



MINUTES

St Francis of Assisi Pastoral Advisory Group

5 August 2022, 7pm, parish office

1. Joe led the opening prayer and said grace.
2. Natasha and Joe welcomed the group. The chairing of this first meeting was shared by Joe and Natasha. Future meetings will be chaired by Natasha.
3. Present: Natasha, Petrus, Lucienne, Scott, Mike, Robert, Joe
4. Apologies: Fr Pete, Fiona, Jacqui

(As this was a first and introductory meeting no conflicts were identified. This will be a feature into the future).

5. Introductions all round: each person took some time to introduce themselves, their background and experience. A wide range of gifts and talents became apparent in this process.
6. A rice meal shared by the group.
7. Role of this group (Joe & Natasha): A paper describing the role of the group was shared and discussed. The focus is on listening, being representative and providing advice on pastoral matters. This is consistent with the *Divine Renovation* model.
8. As a group we agreed that we would work to a consensus model, welcoming and taking into consideration any dissenting voice, it is often through the dissenting voice that the Holy Spirit speaks. Interims of a quorum, if more than 3 were unable to make a meeting a decision to be made as to if the meeting should be postponed.
9. Members were provided an information pack providing an Overview of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu (structure and vision – from Joe's PD; Welcomarti de; Mass count for 2018, 2019, and 2021; population and ethnicity from the last census; strategic goals agreed by the

Leadership Formation Team). This is to take away, consider, and give feedback, ask questions.

10. Next steps:

- Fr Pete and Joe to organise a commissioning.
- After this, members to introduce themselves to church and other communities.
- A photo board will be assembled for each church, hall, venue.
- Natasha to meet with chair of the LFT.

11. General business/conversation:

- We should look at the Archdiocesan synod outcomes.
- Discussion about child friendly churches. Something we will look at into the future.
- Joe outlined that he and Pete were keen to look at young adults (18-25+) and young families (particularly those who don't participate in the Mass). The group noted the need for a young people's space (even if it meant using another facility such as a community centre). In other places the young families ministry is a grandparents' ministry (Messy church being an example). Auckland has a young Catholic couples group which meets regularly (Joe to follow up).
- Sacramental programme: parent reflective conversations need to be included in the programme.

12. Next meeting: 7pm 2 September 2022, parish office. We thought that the first Friday of each month might be a good meeting time. Prayer Leader – Lucienne.

13. Joe gave the concluding reflection based on the Lay Pastoral Leaders' retreat last week of July.