



## ŌTARI PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Date and time - 7pm, Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Venue - St Teresa's Church Presbytery**

**Present:** Fr. Joy, Des Tiller, Chris Orsman, Adri Widyanto, Peter Wood, Patricia Lynch, Amanda Russell-Kleiner, Neville Braganza

**Apologies:** Kiko Tu'amoheloa, Myrna Umali

1. Opening prayer and welcome– Chair welcomed the group and led the joint Prayer to the Holy Spirit
2. Confirm note taker – Chris Orsman
3. Minutes from the last meeting were approved.
4. Outstanding actions from previous meeting – see table below.

No	Item	Action	Owner	Status
50	Resolutions and TOR on the closure of St Thomas More	Still waiting for FC approval. Des to contact Benny. Agreed to send it out as a draft, with comments coming back to the PPC. Peter to use it this Sunday at STM meeting.	Des	Closed
52	Draft Parish Plan	Some updates, new info., small statements, from Family Group etc. Peter suggested putting something about STM closure under Stewardship. Add PPC and FC to Stewardship list. Put OCIA under Faith Formation banner.	Des	Des to update
53	Q&A for STM closure	Peter has new material and will have draft ready soon. In meantime, use TOR. General strategy: be reasonably open and not commit to anything. Peter to go through scenario and let STM community know that we are meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> April.	Peter	Ongoing
54	Final Mass date for STM	Nothing final yet. We meet with the STM community first (12 <sup>th</sup> April) so that they can decide. Look at docs and determine a run plan for the meeting. Talked of offering just one Sunday mass at STM for the closing mass 9am.	Fr Joy	Date to be established in consultation with STM community; to occur prior to 31 <sup>st</sup> August.

No	Item	Action	Owner	Status
57	First Friday Masses and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Put sign-up sheet on website.	Fr Joy/ Office/ Liturgy Committ ee	Closed
58	Areas of Focus for the Parish	Agreed that we need more people involved, the need to keep parish community vibrant. Focus on growth.	All	Ongoing
59	Basic Brief from Building Committee	Des has provided a basic brief which we can go forward with.	Chris	Closed.

5. **Reflection on recent Parish events and programmes:** brief discussion.
6. **Events for March and April:**
  - 29 March – Palm Sunday: one mass at STT
  - 12 April – Divine Mercy Sunday: one mass at STM, with hui on STM closure. All PPC and FC to attend if possible.
  - 9 April – Youth Group gathering: to be decided.
  - 23 April – Scripture study group (weekly every Thursday, 6:30pm): there will be a meeting prior to this starting.
7. **Progress with draft Parish Plan:** discussed.
8. **Formation of organising committee for ‘Transition, Unification, and Closure of St Thomas More Church:** discussed.
9. **Insights from the 2019 and 2023 Parish surveys, and 2025 STM survey:** Des presented a paper that pulled together the key themes. Open to thought and discussion about how we should use this. Generally agreed that there have been a number of surveys and earlier decisions made re closures etc. and that these will guide us forward.
10. **Update from the building committee, including draft project brief:** Discussion on this, with warm thanks to Des for preparing the brief. Agreed that it outlines our key ideas/user requirements. We will go over this at our combined meeting. Also: discussion of Patricia’s prayer. Some small revisions and changes but all are very happy with it. This will be read after Prayers of the Faithful. A big thank-you to Patricia!
11. **Archdiocese of Wellington 2025 Annual Report:** brief discussion, mention that sub-reports are interesting. Fr. Joy advised that Archbishop Paul will be undertaking canonical visitations.
12. **Confirm action points:** see table below.
13. **Date of next meeting–** Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2026, 7pm. (Combined).

## Distribution

Fr Joy Thottankara		Adri Widyanto
Amanda Russell-Kleiner	Chris Orsman	Des Tiller
Myrna Umali	Falakiko Tu'amoheloa	Neville Braganza
Patricia Lynch	Peter Wood	
Benny Tau'Alupe	Catherine Vernon	Otari Parish Office

## PPC Open Actions

No	Item	Action	Owner	Status
52	Draft Parish Plan	Some updates, new info., small statements, from Family Group etc. Peter suggested putting something about STM closure under Stewardship. Add PPC and FC to Stewardship list. Put OCIA under Faith Formation banner.	Des	Des to update
53	Q&A for STM closure	Peter has new material and will have draft ready soon. In meantime, use TOR. General strategy: be reasonably open and not commit to anything. Peter to go through scenario and let STM community know that we are meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> April.	Peter	Ongoing
54	Final Mass date for STM	Nothing final yet. We meet with the STM community first (12 <sup>th</sup> April) so that they can decide. Look at docs and determine a run plan for the meeting. Talked of offering just one Sunday mass at STM for the closing mass 9am.	Fr Joy /PPC	Pending
58	Areas of Focus for the Parish	Agreed that we need more people involved, the need to keep parish community vibrant. Focus on growth.	All	Ongoing

## Note Taker Roster – 2026

PPC Meeting	Note Taker	Notes
26 January	Myrna	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>PPC Chair</b> is responsible for producing the agenda and meeting pack.</li> <li><b>Volunteers:</b> Adri, Amanda, Chris, Kiko, Myrna, Neville, Patricia, and Peter.</li> </ol>
23 February	Amanda	
16 March	Chris	
20 April (combined)	Catherine	
17 May (AGM)	Treena Tiller	
25 May		
22 June		
20 July		
24 August		
21 September		
19 October		
23 November		
14 December (combined)	Catherine	