

## St Thomas More Transition Group Meeting Minutes

**Date and time:** Thursday 28 May 2026, 5:15pm – meeting to end at 6pm

**Venue:** St Thomas More Lounge

**Opening prayer:** Peter

**Apologies** None:

|         |   |  |
|---------|---|--|
| Estelle | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swap out brainstorm on whiteboard in Lounge for list of current and past community members</li> <li>• Continue to work on the list of parishioners who have passed on to be remembered at the Remembrance Mass /Parish Office/Cathedral Office / Archivist</li> <li>• Liturgy Committee via Sandra receive a list of people who want to carry on their Ministry at St Teresa's.</li> </ul> | <p>In progress</p> <p>Archivist on Leave. Records are not open to public.</p> <p>Have list from Sandra to pass to Liturgy Committee</p>  |
| Peter   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with Roster team at St Theresa's to include those from St Thomas More</li> <li>• Source Memorial Book</li> <li>• Liaise with Parish Council about items of provenance</li> </ul>  | <p>Estelle and Sandra have this in hand</p> <p>Will certainly source a book soonest - my donation</p> <p>Alerted the PPC to the provenance matter - they are supportive and I'll follow up</p> |
| Stuart  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with Finance Committee over the final celebration ideas and budget</li> <li>• Liaise with Finance Committee about items of provenance</li> <li>• Liaise with Finance Committee to contact and take the lead on communicating with regular Lounge Users (e.g: Tai Chi and Yoga)</li> </ul>   | <p>Done</p> <p>?</p> <p>Done</p>   |
| Carolyn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Challenge 2000 about catering after the closing Mass</li> </ul>  | <p>Challenge cannot cater. Estelle and I are gathering other quotes.</p>   |

|                   |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Kylie             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Set up google folder for all documents</li> <li>● Update calendar with new dates identified</li> <li>● Mock up invites for events</li> </ul>               | <p>done</p> <p>done</p> <p>printed for browsing this meeting or next meeting - need to confirm wording with group and design</p> |
| Estelle & Carolyn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Spreading information</li> <li>● Write up a piece for Welcom</li> <li>● Send out information to go into other Parish newsletters/facebook pages</li> </ul> | Draft of welCom needs to be sent to Ben Mac by end of this month.  |
| Estelle           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Collate a list of invitees</li> <li>● Liaise with St Thomas More breakfast team to organise final breakfast</li> </ul>                                     | Next task  |

### **Matters arising:**

### **Discussion**

### **Final farewell liturgy, and associated pastoral events**

- Distinction between
  - closing St Thomas More church events (Thanksgiving and Farewell)
  - Celebration of Otari Parish the following week at St Teresa's
  - Deconsecration of St Thomas More Church
- Estimate of the number of people who might attend the closing Mass
  - 68 current members and families
  - 62 past members - can double to be 120
  - 14 clergy
- Invitation list
  - Carolyn and Estelle working on this
- How do we involve the Te Ngākau Tapu community with whom we have had a long relationship in this process?
  - Send out Welcom notice to Msgr. Gerald Burns to share
  - Carolyn and Estelle to meet with Te Ngākau Tapu and see if there is anything they would like to contribute, e.g. Music?
- How will we acknowledge our Ecumenical relationship over many years? (St Anne's Northland, St Luke's Wadestown)?
  - Give an opportunity at the Open Day for Ministers to speak

- Give Manger symbolically at this time, and send the Christmas costumes over with our love
- Catering – finger food, juice, tea, coffee, alcohol or not? *To be discussed after the close this meeting.*
  - This event will be non-alcoholic
  - Catering for up to 150 people for this event
  - For Matariki event - BYO so this could include alcohol

**Pastoral transition:**

- Events for remembrance and thanksgiving – see notices below
- Finding a way to reach out to those without transport who might like to transition to St Teresa's.
  - This will go back to PPC and will see if people can car pool
- When will the last normal/regular Sunday Mass at St Thomas More be?
  - Sunday 23 August

**Ministry integration:**

- Helping STM ministers transition into St Teresa roles where desired
  - Sandra has contacted and passed this information on to The Chair of the Liturgy Committee

**Inventory and records:**

- Assisting with cataloguing, transfer, gifting, and respectful handling of sacred items. Do we need to gather a group to do this? Could someone from St Teresa's be recruited to help?
  - Father Joy will identify the sacred items which will need to be handled with care
  - Estelle and Father Joy will go in person to see the items and their condition
  - Tongan community would like to take some altar items
  - Peter will pick up following through on items with provenance, for example picture above the old office door
  - Peter to send a copy of the inventory to Des and office
  - Keep in mind Te Ngākau Tapu community to offer items to
  - Make a point that nothing will be destroyed before it has been offered around wider community
  - Pews being stored at Cathedral will not need to be back before the final mass
  - After final Mass, we can action what will happen with practical items can go into St Teresa's for a bigger community, other items can go to the next refugee family intake / St Vincents e.g microwave etc

**Communication:**

- Notices below to go in Parish newsletter 7 June and in WelCom.
- Minutes of meetings and parish website
  - Kylie to send minutes to Parish office to be uploaded
  - Carolyn will send the notices to the Parish office to be loaded onto the website
  - Estelle to send WelCom Notice to Editor

**Legacy and memory:**

- Budget for sourcing memorial book
  - In progress - with Peter
- Should Chris Reid be approached to update the history of St Thomas More's Church?
  - Stuart to have a chat with Chris Reid for an extension to the book
- Estelle has been looking for more information about STM from before the Capuchins, for from 1969 onwards, will try and look for the old local newspaper, National Library
  - Carolyn to look up the old local newspaper (Western News?)
  - Kylie to look up National Library records

**Any other business:**

**Monday June 22 - Feast of St Thomas More**

A request from the PPC that STM host Mass on Sunday 21 June to commemorate the Feast Day. Suggesting it's 9.30am and it be the only Mass that Day - followed by a cuppa.

- STM community will celebrate the feast day Mass, all are welcome, 8.30am

**Next steps:**

- decide on an item to be processed out and taken over to St Teresa's
- circulate catering recommendations and decide on this via email before next meeting
- Use Fr Joy gmail address while he is travelling

**Next meeting date:**

**18 June, 5.15pm, STM Lounge**

**For publication in WelCom**

**St Thomas More Church, Wilton to close at the end of August**

Following a letter from Archbishop Paul Martin requiring the two churches of Ōtari Parish to become one worshipping community, the difficult decision has been made to close St Thomas More Church. Before this closure, we wish to celebrate our shared history from 1969 to the present. To that end, we have planned a series of events for all those with links to St Thomas More Church. The programme is as follows:

**Friday, July 17 2026, 6 pm,**

Near the close of the Season of Matariki, there will be a Memorial Liturgy to remember and give thanks for those from the St Thomas More community who have died. This will be followed by a Potluck/BYO meal. Tea and coffee will be provided.

**Saturday, 29 August 2026, 11am until approximately 5pm**

You are invited to the church for a time of quiet reflection. Tea and coffee will be available in the lounge, along with an opportunity for conversation while you view photos and memorabilia. From 3pm, there will be an organised time to share and listen to stories.

**Sunday, 30 August, 4pm – Final Mass led by Archbishop Paul Martin**

For contributions of photos or memorabilia, or for any enquiries, please contact Estelle Henrys [ev.henrys@gmail.com](mailto:ev.henrys@gmail.com) or Carolyn Tait [cftait6051@gmail.com](mailto:cftait6051@gmail.com) (Organising Committee).

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**Notice for the Parish newsletter**

Diary dates for those associated with St Thomas More Church

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**Sunday, 30 August, 4pm – Final Mass led by Archbishop Paul Martin**

There will be light refreshments served after the Mass. For any enquiries, please contact Estelle Henrys [ev.henrys@gmail.com](mailto:ev.henrys@gmail.com) or Carolyn Tait [cftait6051@gmail.com](mailto:cftait6051@gmail.com) To contribute memorabilia, please contact Stuart Henrys [stuart.henrys@gmail.com](mailto:stuart.henrys@gmail.com)