



**ST COLUMBA'S**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH • LEICHHARDT NORTH

## Pastoral Council

### Meeting Minutes

Tues 3 Oct 2017, 7.30 pm

St Columba's meeting room  
Meeting opened: 7.35 pm

Item	Action
<p><b>1. Opening prayer</b> Sr Laureen</p>	-
<p><b>2. Attendance / apologies</b> <u>Present</u> Mark Breen, Dan O'Brien, Fr. Mike, Sr Laureen, Chantal Nguyen, Adrian Overs, Carmel Reid, Amanda Sapienza  <u>Apologies</u> Susan Draysey, Renata Popovic-Tomac, Bernard Ryan</p>	-
<p><b>3. Minutes from previous meeting</b> Amended – item 5, Leichhardt Festa Stand – if John unable to continue assisting, St Columba's will not have stand.  Moved by: Amanda Sapienza      Seconded: Carmel Reid</p>	<b>Chantal</b> to send amended document to Adrian for the church website
<p><b>4. Parish Council Nominations</b> One nomination and several expressions of interest received.</p>	<b>Amanda</b> to send Marcia a bulletin notice regarding the information session.

<p>Information session to be held on Tues 7 November 2017 instead of the next Parish Council meeting.</p>	
<p><b>5. Leichhardt Festa Stand</b> John unable to assist with the stand. Marcia has phoned Council and cancelled the stand.</p>	-
<p><b>6. Open mic night</b> Will be held on 4 November 2017 set. Flyer being drafted.  Sue and John to promote the event at Masses on either 14/15 Oct or 21/22 Oct.  Good event for people who don't normally come to church functions.</p>	<p><b>Amanda</b> to liaise with Sue and John about Masses for event promotion, then inform Fr Michael so he can inform the visiting Priest</p>
<p><b>7. Parish youth</b> Sr Laureen has spoken to the recruiter. Recruiter would like Fr Peter here for the recruitment (Fr Peter is happy to look at the CV via email if the timing does not work out) and for the Parish Council to give the role description more consideration.  Key questions include what demographic/s the youth minister will be working with (e.g. primary school, high school, parents etc).  The recruiter can potentially meet with the Parish Council at the next meeting.  Chantal has emailed youth ministers and Catholic Youth Services – awaiting a response.</p>	<p><b>Sr Laureen</b> to email Chantal most recent correspondence with recruiter.  <b>Chantal</b> to continue liaising with Sydney youth ministers about role descriptions.  <b>All council members</b> to think about role description – to discuss and finalise at next meeting.</p>
<p><b>8. Church sign</b> Renata has received the drawings for approval. Adrian and Renata have confirmed the site location.  Preferably, sign to be installed by end of November.</p>	<p><b>Adrian and Renata</b> to continue progressing development process.</p>
<p><b>9. St Vinnies Report</b> Tabled.  - <b>Clients assisted</b> During the months of June to September Vinnies conference members attended to just 17 calls for assistance. There were 43 individuals assisted during these calls and we delivered 16 food hampers and issued \$1130 worth of supermarket food cards. Total approximate cost</p>	

for goods provided during the period is \$3950. One new client escaping domestic violence required significant assistance with furniture etc.

This is a very slight increase in the average number of calls we have experienced for the past few months but still, thankfully, represents a downturn on average calls during prior years. This downturn is echoed in the other conferences which in our region and is thought to reflect the effects of increasing lack of affordable housing in the area.

### **Affordable Housing**

A couple of Vinnies clients were rehoused in July by Anglicare in their new Leichhardt facilities at 463 Parramatta Road Leichhardt. Anglicare have renovated an old pub to house around 30 people. The rooms are unfurnished and Vinnies supplied these clients with furniture as well as food assistance. This is a pleasing development for the area.

### **Financial Position**

Final figures for the financial year to 30 June 2017 show a deficit of \$1290. This amount was more than offset by supermarket gift cards purchased but still on hand at year's end. Local Vinnies income during the year came mainly from

Winter appeal Christmas Appeal Poor Box  
Member meeting fees

\$2238 \$5382 \$2017 \$1017.

Currently – 31 August - we are showing a surplus of \$3805 but there appears to be an accounting aberration in the figures provided by NSW accounting office resulting in this being a seeming overstatement by around \$1400. Clarification required.

- Sunday 26 November or 3 December are potential dates for distributing Vinnies hamper. To be decided on at the next Vinnies meeting.

## **10. Parish sub-committee updates**

### Social Committee

Carmel has prepared a Cuppa timetable.

Christmas social – last year's caterers happy to cater.

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**Carmel** to send **Adrian** the timetable to put on the website.

**Carmel** to contact **Marcia** to put a note in the bulletin about the Christmas social.

**Carmel** to put sign-up attendance list at the back of the church.

**Carmel** to provide **Fr Mike** with letter of invitation to send out to appropriate contacts.

<p><u>Reaching out to others</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Liturgy</u></p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Communications</u></p> <p>Mission and vision statement have been added to the website.</p>	-
<p><b>11. Sr Laureen</b></p> <p>Sr Laureen has tendered her resignation from her role, effective this week, due to health reasons.</p> <p>The Council thanks Sr Laureen for all her wonderful work for the Parish, let her know how much she will be missed, and wish her all the best for her upcoming procedure and health, and let her know she is welcome to come to St Columba's any time.</p> <p>Moved: Amanda Sapienza    Seconded: Carmel Reid</p>	-
<p><b>12. Christmas Mass</b></p> <p><u>Mass times</u></p> <p>Christmas Mass times discussed. Morning Mass on 24 December likely to be at 9 am (rather than 8 and 10 am).</p> <p><u>Letterbox drop</u></p> <p>Fr Mike has prepared a draft Christmas Mass flyer.</p> <p>Parish will conduct a letterbox drop to let people know about St Columba's presence in the community, and the Christmas Mass times.</p> <p><u>Newspaper advertisement</u></p> <p>Council discussed advertising Christmas Mass times in the local paper, but this will depend on cost.</p>	-

**Meeting closed: 8.55 pm**

**Next meeting (Parish Council Information Session):  
Tues 7 Nov 2017, 7.30 pm, St Columba's meeting room**