

CPH Parish Consultation and Strategy

Dear parishioners, we are approaching the most sacred time in the Church's year. I pray that you are open to the sacred mysteries of Holy Week which present the core of the Christian faith.

While we continue the liturgical journey we are also looking to the future. I hope the limitations, challenges and potential of the Catholic Parish of Hastings (CPH) are evident to everyone. If they are not, this process of consultation is an excellent way to find out! To meet the future, we will need to be united in our vision for the future.

This document is designed to outline how this will take place and encourage everyone in CPH to participate in the process.

In the past few months, a Senior Leadership Team composed of: Fr Vijay Dungdung, Luella Ngauora, Bruce Hutchins, Mike Flynn, Jojie Pablo, Jithin Thomas and I have been meeting weekly to discern how best to arrive at a vision for CPH. This will seek to meet the needs of its members and empowers them to live as missionary disciples in bringing the Gospel to Hastings as a whole. In addition, two meetings with leaders of the diverse ethnic groups in CPH, focused on synodality and communication, have sought to open all groups in CPH to the consultation process.

On Saturday 12 April we held a meeting for training leaders of synodal groups. The aim is to have synodal meetings whereby all parishioners listen and are listened too as we give voice to how we see the future.

During May all parishioners will be invited to synodal meetings:

11 May – Our Lady of Lourdes, Havelock North, at 2pm – 3.30pm.

18 May – Sacred Heart Church, Hastings East, at 2pm – 3.30pm.

25 May – St Peter Chanel Church, Raureka, at 2pm – 3.30pm.

The data from these and other meetings will be used to formulate a vision for CPH in the coming years. Synodality will be an ongoing part of this process. The SLT will work to articulate a vision for the future based on the needs and desires of parishioners who are open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

I warmly encourage all parishioners to engage with the consultation and make their voices heard.