

ST MARY'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

14th April 2015

Opening

The April meeting of St Mary's Parish Pastoral Council for 2015 commenced at 7.36pm on Tuesday, 14th April 2015 in the Parish Centre Meeting Room.

1. Opening Prayer

Christine Sebire led the prayer focusing on "An Easter Prayer".

2. Welcome

3. Present

Doug Black (Chair), Fr Des, Clem Mulcahy, Denise Morgan, Christine Sebire, Barbara Green and Kerry McLoughlan.

4. Apologies

Brendan Atley, Olivia Gregory, Michael Delaney, Dave Callanan, John Moyle, Anne Kotsiakos and Jenny Mayes.

5. Correspondence

- In – Nil
- Out – Nil

6. Reports

St Mary's School: A verbal report was provided by Christine in Brendan's absence. Staff responded very well to the recent spirituality day held in Rushworth and staff have requested more spirituality time. A large amount of positive feedback has been received from staff in relation to the first Come and See gathering.

Pastoral Associates: Christine gave a verbal report. The Easter liturgy and RCIA have been keeping the Pastoral Associates very busy. The sacramental program information night is being held on Wednesday 15th April 2015 with enrolments also commencing on that day. Children's liturgy commences the weekend of 19th April 2015 and it will be led by the new coordinator, Holly Morris. The baptism preparation team have met and are continuing their progress. Christine advised that there will be a combined group's morning tea after 10:00am mass on Sunday 26th April 2015. The families of all people baptised in the last 12 months have been invited to attend along with all parishioners.

Christine asked all members to complete a short questionnaire reviewing the Easter liturgies. Doug will write a thank you note to the liturgy group in appreciation of the work they put into the Easter masses and Christine will pass on the Parish Pastoral Councils sentiments at the liturgy meeting on Wednesday 15th April 2015.

St Joseph's College: No report submitted.

General Business

Minutes of Previous Meeting: 10th March 2015. Approved by Clem Mulcahy and Seconded by Fr Des.

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting:

- Fr Des is continuing to liaise with Kyabram and Rochester on the Year of the Consecrated celebrations. At this stage the celebrations are planned for the weekend of the 31st October 2015. Early planning indicates celebrations will occur in Kyabram on the Friday night, Echuca on the Saturday and in Rochester on the Sunday. Each Parish is putting together a working group to organise and run the celebrations. Clem Mulcahy volunteered to be involved along with Fr Des and they will reach out to others to volunteer to be on the working group.
- Fr Des advised that there has been no commitment as yet from Brendan Moyle to take up the position of youth representative for the PPC. Parish Pastoral Council members were asked to consider options for a youth representative to join the PPC.
- It was agreed that the PPC would have a welcome get together after the next meeting. A reminder will be sent to members with the next agenda.

PPC Formation Day (With Phil Billington): Denise will send a reminder email to all PPC members on Thursday 16th April 2015. Dave Callanan will be an apology for the day. Doug handed out a brochure on Parish Pastoral Councils to all members and asked that all members read it before the PPC Formation Day on Saturday 18th April 2015. Denise will email the link to the brochure to all members before the day.

The plan for the PPC Formation Day is to arrive at 9:30 for welcome tea and coffee ready for at 10:00am start. Lunch will be at 12:30 and will be catered for and Phil aims to finish the day around 3:00pm. The PPC agreed that this day will be a great opportunity to take updated photos of the PPC members. No payment to Phil is required for her facilitation of the PPC Formation Day however, Doug will write a thank you card and Barbara will purchase a red wine gift pack from the Echuca Chocolate Shop as a token of our appreciation.

Parish Pastoral Council – Purpose, Vision...: Doug raised the importance of the Parish Pastoral Council having a clear purpose and vision and the PPC being an environment where all members feel willing and able to speak freely and be involved. This will be further developed at the PPC Formation Day.

“Come and See” Update: The “Come and See” advertising banner has been erected at the front of the Church. Christine advised that positive feedback and suggestions have been received since the first Come and See gathering on 15th March 2015. The next Come and See gathering is being held at St Mary's School on Sunday 19th April 2015. Christine has asked for volunteers to assist in packing up after the gathering on Sunday and thanked Barbara Green for packing up after the previous Come and See gathering. Christine confirmed that St Mary's School

will be setting up for Sunday's gathering but requested PPC members to attend and welcome attendees. The Come and See team confirmed that they are actively trying to recruit new members to the ministry, not as committee members but as participants.

"menALIVE" Update: The team are continuing to meet on Saturday mornings to reflect and to continue to plan for the June 13th and 14th event. Printing of the posters and brochures is expected to commence soon.

Social Justice Committee Update: Nothing to report. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st April 2015.

Finance Committee Update: The review of planned giving is almost due again. The work is about to start on the Priory verandahs, the finance committee is looking into the option of grant funding to assist with the cost of these works. Further information is required before the review of renting the hall to the Southern 80 Shop can be finalised. This is continuing and is expected to be finished in another few weeks.

Website: Nothing to report.

PPC Linking with Other Parish Groups: Fr Des suggested that members of the Parish Pastoral Council attend meetings of other parish groups every now and again. Fr Des commented that this was well received when it had been done in the past. It was agreed that this suggestion would be linked in to the work being conducted at the PPC Formation Day on the future direction of the PPC and possibly incorporated into the new Parish Pastoral Council Plan.

Parish Bus Project: Doug proposed that Parish Pastoral Council consider the initiative of a Parish Bus that would allow the Parish to transport people to church and to other functions. Some discussions were held on the matter and it was suggested that initial investigations be made to determine if St Joseph's School have a bus and if the Parish was able to access their bus. Doug will contact St Joseph's School to discuss.

Other: Nil.

7. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The focus of the Parish Pastoral Council and the setting of the agenda. Please forward any items for the next meeting to Denise by Wednesday 6th May 2015.

8. Prayer Leader

Anne Kotsiakos

Next Meeting

Tuesday 12th May 2015

Meeting closed at 8.58pm.

Minutes approved: Doug Black 26th April 2015