

## **Minutes of Combined PPC and Finance Committee**

**9 December 2025**

**Present:** Amanda Russell-Kleiner, Peter Wood, Stuart Henrys, Fr Joy, Patricia Lynch, Maria Nunns, Fr Tikoua, Benny Tau'alupe, Des Tiller, Myrna Umali, Felibel Zabala, Neville Braganza, Adri Widyanto, Chris Orsman, Catherine Vernon.

**1. Prayer and welcome:** Fr Joy led prayer . Des welcomed Peter Wood back on to the PPC and welcomed Patricia Lynch as a new member.

**2. Catherine taking notes**

**3. Apologies:** Sisilia Joseph, Liza Kallarackel.

**Previous PPC Minutes :** Agreed as confirmed and can be published on web page. Catherine to ensure 28 August meetings have been uploaded (emailed by Des).

**Previous Finance Committee Minutes:** Confirmed. Benny confirmed the Deed of Lease between the Archdiocese and Altum Charter School (previously Cardinal McKeefry School) has now been signed as of 8 Dec 2025.

**4. Outstanding actions:**

**Parish Plan tabled.**

Format agreed to by PPC in April.

Some discussion on layout.

Members of Faith Formation Team to meet and submit details to plan.

Amanda and Youth team to do the same.

Stewardship could cover transition of St Thomas More community into St Teresas community.

**5. Reflections on 2025:**

**Finance:** The church refurbishment planning team has now been established and will be led by Peter Dykes. A further team will be bought together in the new year. Their next meeting is 17 Dec to progress the project which will be a "fit for purpose" church to take into the future.

It is sad that we not only lose Cardinal McKeefry School but also St Thomas More Church but it is hoped that a new fit for purpose church will help unite the whole Otari Parish Community.

Benny advised that the new Deed of Lease will ensure a steady income stream from lease payments over the next 5 years which will benefit the Parish in the refurbishment of the church building.

The lease we have with the Bowen Early Childcare Centre has also been renewed for another 5 years.

## **PPC:**

2025 has been dominated by the Jubilee Calendar of Events.

*Jubilee:* The coming together of different communities has been wonderful and the work of the Liturgy Committee in pulling all these events together is to be congratulated.

*AGM:* An AGM was held in May and it is expected that this will become a regular event since there were a number of years when none was held.

*Community:* The PPC are looking forward to welcoming the St Thomas More Church community into Masses at St Teresas.

*Youth:* Thanks to Amanda, Adri, Kiko and team in gathering such great traction in the Youth area. There have been a number of events held this year and the group is becoming stronger and stronger. A carols evening will be held on Sunday 14 Dec at 7pm to wrap up the year.

They are going to work with Children's Liturgy Team to see if they can create pathway between both groups.

Maria expressed the need for us to work with St Teresas school primarily ie we need regular connection. Fr Joy visits a class each week and a class attends Mass each week but children (and parents) don't necessarily understand liturgy or have a connection with the Parish.

Patricia offered to assist in educating teachers/children if required in the liturgical area.

Chris expressed the need to "evangelize" the parents.

*Faith Formation:* Neville advised how successful the Faith Events were eg: Life in the Spirit, Advent Retreat. These events were managed by the Faith Events Team.

**6.** The List of upcoming events was tabled.

The Youth Carols evening will start at 7pm not 6. On 14<sup>th</sup> Dec.

We will be joined by the SHC community for Advent Reconciliation on 21 Dec.

Some groups have already signed up to lead the Advent Novena.

There will be Mass on Christmas Eve at 9.30am followed by the final Novena prayer.

28<sup>th</sup> Dec will be Holy Family and the Closing of the Jubilee year. A prayer will be said but no morning tea celebration.

On Sunday 1 February Fr Tikoua will celebrate his final Ōtari Parish Mass at 10.00am at St Teresas. There will only be one Mass in the Parish that day

## **7: Formation of organising committee for Transition Unification and Close of St Thomas More.**

A team will need to be formed to manage the closure process.

The Terms of Reference process needs to be confirmed then released for consultation.

Stuart remarked that it may be a complicated process with Archdiocese processes regarding alienation rules etc to be followed.

Peter Wood preparing a document of questions and answers regarding the process as a starting point. Peter can be contacted on [peterdamianwood@icloud.com](mailto:peterdamianwood@icloud.com) for PPC team input.

Final Mass cannot be 17 May as Archbishop is away so a new date will have to be agreed. Fr Joy will request a later date that suits the Archbishop.

The PPC engage a closure committee and the Finance Committee will manage the property side.

There are other parishes closing and amalgamated in the Archdiocese so there will be lots of advice available as necessary.

We have to remember that we have been the one parish of Ōtari for over ten years so we have to reassure everyone that we are indeed one parish.

**8: Progress of Draft Parish Plan –see previous note.**

Actions:

Des to continue to follow up with groups in finalizing the Parish Plan.

Peter to prepare the Q&A document regarding ST TM closure.

Fr Joy to confirm with Archbishop a date for ST final Mass.

Des to confirm the draft TOR document for wider engagement.

**Next Meeting of PPC will be 26 January 2026.**