

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OTARI
St Teresa and St Thomas More Churches

OTARI PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes Wednesday September 20th 2017 7pm St Thomas More Lounge

- a. OPENING PRAYER: Mary
- b. APOLOGIES: Benny and Lagi
- c. Minutes from the previous meeting 16th August 2017 were accepted.
- d. FINANCE REPORT – Peter Dykes
 - i. The Parish Profit accounts for the Year ending 31/3/17 and for the 1st quarter of the current year to 30th June 2017 had previously been emailed to Parish Council members.
 - ii. Peter presented key information in Pie charts
 - iii. The following points were highlighted and discussed;
 - Total income was \$262K last year
 - Approx 50% of Parish expenditure is in the form of Archdiocese levies is set
 - 1% of the improved value of the parish property of approximately \$3m is set aside each year as the maintenance budget. Most year's this is not quite enough
 - PRENDOS reports commissioned 3 years ago recommended a long-term maintenance plan is out in place, with preventative measures to be taken. This would involve spending approx \$100k per year on average.
 - No major renovations are planned over the next 2 years.
 - Parishioners contribute 69% of total income,
 - Only 46% of parishioners are planned givers but 88% of contributions come from planned givers
 - The age spread of contributions is interesting; 66% from over 60s, 32% from ages 40-60, only 2% from the under 40s
 - The Parish financial position is strong at present but is predicted to worsen
 - Peter recommended;
 - a. Parish assets should be reconfigured to maximise income and reduce expenditure on maintenance eg what can we do with the presbytery?
 - b. The high cost of maintenance could be minimised by reducing property that is not required and that doesn't produce income
 - c. Ways need to be identified to encourage increasing contributions from non-plan givers and the under 40s eg

tagged fundraising, planned giving envelopes to new parishioners etc

(Also discussed was the issue of recouping the archdiocesan levy portion from the chaplaincy income of the Syro-Malabar collections)

e. MATTERS ARISING

- i. Side-by-side mentors have been commissioned
- ii. Tongan ECL donation has been agreed and the group advised.
- iii. Readers for the Vigil mass- Kevin advised we have plenty of readers, though it would be handy to have more for the Saturday evening mass. We do have a new reader for Sunday, Kingsley.

f. OTHER BUSINESS

- i. E-mail to Jayne Sutherland – Erwin has emailed Jayne to thank her on behalf of the Parish Council for all her hard work. There is to be a farewell for Jayne on 1st October.
- ii. Aotearoa Catholic Youth Festival: Lagi is not here, so we can have update at the next meeting.
- iii. Lifeteen Youth Ministry Conference: Some information has been sent through and needs to be circulated. It is in Featherston from 27th – 29th October. We are not sure yet who will represent the parish.
- iv. Synod feedback: The official parish delegates were Lagi Tuimivave, Jayne Sutherland, Sarah Simmons and Michael Gribble. Also present from Otari were Fr Ron, Erwin Palado, Mary Ryan, M-A Tombs, Ingrid Jacobs, Fr Sanele and Johnny Celeste. 13 topics were discussed and recommendations made to the Archbishop. The Synod recommendations will be emailed to the Parish councillors. (We could put some of these into action without waiting for the Archbishop's recommendations.)
- v. 1st October, St Teresa's Feast day: It has been agreed the Filipino group will provide morning tea, and there will be a collection basket with funds going to Mission NZ.
- vi. Eucharistic Ministers Reflection and Training – 29th October: The Liturgy Committee is running this.
- vii. Schedule AGM: There is actually no legal requirement to have an AGM. After some discussion it was agreed this topic would be discussed again early in 2018.

The current suggestion is that the AGM should be held prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

g. STEWARDSHIP

i. Pillars:

1. Hospitality: Everything that was discussed about hospitality at the last meeting was summarised and put into the newsletter. Rachel will check with Estelle and Catherine about what we have in our current parish welcome packs.
2. Prayer: Father Ron asked the council members to think about what prayer means to them and what it looks like, or could look like, in our parish. Here is a summary of those ideas;

- Traditional
- Meditation
- Saying the Rosary in May
- Pray the Rosary 10 minutes before mass in October
- Novena
- Scripture groups
- Charismatic mass
- Children's mass
- Prayer requests
- Taize songs service (John 14-16)
- Prayers of the faithful said from the body of the church
- Music
- Bible study groups
- Annual retreats on specific topics
- Homily to be relevant to today's world
- Prayers of the week
- Prayer themes
- Family groups

- ii. Stewardship team, next meeting 10th October at St Thomas More. The new stewardship booklet will be distributed prior to this.

h. FATHER RON'S CORNER

There are 8 couples attending the Marriage Encounter weekend, 1 from this parish.

9.CORRESPONDENCE

- a. From Cardinal John: Explanation on levies
- b. From Debbie Matheson: Stewardship – new booklet to be distributed
- c. Email from CWL: They are holding; AGM on 18th October, Car Boot Sale 11th November at Cardinal McKeefry (rain date 25th November), Christmas card sales from 29th October and Christmas Party on 6th December
- d. Justice and Peace movie evening is 1st October

CONCLUDING PRAYER: Mary

NEXT MEETING : 18th October 7pm St Teresa's presbytery

Minute taker and prayer for October meeting: Christine (apologies in advance from Father Ron)