

# Parish Pastoral Council

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 15 September 2021

7.00pm

PPC Zoom Meeting

<b>Opening Prayer</b>	
<b>Present</b>	Fr Gayan, Scott Buchan, Melissa Beggs, Martin Crew, Mary McGuinness, Laurence Peril , Rhonda Jones, Jacqueline Morley, Bill Jansen
<b>Apologies</b>	Fr Thomas (on leave)
<b>Minutes of previous meeting</b>	Passed as accurate – emailed
<b>Business arising from previous minutes</b>	<p>Business arising:</p> <p>Discussion about planning for resumption of Mass after COVID lockdown relaxes. (see below current NSW Government advice as of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September)</p> <p>In particular:</p> <p>Mass: Feast of Christ the King (Thank you to volunteers)</p> <p>Voting for Parish Pastoral Council Elections finished.</p> <p>2021 Parish Assembly at St Monica's Parish Church</p> <p>.</p>
<b>Agenda Items</b>	<p>1. Discussion about Parish life after lockdown and into the future.</p> <p>Fr Gayan asked the Council to consider the following for future planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How we might welcome people back into the Church after lockdown is finished.</li> <li>- What are the implication for us Christians and as a Parish if the Government and Health authorities mandates and enforces only the vaccinated can attend Mass? (What about those who for medical reasons cannot get vaccinated?)</li> <li>- What are some of the logistical aspects of re-opening the Church and resuming regular Masses?</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> Not many decisions can be made until we get clear directives from the Government and Health, and the Church Authorities.</p> <p>Fr Gayan updated the Council members about actions being taken by Church authorities and asked for this information to be shared with Parishioners to reassure them, and to keep them in the picture. Mary McGuinness to draft a notice for the Bulletin. Updates to follow as and when we receive them.</p> <p>Concern was expressed at the Council about the extra workload that our two priests have had to carry over this period, as well as the future</p>

	<p>implications of an even greater workload after lockdown. How do we look after our clergy so they do not burn out?</p> <p>In light of the large amount of misinformation about Covid and vaccinations, it was decided to summarise and share what the Vatican and Church teachings say on this issue</p>
	<p>2. Other matters</p> <p>Mass: Feast of Christ the King (Thank you to volunteers)</p> <p>Voting for Parish Pastoral Council Elections finished.</p> <p>2021 Parish Assembly at St Monica's Parish Church</p> <p><b>Action: left for discussion in next meeting</b></p>
Next meetings:	<b>6<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b>
Closing prayer	Fr Gayan

<p><b>Current Restrictions for Places of Worship</b></p>	<p>The following places in Greater Sydney including the Blue Mountains and Wollongong are closed to the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• places of public worship</li> </ul> <p>These places can remain open only to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• holding a small funeral or memorial service or a <a href="#">wedding service</a> that complies with the rules for the service</li> </ul>
<p><b>Planned future Restrictions for Places of Worship.</b></p>	<p>Stay-at-home orders for adults who have received <b>both doses</b> of the COVID-19 vaccine will be lifted from the Monday after NSW passes the 70 per cent double vaccination target, under the roadmap to freedom. (subject to further fine-tuning and health advice if circumstances change drastically or if cases within a designated area remain too high).</p>

**Weddings, funerals and places of worship:**

- Up to 50 guests can attend weddings, with dancing permitted and eating and drinking only while seated.
- Up to 50 guests can attend funerals, with eating and drinking while seated.
- Churches and places of worship to open subject to one person per 4sqm rule, with no singing.