



**St James
The Apostle**

St James the Apostle Parish

Parish Pastoral Council

Monday 13 March 2023

Members:

Fr Jude Pirotta mssp (Parish Priest);

Fr Silvio Bezzina mssp (Assistant Priest)

Geralyn McCarthy (Chairperson)

Jenny Fenech

Angel Hartanto

Kevin Lloyd

Russell Menezes

Beatrice Silva

Felix Choo

Dc Royden D'souza

Apologies: Stacey Fernandes

Prayer – Felix

Minutes – Russell

Business Arising from last meeting (February's Meeting)

- Parish Website Update - Stacey will send in an update.
- PPC Parish Website Photos - Parish Council Members to send through photos to Parish Office by Friday 17th March – Passport Photo size, neutral background.
- Parish Annual Report – Fr Jude advised that a sub-committee is formed with Felix coordinating. A couple of volunteers to also join Felix on the committee.

Parish Priest Report: Fr Jude

- Deacon Royden has been reassigned to the Parish of Lara/Corio. We thank him for his service in the life of St James over the past 4 years and we wish him all the best in his new role.
- Bishop Martin Ashe has returned from overseas and has suggested to reschedule his visit for the first week of December 2023. The Bishop's office will contact the parish office to confirm the new date for his visit.
 - It was suggested to meet all the School leaders at Thomas Carr to make the best use of Bishop Martin's busy schedule.
- Florence Korapathy has enquired to advertise the HSI School of Discipleship at St Peters Hoppers Crossing in the parish bulletin and to leave information sheets in the magazine rack of the Narthex.

- It was discussed how to reach out to struggling ministries in St James post pandemic. It was discussed that the Parish Pastoral Council support existing ministries by reaching out to assist and debrief issues each ministry is encountering, then report back to the PPC.
- There was a concern around burning out the same volunteers who offer their services in multiple ministries.
- Easter
 - Musicians have been contacted; Belinda has altered a few hymns.
 - All masses will be in the church except for Good Friday Service which will be in the Paulist Centre.
 - Maria suggested that the sound system is old and suggested that we should Invest in portable sound system for the Parish that we can use for inside and outside. It was suggested that we have a discussion with the school and see if they can take a look at the Paulist centre and see if they are looking at upgrading. Fr Jude will follow this up with Andrea Richards, principal of St James.
 - Kevin asked if it is worthwhile to invest in an external projector as in previous years the people outside the Paulist centre no one can see or hear anything. It was suggested by Royden that the Church could be used as an overflow. Fr Jude to checkout with the school if there is anything they can assist with suggestions around how to include the crowd.

Child Safety Report: Geralyn

- New safeguarding online module tested by the PCC. All volunteers of St James will need to complete the new safeguarding module annually.

Finance Report: Angel

- Parish Accounts are looking healthy, the parish has significantly reduced the loan period. Angel is confident that from a loan period of 20 years can be reduced to 10 years.
- It was suggested that the parish is in a comfortable financial position and asked if we should start planning for phase 3 of the Church Renovations (Community Centre). It was discussed that a committee should be formed, and planning should start in the near future.

Ministry Report:

- Beatrice affirmed the work done by Maribel coordinating the sacramental program, registrations were very positive.

- Russell reported the success of the YP Core Team Retreat, we had 17 volunteers sign up for the new core team (4 new members). Commissioning of YPs will take place on the weekend of 25/26th of March.
- Sunday School – Felix suggested that Julia and Sachith will come to the next PCC meeting to present ideas.
- Much discussion around lectors and commentators for the celebration of the Eucharist over the weekend.
- Music ministry could use some diversity and have more groups involved. YP Music Ministry and Kids for Christ (CFC) is going to join the music roster.
- RCIA- 4 candidates and 3 catechumens to be baptised and received at Easter 2023.

Discussions/Planning Regarding the Following:

- Holy Week preparation
- Parish Raffle – to be drawn at the fete 2023
- Planning for St James feast day
 - In the past we had a series of speakers in the lead up to St James feast day. It was discussed to resurrect this for this year after coming back out of covid.
 - GERALYN to organise a series of speakers to speak in the weeks leading up to the feast. The Parish feast will be celebrated on the weekend of 29th/30th July with the Parish Party celebrated on the 29th July
- Invitation to School Principals to PPC meetings

Next Meeting

Monday 17 April at 7.30 pm in the Parish House

Prayer: Stacey

Minutes: Angel