

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF OTARI**  
**St Teresa and St Thomas More Churches**

**OTARI PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Meeting Minutes Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup> 2018 at St Thomas More Lounge

**OPENING PRAYER** : Reflection Erwin

**APOLOGIES** : Kevin, Sarah, Benny, Pat , Lagi and Christine.

Minutes from the previous meeting were moved and accepted.

This meeting had been bought forward a week early due to the proposed Pastoral Planning day set down for April 7<sup>th</sup>. The change of date resulted in several people being unable to attend.

**MATTERS ARISING**

1. Synod Outcomes

Discussion around how to involve as much of the parish as possible in order to implement the key Synod recommendations. The four main or key topics are 1,2,3 and 12 in the Synod booklet. We would like to concentrate on these ones first and look at the remaining areas at some point in the future. Discussion stressed the need to involve all ethnic groups represented in the parish to join in this process.

**ACTION POINT:** Look at Topic 1 in Synod book for next meeting.

2. The Pastoral Planning has been deferred. April 7<sup>th</sup> was an optimistic time frame given the task at hand and it following so close after Easter. Discussion around how to make this day appeal to a wide range of parishioners in order to get maximum representation from our community. It was felt there were good people within the parish who could facilitate group discussion- ie those who had attended the Synod and that a professional facilitator was not required.

3. Parish Census; currently no fixed date for this but the information obtained would be very helpful for a number of reasons; an insight into the parish makeup and diversity of cultures etc, time, talents, treasures etc that can feed into groups such as readers, mass managers, side by side mentoring. Also, the parish office requires up to date information of those in our community. This remains a work in progress.

**ACTION POINT:** Please read census forms (emailed to you) before next meeting so we can come with ideas and comments as we want to get this moving.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Erwin attended the APC (Archdiocesan Pastoral Council).

Parish Leadership Vicariate 22<sup>nd</sup> March attended by Erwin and Christine.

Condolence card sent to Estelle and Stuart Henrys on the death of Stuart's father.

## **FATHER RONS CORNER**

Stewardship-Hospitality, Prayer, Service and Formation all on going.

Alfred Tong a seminarian will be with us from Palm Sunday and for Holy Week. He will join us again for a two week placement in August.

Finance- there are several "visual" things that need to be improved. The toilets at St Teresa's Hall and the stations of the cross windows at St Teresa's to name a couple. Father will encourage those donating via the planned giving to continue or increase the amount. Specific donations for a set maintenance task could also be encouraged. Possibility of getting in an outside fundraising expert to help, although this in itself is expensive but had had good outcomes elsewhere.

The finance committee has not shown the parish accounts to parishioners. This should be done before any donation requests are made for specific projects.

Pentecost Sunday- ideas to make this a special day.

Pot luck lunches at the presbytery after Sunday mass to be explored.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**ACTION POINT:** Discussion at next meeting to confirm if meeting be changed to second Wednesday of the month.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 7pm St Teresa's Presbytery

**PRAYER AND MINUTES;** David

Apologies received for April meeting: Kevin, Pat and Rachel. Lagi will be late due a prior meeting engagement.

