

**St Carthage's Pastoral Council
Annual General Meeting
St Carthage's Church 125 Royal Parade Parkville**

Date: Sunday 16th May 2021

Meeting commenced 11:10 a.m. and concluded 11:50 a.m.

Present: Heather Weedon (Chair), Fr Michael Elligate (retiring PP), Berise Heasley, Jack Rendle, Michael Pirota (Finance Committee), Rosemary Sheehan, Carmel Frost, Fr Joe Caddy (new PP), Leanne Pereira (new parish secretary).

Apologies: Jonathan Clayton.

Chair's Report given by Heather Weedon

Welcome to Fr Michael Elligate and Fr Joe Caddy, new PP.
Commenced with Acknowledgement of Country.
Acknowledged members of St Carthage's Parish Council.

Mins of previous meeting. Finance Committee report to PC. This has been shown to be against CAM guidelines. Current members will work with JC on this. More social and family engagements. Interest in establishing more social justice issues. Activities of parish and PC have been somewhat limited over past 12 months due to COVID restrictions, lockdown. PC continued to meet via Zoom due to lockdown. As such no collection, so arranged for Job Keeper for ME.

Thank you to Trish McNamara, Berise Heasley and Gerard Barnes who have all resigned in past twelve months. We thank them for their active service and contributions over the years.

Thank you to ME and Roger Rassool for the production of weekly Gospel reflections during lockdown. Much positive feedback received on this initiative.

St Vincent de Paul received less support than other years, however were grateful for support that was received.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses at St Mary's College. Thank you to Ro Sheahan, Jonathan Clayton, Roger & Anne Rassool for making this happen.

Parish dinner and Trivia Night were annual events that could not happen this past year.

Launch of Berise Heasley's book.

Give special thanks and acknowledgement to ME for his welcoming, homilies,

Thank you to Morgan, Denis Green and Rischard Olive for their work in publishing of memoirs for ME.

Finance Report given by Michael Pirotta

Joined in 2019 and became chair of Finance Committee. Like to thank Bernard

2020 lot of changes for Finance Committee. Previously stood alone, however decided that FC needed to report to PC.

Procedures documented and handed over to audit firm. Audit was successful for parish. Auditor found accounts were fair.

Two minor qualifications. Cannot sign off on comparatives.

Cannot sign off on cash on plate being deposited to parish account. Recommended to be stored in accounting cloud. All most all of our donations are by EFT rather than cash. Weekly Gospel reflections were helpful in keeping people connected to parish life and continuing financial support.

Net cash of negative 50K. Be end of 2020 that has reverted to 8K positive. Loan for toilets paid. Church and presbytery in good physical shape and debt free.

Key savings for year were Archdiocese fees, not printing stationery. Pastoral expenses reduced by 53%; not unexpected when not having Masses for majority of the year. Significant savings in visiting artists program. Catholic Church Insurance premiums increased. Parish account picked up some expenses of house account. Very grateful for Job keeper to be able to support Michael during time of lockdown.

We have a budget; however due to new Parish Priest, Finance Committee will meet with Fr Joe Caddy and revisit the budget.

Parish Priest Report given by Fr Michael Elligate AM

Sincere thanks to parishioners who “kept the show on the road.” Initiatives continued as we had a generous group of people who continued to contribute to parish life. Audit requested and this took place. Thank you to Michael Pirotta for all his work in preparing for this.

Motions Proposed by Richard Curtain

1. Thanked Fr Michael Elligate for his dedication as PP, welcoming nature, homilies and visiting artists program.
 2. Ask Fr Joe Caddy to facilitate a meeting for parishioners to explore future directions. This is set for 30 May 2021.
 3. Criteria for new pastoral associate, what form of communication can we set up to inform all parishioners.
- Seconded by Rosemary Sheehan and Maryna Mews.

Fr Joe Caddy: Very happy to facilitate meeting on 30th May and look at planning for future directions.

Comments on constitution by John Drennan

Heather Weedon reported that the Parish Council Constitution had to be suspended and rewritten, as it did not meet Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne guidelines (in particular with regard to the Pastoral Council). John Drennan argued that in hindsight, there should have been greater consultation with parishioners. A revised constitution needs to be approved at the next AGM.