

The Lefevre Catholic Community Pastoral Council

Annual Report to the Lefevre Catholic Community March 2022

Background

After many years without a Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Father Roderick implemented in 2021 nominations for parishioners to serve on a newly established PPC. Our first meeting was on March 12, 2021.

Members 2022

Father Roderick
Gael Little (Chair)
Ruby Tolja
Daya De Los Santos
Andrew and Marijana Levak
Frank De Tullio (OLV School)

In 2021 Lia Cummings represented Dominican School on the PPC but in 2022 Lia moved to another parish. Lia made a positive contribution and we thank Lia again for her service. We now have a vacancy for a representative from the Dominican School.

Role and function of the Lefevre Catholic Community PPC

- The PPC is an advisory group to the parish priest.
- The PPC is a pastoral leadership group that considers and operates from a broad perspective and shared responsibility to the Parish as a whole. It is not focused on a particular group or set of issues and leads planning, staffing and strategic direction to minister to the needs of parishioners.
- The PPC is responsible for short and long term Pastoral Plans developed in the context of available resources and existing initiatives and goals. It works closely with the Finance Council to achieve this.
- The PPC reports regularly to parishioners.
- The PPC adopts a consensus approach to decision making with each member offering input towards the final outcome. Majority voting, lobbying, competition and domination is avoided.

Meetings

In 2021 we met monthly from March – October until COVID restrictions, after which we had Zoom meetings as required. We recommenced our face-to-face meetings in March 2022. The monthly meetings take place on Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:30pm, in the parish hall.

PPC 2021 – 2022

Parish Survey

In 2021 the PPC implemented a parish survey which consisted of two questions:

- What do they like about the Parish?
- What do you hope to get from the Parish?

63 surveys were received and responses were aligned to three key themes:

- Liturgy, People and the Mass
- Community i.e. social activities, charitable organisations (outside of mass)
- Pastoral Care i.e. spirituality, visiting the sick, helping parishioners

It was uplifting and humbling to read what we like about our parish. There were so many confirming that our parish is like a family and it extends beyond weekly Mass.

Reports on the findings were published and made available to all parishioners, with short summaries provided by Fr Roderick in numerous bulletins.

Work on the survey was affected by covid 19 (many suggestions from the survey could not be implemented) and the need for the PPC to work fully on the development of a parish website. The website was launched in March 2022, in time for Easter. It was huge undertaking as there were a large amount of rewriting and updating of existing policies and the writing of many new ones to be website friendly. Much of this work was undertaken by Fr Roderick and Carolyn Watt, a great job, thanks to both of you. Also, Chloe Watt is our website manager responsible for maintaining and updating the website. Thank you Chloe.

Ongoing work for 2022

At our last meeting, March 17th, we decided on the following major actions:

- The creation of a PPC action plan for the remainder of 2022
- To continue to monitor and review the website as we still have pages under construction
- Revisit the parish survey, continuing to action feedback from parishioners
- Facilitate rebuilding parish connections that were affected by COVID 19 eg morning teas, social events, meetings etc. These connections are important for our wellbeing as a parish and our connection to each other
- Meet with the parish finance committee to discuss strengthening our work together

As chair of the PPC, I would like to thank all members for their positive and professional dedication to our work in 2021 – 2022. Much appreciated.

Best wishes for a joyful Easter.

Gael Little
Chair PPC
March 20, 2022