



OTARI PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Minutes

Meeting, Monday 19 February 2024

1. **Welcome to Fr. Joy:** the Parish Council welcomed Fr Joy and each gave a brief background of themselves. Fr Joy also gave us a brief resume.
2. **Prayer:** Lectio Divina based on next Sunday's Gospel.
3. **Note Taker:** Chris confirmed as.
4. **Apologies** from Lourdes, Peter and Myrna. Minutes of the November meeting confirmed as true and correct.
5. **Outstanding Actions** – see updated table below.
6. **Parish Pastoral Chairs Gathering meetings for 2024:** Des to get more details re dates and times of meetings; the PC to furnish names of those wishing to attend.
7. **Otari Parish Working Bee:** A date was set for Saturday 16 March, to be confirmed after consultation with the Parish Office. Catherine is generating a broad list of the types of work that needs to be done. Anything the PC members can think of, please send to Catherine.
8. **Upcoming events:**
 - a. Stations of the Cross for Lent – now underway.
 - b. Holy Hour: presently underway. Some problems with parking on Church grounds due to conflict with School starting. Suggestion that we may need to rethink daily Mass starting time.
 - c. Lenten Scripture Group (Passion of Jesus) – starts 22nd February 2024
 - d. Following Christ 7-week Discipleship course: final dates to be checked in; some work to do recruiting numbers for this. Some discussion about establishing a Rosary Month in October, and a Month for Mary in May.
 - e. Welcome event for Fr Joy: on hold, discussed next month.
9. **Proposal for establishing a First Friday Devotion Mass:** The Council is open to this as long as there are the numbers. This could start after Easter, with a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus followed by Holy Hour and Mass.
10. **Updates to Otari infographics:** Most of the parish website has been updated.
11. **Ongoing support and leadership of the sacramental programme:** some discussion on this. Mike and Lei are to step down but are happy to do a long handover. We are looking for two people to replace them. Fr Joy emphasized that the sacramental preparation needs to be church-based rather than school-based, to serve as an encouragement for parents to come to church.

There is still linking of the Sacramental Program with the school terms. It is important to reinforce parent roles in the SP so parents can participate more. Perhaps one way to do this is to have Parents and Childrens session simultaneously. Concern was expressed that there should be a stronger link between First Reconciliation and First Communion, perhaps having these only one week apart. At present, the time span seems too wide.

12. Additional Agenda Items:

- Fr Joy mentioned that he met with the principal of Cardinal McKeefry School (Peter) and that the grotto and statue at the school need cleaning and repainting. Council agreed that this could be included in the parish working bee.
- Fr Joy suggested that we could share writing a piece for the front page of the Otari Parish newsletter. Council agreed. Chris to write for the 3rd Sunday of Lent, Des to write for the 4th Sunday.

13. **Date of next meeting:** 7:00 PM, Monday 18 March 2024

Distribution

Fr Joy Thottankara	Myrna Umali	Adri Widyanto
Fr Tikoua Kautu	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On hold – Peter is still recovering from illness.	Peter
4	Working Bee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A date of 16 March 2024 has been set. To be confirmed after consultation with Catherine in the Office.	Des and Team
8	Archbishop engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion at length on this. Fr Joy happy that we proceed with this. Kathryn gave a resume on the strengths of the present St Thomas More community, its very supportive spirit, well-loved, and serving as a conduit between St Teresas and Sts Peter and Pauls. Strong feeling within the STM community that it does not seem right to sell the church from beneath them. Fr Joy said we need to touch base with the STM community before consulting Archbishop Paul. Des suggested another (?breakfast) meeting, date to be confirmed. All agreed.	All
B	Run an Alpha course during the day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agreed that we will not be offering one this year at St Teresas.• Melissa has advised that she has sent resources to the Sacred heart cathedral leadership team and they will be running their own program. We can assist by advertising their program in our	

No	Item	Action	Owner
		parish through newsletter once we get their confirmed dates.	
C	Proposed 'meet our neighbours' event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parked for now. This has got overtaken by events, especially the new parishioners' events 	
10	New Parishioners Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will set a date (April/May) at the March PC meeting. 	Des