financial assistance during the pandemic, but is not very hopeful that we will be successful in obtaining it. We are not in a very comfortable position at all, but are currently meeting our principal and interest commitment at the moment during lockdown.

The fundraising which was planned may have helped to ease some of the difficulty, but being so restricted due to lockdown is creating more issues in this regard.

Angel wondered whether it would be a worthwhile exercise to let our parishioners know actually how much interest we are currently paying and whether we should present the community with some of the financial facts that are causing the parish financial hardship at this time.

Deacon Royden's Report:

1. ALPHA. Deacon thanked the council for supporting the ALPHA program. There were 16 regulars attending the pilot program and 13 will facilitate the upcoming program. He is looking forward to the next Alpha program commencing with 42 people registered between the parishes of St. James and St. Peter's. Fr. Jude expressed his wish to be invited along with Fr. Vince to give blessing to the program and to celebrate mass.

2. Discipleship school still going along well, and hopefully the people who complete ALPHA will then move into faith formation groups.

3. Online Rosary taking place during lockdown Tuesday and Wednesdays. Gathering about 25-30 participants and is advertised on Facebook.

4. Help to the poor Ministry has had to be dropped due to Royden's work commitments.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Next Meeting: Monday 11th October at **7.30 pm** via Zoom.

Prayer: Jenny

Minutes: Gerry