

St Josephs Upper Hutt Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting held in the parish meeting room, Tuesday September 26th, 2017.

Present: Fr Biju Xaviour, Peter Dawson, Teresa Homan (Chair), Hugh Steele, Matt Morrison, Dana Andrews, Ruth Jones (School Board), Paulo Kula.

Apologies: Fr Maleko, Joe Moorman, Pat Salandanan, Tina Afoa.

Minutes: Agreed.

Matters arising:

Youth activities: Matt advised that preparations for the youth festival in December are well in hand. He found the Synod very helpful from a youth perspective. No youth newly involved in liturgy ministries at this stage, but Matt is pushing it to avoid simply having token involvement. Suggestions include taking over altar servers, greater involvement in youth masses, etc.

Carpet: The need for another good vacuum cleaner was identified, otherwise we seem pretty happy with the new carpet.

School Review report: the report has been welcomed particularly as it is quite thorough, but we haven't yet had time to review it carefully. The provision of mass booklets by Cushla has been well received by the students.

The synchronisation of the songs used by the school with the parish copyright obligations has been noted.

Meditation Prayer: still be studied by Teresa.

Social Justice Week: Teresa reported that seems to be a bit of a buzz as a result.

Additional Priest: Fr Biju Xaviour was welcomed to the parish and the meeting.

Other Business:

Tongan Community: Paulo advised that Gus and Fa'apoi have quit from the community. The visit of Fr Mateo with a group of Tongan youth was noted.

Music at Mass: There was a discussion around potential mixups over what is being sung at each mass. The need for clear communication amongst the various participants was emphasised.

Children's Mass: Teresa outlined her plans for further development of the children's mass both during the mass and for the school holiday period,

Synod feedback: Hugh reported that he felt a very positive vibe, both within the parish delegates and at the synod itself. He detailed the mechanisms of the synod process and was encouraged by the way things were done.

Matt was greatly encouraged, even though he tended to focus on the youth aspect of proceedings.

Fr Biju reported positively on the weekend.

Teresa reflected on the need for we "oldies" to move over to allow the younger folk to step up and be involved in the whole of the church. The Cardinal has told delegates that they should not wait for his deliberation on the outcomes but to get out and do it now.

Hugh added that the wider church needs us to get involved and to avoid "silos" within and between parishes and the diocese. How do we wake people up so that they want to get involved, and actually do get involved.

Further discussion was held on how we communicate the synod to the parish, involving personal sharing and bulletin inserts. A meeting of all the delegates should be held as soon as practical, particularly to work out what can be done sooner than later.

Finance Committee: The opinion was expressed that the Finance Committee should have a representative present at the Parish Council meetings, in the same manner as the School Board is represented.

There was a lengthy discussion on how to encourage community building within the parish with no clear conclusions.

Meeting closed at 8:46pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 31st, 7:15pm in the church.

(Chair: Peter; Minutes: Hugh; Reflection: Matt)

Minutes confirmed: _____
(PPC Chair –Peter Dawson)