



**OTARI PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**Minutes**  
**Meeting, Monday 30 October 2023**

1. Lectio Divina.
2. Confirm note taker (Chris).
3. Apologies = Matthew, Kathryn, Peter, Lourdes.  
Confirmation of the last meeting Minutes - moved and agreed.
4. Outstanding actions – see table below.
5. Reflections on St Teresa's Feast Day - 1<sup>st</sup> October.  
The meeting was unanimous in agreeing that this event went very well. Well done to all.
6. Results from Church Life Survey.  
There were 35 responses, with a median age of 65. Some discussion on this, with agreement that it was a good snapshot in itself but the low numbers made it too small to glean a full picture of Parish and draw useful conclusions. Agreed to park it for now but, for next time, to do a big push and include schools in promoting the survey.
7. Parish Pastoral Chairs Gathering meeting 7-9pm, Tuesday 14 November. See 9 (c)
8. Otari Parish working bee. On hold for now.
9. Upcoming Events:
  - (a) **Divine Renovation Meeting** – 6<sup>th</sup> November.
  - (b) **Matt's Ordination** – 2pm 12 November:  
St Teresa's to provide tea and coffee and sandwiches, parishioners will be asked to bring drop-off food. We will need volunteers to set up hall, tables etc. Discussion on need to boost the invitation and encourage people to come, parking etc.
  - (c) **Parish Pastoral Chairs Gathering meeting:** Des to attend, with general invitation issued to all Parish Council. Agreed that one issue of importance will be the church closures in the Archdiocese and the need to integrate displaced parishioners into the remaining churches.
  - (d) **Alpha Reunion** – 6pm, 17<sup>th</sup> November; volunteers to help set up for dinner.
  - (e) **Thank-You Event for Volunteers:** some discussion on this. Suggestion to make it a brunch after 9AM Saturday morning Mass on Saturday 2 December. Bruch to be either in the Church foyer or Presbytery. Possibly investigate a scroll or certificate to be issued to all volunteers.
  - (f) **Discipleship Course:** noted, but no volunteers.

(g) **Fr. Ron's Retirement:** Will be a shared lunch, Sunday 10 December after 10 AM mass. St Teresa's to provide tea and coffee and sandwiches, parishioners will be asked to bring a plate of food. We will need volunteers to set up hall, tables etc.

10. Items from Finance Committee Meeting: Maintenance on the presbytery carry to next meeting. It was agreed to have a combined PPC and Finance committee meeting 7pm, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at the Presbytery. Wine and cheese will be served from 6:30pm.
11. Communication Management for Otari Parish: carry to next meeting.
12. Confirm action points from meeting: see below.
13. Date of Next Meeting: **Monday 27 November, 6:30 PM for 7:00 PM**, this to be a combined Finance Committee and Parish Pastoral Council meeting, with wine and cheese.

#### **Distribution**

Fr. Ron Bennet	Myrna Umali	Adri Widyanto
Matthew White	Kathryn Flynn	Peter Wood
Des Tiller	Lourdes Gitus	Cheryl Taylor
Chris Orsman	Neville Braganza	Falakiko Tu'amoheloa
Gunther Tutuila	Otari Parish Office	Benny Tau'Alupe

## Actions

No	Item	Action	Owner
2	St Mary's Te Korōria	On hold – Peter is still recovering from illness.	Peter
4	Working Bee	Not much work done on scoping or plans; grounds were cleaned. Catherine to prepare list but otherwise put on hold.	Des and Peter
8	Archbishop engagement	There was discussion at length on this. Des felt that we need hard facts to bring to the meeting, for example, what maintenance STM might need etc., what we hope for as an outcome. Fr. Ron suggested we need more info in back pocket and consider what might change Archbishop Paul's mind on this. Feeling that the two churches (STT and STM are kind of going separately, have a different feel and focus to them).	Des
B	Run an Alpha course during the day	Consider as part of review of the current course	Bring-up February 2024
C	Proposed 'meet our neighbours' event	To progress by setting a date and contacting new parishioners.	Bring-up Feb 2024 (Fr Ron)
10	New Parishioners Events	To be run twice a year a year, in Apr/May, and Oct (aligned with Parish Birthday). PPC to set dates for 2024 and leads.	Des

## Closed Actions

No	Item	Action	Status
1	Parish Prospectus	Chris felt it could be improved with something of a more personal touch, and it was generally agreed that more work is needed. All like the idea of having something on hand in the church foyer	Thank you, Chris, for your efforts in developing the draft.
4	Hosting New parishioners day/evening event	Agreed that this was a successful event, well done to all! Discussion of making this a 6-month event, and tagging new parishioners' event onto, for example, the multi-cultural event at Pentecost	Closed
6	Public facing Parish events calendar	The Parish Office has inserted a calendar on the Otari Parish website and it looks good. It will be possible in future to populate this calendar with, for example, outcomes of Parish Council meetings etc.	Completed, thank you to the Parish Office team
7	Process for engaging support for key workstreams	Des and Fr. Ron have been in discussions. Closed for now.	Closed
9	Contact new Parishioners	Fr Ron to furnish list of new parishioners which can be divided up for phone-ringing purposes.  PPC members to phone new Parishioners and advise an event will be held.	Closed, thank you team.
A	Parking options on the church / school site	Monitor compliance	Closed