

Pastoral Advisory Group – St Francis of Assisi Ohariu

MINUTES of meeting held 21 August 2023, 7-8.30pm.

Present: Natasha (chair), Joe, Fiona, Pete, Lucienne, Robert, Petrus.

Apologies: Scott, Jacqui, Mike

Welcome prayer: Magnificat reflection.

Updates:

- ALPHA: 11 people at this stage, could grow to 15. Funding is in place from the Catholic Foundation. Suggested congregation pray for Alpha – Lucienne to write prayer.
- Application for Tindall Fdn support to young adult ministry lodged. To employ a part time young adult ministry coordinator.
- Update on transition team: Pete explained what this is. To aid in the transition to a parish with a parish leadership team that includes diocesan priest(s). The transition team is a temporary group.
- Ushers – are they needed to ensure people find good seating given difficulty viewing spots from certain angles.
- Numbers at Masses vary – to be monitored – might we need an additional Mass at some stage in the future?
- Decrees are issued for properties, with submissions due to Archbishop Paul by 25 August.
- Hospitality: noted that more people stayed when Noah's Soup was offered in the foyer. Should we consider basing hospitality in the foyer?
- Reconciliation: can be booked by individuals through the office.
- Years 8 school leavers event – 30 November 2023 at the parish centre.
- Pete and Joe are working towards increasing pastoral links between school and parish.
- Stainless steel ciboria (to replace glass) – well received.
- Discussion around music space(s) – do we need two – will need to be addressed at some point.
- ADW are facilitating parent formation sessions – currently at St Benedict's. Seemingly well received.
- It might be worth reminding people at some point (in ministry as well as wider parishioners) that we are in a temporary space and are in a situation of "making do", which might be less than ideal in terms of space.
- It was noted that generally Masses were "joyous", with many people getting involved.

Closed with prayer.

Next meeting: Monday 25 September 2023, 7pm.