

## Minutes of the Pastoral Council Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Present: Fr Maleko, Ken, Josephine and Cherylynn

Apologies: Tina, Fr Kevin, Angelique, Mike

Opening prayer: Ken

Approval of minutes of last meeting: Approved by Josephine and Seconded by Ken

Correspondence in: Resignation letter from Dana read to the Committee present

Ken stated that he has been approached by someone from Heretaunga Parish who has some resources regarding the Youth. As Dana is no longer on the Parish Council Ken has asked that person to forward any resources to himself directly.

### **Reports:**

Samoa Community: Nothing new to report

Liturgy Report:

- On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July there was a meeting in the foyer regarding the monthly Holy Hour. The purpose of the meeting was to get more people to come along and more people to assist with the organisation of them (Sacristans, Liturgy organisers). The Holy Hour is to be advertised each month in the bulletin and in the Community Notices.
- On the Masses for weekend 23/24 July World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated. Proclaimers both young and old are to be organised and a special prayer before the concluding blessing is to be conveyed. A shared lunch is also planned for after the 10.30am Mass on 24<sup>th</sup> July.
- Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm the special Image of Our Lady commissioned for the re-dedication of New Zealand to Mary will be in Our Lady of Grace Church especially for the St Joseph Congregation to take the time to reflect and pray. The Legion of Mary will be leading the Rosary for this and other prayer, scripture and songs have been organised.
- Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July at 10.30am Mass there will be Confirmation of children in the Sacramental Program and on 28<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30am Mass there will be First Communion. Other Parishioners as usual can attend.
- 24<sup>th</sup> September 11am Alfred Tong's Ordination Mass at St Joseph's Church. The team from the Cathedral (Sr Marie Gore and Music group) will be providing the music for the Mass. Cherylynn and David to prepare and display the powerpoint presentation of hymns and responses. Teresa and Stuart Homan to organise the hospitality after Mass.
- A couple of weekends ago we were loading the laptop with the weekends powerpoints and noticed the laptop charger was missing and still has not been found. A replacement one has been bought in the interim. If anyone knows where it might be could they let me know or organise to get it back please.
- The Tongan choir have agreed to play for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 10.30am as the Samoan choir cannot undertake the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at the present.

### **Items for Action from previous minutes**

Ken: The Sisters of the Cenacle would like to know what we would like them to cover: It was agreed by the Committee that a general covering of what a Pastoral Council is and does would be good as many people do not know what the Pastoral Council covers as opposed to the Liturgy Group and the Finance Committee and may help to clarify this for people for future meetings.

Josephine: Prayer Group – This has now begun involving Bible Study and Prayer. At the moment they are doing “The Creed in slow motion” basically taking each line of the creed and reflecting on what that means. First up was “I believe in God”.

Mike was unable to be present to speak to the Census plan due to him Covid isolating.

Game of Synods: Three outcomes from the Synod feedback was: Communion, Participation and Mission. It was noted that the Parish was not represented at this in its fullness, in that not many of the ethnic makeup of the Parish was represented and it is important all have their say and representation. Also mention made of the few members of the Pastoral Council who attended.

### **New Business**

Youth Suicide and Pat’s suggestion of a support group for mental health. Ken advised those present that there was a group called Lifeline which was created when some Auckland churches got together to address this need. People are trained to be able to respond to the calls and involve Police when necessary. This is a 24/7 call line for all of New Zealand 0800 543354.

Minutes to Parish: A suggestion the minutes go on the Parish website.

Fr Maleko is looking for a new Youth Representative for the Parish.

Altar Servers: Someone to organise the Altar Servers was mentioned but Fr Maleko said it is possible Dana and Fr Biju may be happy to continue. This needs to be confirmed.

Mention made of the notice of the absence of Pastoral Council members without apology. It is really important that people attend, especially if representing a group or community in the Parish and, if unable to attend, ensure a representative is there to give a report.

To finish, Fr Maleko mentioned that a few new people have been coming to the Parish for Weekend Masses and have expressed how welcome they feel in the Parish. Some have also previously watched the on-line Masses over the lockdowns and are now meeting the Priests face to face and have expressed their delight at doing so.

Meeting finished around 8pm with a concluding prayer by Fr Maleko.