

ST MARY'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

11 November 2014

Opening

The November meeting of St Mary's Parish Pastoral Council for 2014 commenced at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 11 November 2014 in the Parish Centre Meeting Room.

Present

Doug Black (Chair), Fr Des, Terry McKitterick, Clem Mulcahy, Denise Morgan, Christine Sebire, Jenny Mayes, Barbara Green, Kate Fogarty and Matt McLindon.

Apologies: Brendan Atley and Anne Kotsiakos.

Absent: John Moyle.

Prayer and Formation

Christine led the prayer based on the statement of St Pope John Paul II that the "pressing pastoral task of the new evangelisation calls for the involvement of the entire People of God, and requires a new fervour, new methods and a new expression for the announcing and witnessing of the Gospel."

This was followed by scripture reading and discussion - Corinthians - "you are God's building" and the Gospel of John relating to Jesus' clearing out of the Temple in Jerusalem. Quotes from the book "Rebuilt" were then matched by each of us to various sections of the reading. These will be later used as the basis to a "Rebuild" display in the Meeting Room for others to read and ponder.

Reports:

Parish:

There was no written report. Christine reported generally and later addressed issues during the discussions under General Business.

RCIA has two candidates and has been meeting over the last two weeks.

St Mary's PS.

In Brendan's absence, there was no report.

St Joseph's College.

Kate reported that Michael Delaney, presently Principal of Mary MacKillop College, Leongatha, has been appointed as new principal of St Joseph's College.

The Oak Centre will be open for public viewing on Sunday, 7 December 2015 from 11 a.m. for one hour. The official opening is set for the following Monday, 15 December, 2014.

Correspondence in:

internal emails;

Letter from Sandhurst Youth Ministry requesting financial support for the December Stronger Retreat.

It was agreed to recommend to Financial Committee that \$250 be made available by the parish.

Request from Young Mothers' Group to use the hall space for fortnightly meetings. This had already been approved by Finance Committee, Fr Des and our Chairman..

Correspondence out:

- Approved.
- Kate requested that 80th birthday cards be sent to both Sr Brigid Arthur (24 November) and Melva Johnson (26 November).
- A "welcome" card is also to be sent to Michael Delaney.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Business arising from Minutes

- as reported later.

General Business

Echuca Moama Community Projects Team

Approval was given to provide space for the Echuca Moama Community Projects Team (via Uniting Care Melbourne) group to use the upstairs room for the distribution of toys for Target and Uniting Care Giving Box Appeal 2014.

PPC Formation Day

It was recommended that the PPC Formation Day be as early in 2015 as possible and that the new PPC members commit to attending.

AGM Sunday 30 November 2014.

New Lectors and Ministers of the Eucharist will be commissioned at the 10.00 a.m. Mass prior to the AGM.

Reports from the various parish organisations, PPC Chairman, Pastoral Associates and Parish Priest are still being sought.

We also need to call for three new PPC members. Terry will be standing down at the end of his 6 year term and a new Secretary will need to be appointed. Matt McLindon will also be standing down as he has now completed his three year term.

The occasion will also be used as a farewell function for Kate Fogarty and a chance for her to reflect on her 6 years in Echuca.

Ask members to provide a plate for morning tea.....as simple as possible.

The AGM Agenda was approved as submitted.

Pastoral Associates and Janis to follow up reports from groups.

Christine suggested that we have a power point presentation to highlight parish groups and achievements but it was resolved to plan this for next year's AGM so that we can gather enough Parish photos that are needed for this.

Rebuilt

Doug reported that he is working to establish a small steering group to establish this program. Some people have already expressed interest. A meeting will take place once the school year has finished.

The initial focus will be to establish a monthly Sunday evening Mass, commencing in March 2015.

Christmas Eve Family Mass

Christine sees this event (and the other two Christmas Masses) as a chance for evangelisation of the families who attend and an early introduction to "Rebuilt". She suggests that we arrange a group of greeters, pamphlets etc to take advantage of the event.

Christmas Day Mass needs to be "upgraded" with music and the like. Singers and musicians will be asked to try to attend both Masses to celebrate both events.

Prayer after Mass

It was agreed that this should be introduced as a monthly initiative beginning with the first weekend of each month. It could include a Healing Prayer, a Prayer of Petition and appropriate music.

MenAlive

Matt wants to schedule the Echuca event for mid-June, 2015. Two dates have been agreed to be put to the menALIVE organising committee for their meeting so that they can finalise the date for Echuca.

Chapel

The Blessed Sacrament is now permanently reserved in the Chapel tabernacle. The sanctuary lamp is operating well.

St Mary's SOS program has been very successful in attracting volunteer helpers.

Social Justice

Denise reported that Christmas hampers were being organised with St Vincent de Paul Society and should be ready for packing on 13 December 2014.

Website - working well.

BEC's - no report.

Adult Education - In 2015 it is felt that the "Rebuilt" program will generate significant opportunities for ministry training and focus for various forms of adult faith education.

Parish Ministries - training is suggested in all areas to refine our skills. Our welcomers have been commended.

Prayer: Nobody was appointed for first meeting of 2015

Next meeting:

Expected 10 February 2014

Meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Minutes approved: Doug Black November 2014

NOTES

1. November was our final meeting before the AGM in November.
2. Reports still need to be canvassed..
4. New members need to be approached. Suggestions welcomed.
5. Retiring members will be:
 - Kate Fogarty, but will be replaced by new Principal;
 - Terry McKiterick - completed 6 years and not eligible for renomination;
 - Matt McLindon will complete 3 years and is not renominating;
 - Doug Black is in his 4th year;
6. Both the Chairman and Secretary positions will be vacated.