

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
HELD IN THE LIBRARY ON THURSDAY 16 MAY 2015.**

Present: Sabina Van Rooy (Chair), Fr Gerard McCormick msc, Marian England, Henri Clementine, Carl Madsen, Fr Paul Browne, Agnes Phan, Robert Breen (minutes).

Agenda Item 1 - Opening and Welcome.

Sabina opened the meeting and welcomed those attending.

Agenda Item 2 – Apologies.

An apology was received from Helen Kennedy.

Agenda Item 3 – Correspondence

Marian advised no correspondence to report.

Agenda Item 4 - Minutes

The minutes of the April meeting were reviewed. Moved Carl Madsen, seconded Henri Clementine, that the minutes be accepted as a true record of that meeting. CARRIED.

4a. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

AGENDA

Agenda Item 5 – Prayer

Fr Gerard distributed a paper entitled “Acts of the Apostles 1: 15.20-26, read it and invited Council members to reflect upon its contents. He then referred to the commentary by John O’Shea SJ on the back of the paper. Discussion and comments ensued.

Agenda Item 6 – Business.

Twilight Retreat.

A twilight retreat for Council members and parishioners interested in participating, to be facilitated by Fr Paul, was discussed at the April meeting. Fr Paul outlined the envisaged format and, after discussion, Council agreed that the first retreat will take place on the evening of Friday 10 July commencing at 7.00 PM with the second session on the following morning Saturday 11 July (Gerard's birthday!) 10.00 – 11.00 AM followed by lunch.

This first retreat will be for PPC members only; depending on how it turns out, parishioners may be invited to subsequent retreats. In view of the proposed timing the "Twilight Retreat" name is not considered appropriate so these events will be now known as "PPC Retreats".

Ministry Review Groups.

Fr Gerard emphasized the need to meet with group leaders to communicate and be aware how each group is going. Council considered the timing for the first meeting and agreed it should occur on Sunday afternoon 16 August commencing at about 2.30 PM and with a 1.5-to-2 hours duration. Each group will be asked to provide a representative.

Noting that the Pastoral Plan Review meeting was planned for 16 August, members agreed to Fr Gerard's suggestion that this be postponed until after the Ministry Groups meeting. Planning for the Ministry Review Group meeting was left to office staff.

Children's Liturgy.

Fr Gerard described this matter as "a work in progress" and noted that there are actually two teams involved in Children's Liturgy, that which organizes the children's mass on the 3rd Sunday of each month and that which conducts the downstairs liturgy during normal 10.00 AM masses. He opined this is unfortunate – ideally there should be just one team.

In respect to the 3rd Sunday mass, members noted that Helen Druitt prepares children to participate in the mass and Joan Breen recruits and trains children for the children's choir which rehearses on Thursday afternoons.

The ongoing move to better coordinate the various children's groups was seen as "work in progress".

Social Justice – charter.

Fr Gerard distributed a draft document entitled "Charter, St John the Apostle Parish Social Justice Committee", described its purpose and suggested it be left to a late date for Council consideration.

Sabina distributed a pamphlet promoting a talk by Sr Genny Ryan OSU on “Trafficking of Women and Girls – it happens near you!” published by the Canberra & Goulburn Archdiocesan Social Justice Committee. She urged attendance and support for the presentation; Fr Gerard added his support and encouragement for this important cause.

Hospitality.

A meeting of office staff and the two coordinators of the mass “meeters and greeters” will occur on Friday 15 May. Marian advised the activity is proceeding satisfactorily with most masses covered; the two 6 PM masses are the exception.

Sanctuary Project.

The project is progressing satisfactorily; the architectural drawings have been completed. A progress meeting will take place on Friday 22 May.

Other Matters.

Henri suggested the PPC meetings concentrate on one or two subjects and that they be pursued to finality.

Marian advised the parish calendar is being updated.

Closure and Next Meeting.

In closing the meeting, Sabina led members in the recital of the silver card text “The Word”, Jules Chevalier, 1900.

The **next meeting** of the Council is scheduled for **Thursday 11 June 2015 commencing at 7.30 PM.**

Robert Breen
Minutes Secretary.

15 May 2015