

# Parish Pastoral Council

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 21 October 2020  
7.00pm

Opening Prayer	Plenary Prayer by Scott Buchan
Present	Fr Gayan, Fr Thomas, Scott Buchan, Melissa Beggs, Laurence Peril, Mary McGuinness, Jacqui Morley & Kara Hargrave
Apologies	Martin Crew, Rhonda Jones, Bill Jansen
Minutes of previous meeting	<i>approved via email.</i>
Business arising from previous minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal that we check the warranty on the solar installation to see if repairs in May are covered.  <i>Solar installation repairs cost (\$1,595) – Kara reports out of warranty, but could claim from insurance because of water damage. Kara to report back on details.</i></li> <li>• Cost of Hearing loop to be investigated. <i>Action: Still on going.</i></li> <li>• Scott requested a verbal <b>financial forecast for the next year</b> from the Finance Committee, to inform our planning for 2021. <i>Kara Hargrave gave a verbal report of the financial situation of the Parish.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>At the moment and for next quarter stable.</i></li> <li>- <i>No more access to government grants. Implications for 2021 were discussed.</i></li> <li>- <i>Donations, especially the loose collection, half of what it was pre-Covid.</i></li> <li>- <i>Large increase in insurance costs.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Full Financial Report for the last financial year will be given by the Finance Committee Chairperson at each of the Masses in St Gregory's and St Monica's on 14<sup>th</sup> &amp; 15<sup>th</sup> November. This is in-lieu of the Parish Assembly.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> <i>Parish Council discussed forward planning for next year and actions to be suggested to maintain a healthy parish. One suggestion made to keep Parishioners informed about donations was to publish the weekly totals in the Bulletin and also the various options available for those who wish to donate, even if they are not attending Mass. Further action to be explored with the Finance Committee at the next Parish Council meeting.</i></p>

**2021 Calendar of events -**

**Book Stall:** Father Gayan confirmed that Helen Garrick and her helpers will be holding the Book Stall on the 21<sup>st</sup> November to the 29<sup>th</sup> November. Plans still being discussed about how this will operate in a CoVid Safe way. Volunteers are need to help with the preparation.

*A question was raised - Could we ask the Chancery of Parramatta Diocese for the guidelines that they have set for fundraising activities in Parishes? We can then take this into consideration when planning our fundraising activities.*

**Action:** *Scott and Fr Gayan to investigate.*

**Forward planning for 2021 - Events**

Suggested Strategic responses in action may consist of:

- **January - St Paul's Festa**

*Scott and Jacqui attended meeting with St Paul's Festa Committee to offer Parish Council assistance.*

- **February/March - Lenten Prayer Groups**

*There are a number of groups in the Parish. Invitation to the prayer groups and the promotion of the events needs to be published through the Bulletin and Website. To ensure that those who would like to participate can contact group leaders, Mary to get names of group organisers.*

- **April – July: Developing Faith initiatives:**

*a) Discussion about using the 'Faith Feed' Program – podcasts and Activities as part of adult faith formation in the Parish. Have small groups of parishioners coming together at the Parish to discuss and share in faith conversations.*

*b) Start preparations for running an Alpha course in the Parish next year. Liaise with Institute for Mission.*

**Action:** *Jacqui to develop a program for approval after surveying parishioners about possible times for meeting and areas of interest.*

*c) Possibility of re-starting or gaining information about Bible Study groups in the Parish to be discussed.*

- **August - Fundraising for the Parish and the School – FETE.**

Apart from logistical issues, the following questions were raised in discussion: How do we maintain and enrich the relationship between Parish and School? And with the wider Hawkesbury Committee?

**Action:** *At this time there is no plan to hold a Fete next year.*

	<p><b><u>Other items for Parish Calendar:</u></b> to be explore or further discussed and finalised</p> <p><b>August -</b> Parish patron/ Saint Feast Day: St Mary Mackillop of the Cross (8 August) St Monica's Feast Day (27 August)</p> <p><b>September -</b> Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Annai Velankanni) arranged by the Indian community. ( 8<sup>th</sup> September)</p> <p><b>October -</b> Working Bees for grounds and maintenance. Parish Retreat/Pilgrimage</p> <p><b>November -</b> Parish Assembly and elections. Mass : Feast of Christ the King ( Thank you to Volunteers)</p> <p><b>December-</b> Advent Prayer Group/s</p> <p><b>Other :</b> <i>From Invisible to invincible Programme/s for the Youth Fundraising/ Social Justice events</i></p>
<b>Parish Ministries</b>	<i>Report submitted : Training for ministries.</i>
<b>Other business</b>	<p><i>a. Men's Group – 21 November 2020 - 9am Mass</i></p> <p><i>b. Parish Council Photos for both parish centres</i></p> <p><i>c. Mass celebrations for Our Mother Mary's birthday – information from Neal, so can be promoted in parish.</i></p>
<b>Next meetings: November 2020</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 &amp; 9th December 2020</b>
<b>Closing prayer</b>	Fr Thomas led us in prayer.