

# **CATHOLIC PARISH OF HASTINGS PASTORAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **Minutes of Meeting, Parish Office, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020, 7pm**

**Welcome:** Fr Marcus welcomed everyone to the meeting

**Opening Prayer:** Parish Prayer read by all

**Present:** Frs Marcus, Anthony and Trung, Lynn Hill, Rob Hill, Susan Doohan, Kathy Kavangh, Deacon Tevita, Claudia Beacham, Lucy Laitinen and Deb Lucy (relieving minutes secretary)

Fr Marcus chaired the meeting. (due to no Chairperson at present)

Fr Marcus introduced Claudia (new committee member) to the members. Claudia told the committee members that she has been a Catholic since 2013 and has since been involved in many various volunteered positions within the parish.

Susan Doohan gave a brief detail of her life as a Catholic, 'been involved with OLOL/CPOH for 32 years. Her interests have included children's faith education and has been involved with CCD, 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion, children's liturgy etc. She currently compiles the OLOL rosters and volunteers on many ministries.

Kathy Kavanagh informed the group that she was present to observe the meeting.

Lucy asked Fr Marcus as to why she was sent the 'Becoming Missionary Disciples' leaflet.

Fr Marcus replied that he found it good reading. Lucy suggested that it be given to all members, so that there could be some discussion later.

### **Flaxmere "come and look day"**

General feedback by those present was incredibly positive. Tevita is currently looking at branching out on his own with the help of former CEO of Dove HB, Malcolm. A new charitable trust is being set up; Preston Epplett has been asked to be on the trustee's board. Fr Marcus commented that he was disappointed on the lack of attendance from the Finance members but noted that this may have been because they were under the assumption that the Aubert Centre was going to be sold. Fr Marcus assured the committee that this is not going to happen!

Profiling of the Centre for future events was raised. **Fr Marcus to discuss with both Fr Anthony and Fr Trung on ideas for what other type of services can be held at the centre.** The opportunities are endless. Claudia, suggested that to engage all parishioners, transport

should be considered when organising any event held in Flaxmere. Suggestion of carpooling was well received.

Tevita spoke about his work, becoming a separate identity did not mean that there would be a change, but it did allow him to follow his values when dealing with family violence. Those values are family care, Cultural respect, and spiritual viewpoint. The parish council committee offered Tevita any help he needed.

### **Suzanne Aubert Beatification:**

Fr Marcus asked 'do we need to make distant preparation for the beatification of Suzanne Aubert? 2021 could be the year! Committee agreed that it would be good to be ready with at least an outline of what was happening. Conversations with other organisations, churches, iwi would need to take place, so that all feel part of the process.

Susan Doohan: Australian experience of Mary McKillop celebration, could be looked at.

Claudia: shared a story about a woman who had cancer and prayed the prayer and was blessed with the easing of her pain. The woman felt it was her miracle. Committee members have heard of many such cases and suggested maybe a time put aside during the celebration for people to share their personal experiences would be good. **Committee members were asked to think of ideas and to bring back to the November meeting.**

### **Alpha:**

Has now finished for the year. 2020 groups are encouraged to lead a group in 2021. End of year dinner for Alpha members is soon, feed back forms will be given out. Alpha for 2021 kicks off on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

Youth Alpha ends in two weeks, it will finish with a morning tea, following the youth mass.

**Fr Trung informed the members that he is in the throes of organising a youth retreat/camp at Tutira early next year.**

Life Teen camp has been cancelled for January 2021.

### **Sacraments:**

The question was asked by Fr Marcus, 'what is the barrier, how do we make a welcoming doorway to an ongoing experience in faith and mass attendance?'

'What are the structures/content do we need to put in place?'

Lucy Laitinen commented that experiencing 1<sup>st</sup> hand the programme (Reconciliation) and (First Holy Communion) that there was no ongoing formation for parents. She felt that the

parent sessions were not as educational as they could be. Deb commented that in the past after the 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion celebrations, families were asked to join in an evening meal, where the youth entertained the children with games. (about 6 weeks after). In 2019 a bbq and swim at St Joseph's had been organised for families after 1st Reconciliation. Lucy said it did not happen the year her child went through the programme.

Sacraments for 2020 have been organised by the Catholic schools and not the parish as in the past which has led to some 2019 Reconciliation children being left out of making their First Holy Communion in 2020 due to the children not attending Catholic Schools.

**Fr Marcus along with the help of Fr Anthony and Fr Trung to propose/modify a programme.**

### **2021 Masses:**

Sunday mass times will need to be look at. Having two 9.30am masses is not ideal, when we are down to only two priests. It was noted that Deacon Tevita can celebrate Liturgy of the Word on a Sunday.

### **AGM:**

**Pencilled for a Saturday in March, 2021, Venue: Aubert Centre Time and date to be advised. Sub-committee to be formed to organise.**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent:**

Blessing of the Advent Wreaths – OLOL to host.

**Outcome: Fr Marcus to discuss with people who organise this celebration**

Ecumenical celebrations were discussed. Good Friday walks, Ash Wednesday etc. Fr Marcus asked the question 'what do we want to accomplish with having these?' Fr Marcus indicated that he was not interested in attending any meetings with other faith denominations ministers. General census of members felt Ecumenical services helped create unity within the different faith denominations. A suggestion of Fr Trung or Fr Anthony to step up and converse with other ministers was tabled.

Christmas Nativity Display at the Information Centre was approved.

Christmas Carols – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December at Sacred Heart, youth to lead.

Flash Mob, this has not been organised for 2020. Susan commented that it was very successful with a great turn out (over 100 people).

Deb suggested that the youth who are already in the process of learning carols for their carol singing night, sing carols at New World. New World, at present allows parishioners to

park in their carpark during Sunday Mass. It would be a great way to give back. **Fr Trung to contact the New World manager.**

### **Parish Strategic Plan:**

Lucy Laitinen was confused as to why she had not received the strategic plan electronically, which she had requested numerous times to the office. Lucy reiterated that it lacked focus and needed a tactical plan under each title, it had too much information and was not consistent in following up with a 'What/Who and How' column. Lucy would like to rectify this by adding a column. Fr Marcus had already given her the go ahead at the previous meeting.

Deb commented that the previous committee, who put together the strategic plan had decided to meet yearly around November, to decide on what the following year would consist of, from the strategic plan. The strategic plan states that two retreats and two social events should take place annually. What/Who or How would be decided at the meeting, the strategic plan is a five-year document. Column- Strategies: 'What are we going to do to achieve the intended outcome'. Column- 'Performance Indicator'. Deb's understanding that these two columns covered the What and How question and events decided at the planning stage for the coming year would include what/who and why more fully, as each year would be different.

A meeting in November 2019 took place and a plan was made for 2020. This was made in note form only, of events decided for 2020, it was emailed to all committee members. It was not for general view at that stage.

Lucy read a copy of the notes and made comments to the effect, that it was poorly put together. She did however give recognition, that there were some good points in the Strategic Plan. Fr Marcus finished the conversation with recommending that the committee may need to meet to discuss plans for 2022.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

**Closing Prayer:** Fr Marcus – Glory Be

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**