

Parish Pastoral Council & Finance Committees - Updates – May, 2023

Below are summaries of matters discussed at our April PPC & Finance meetings.

OH&S & Environmental

- The Meeting Place needs a good “spring clean”. Working-bee to be arranged.
- The storeroom in The Worship Centre needs tidying and clearing of non-utilised items.

Financials

- We welcomed Annette Cruz, our new honorary accountant.
- Thanksgiving/Sacrificial/Stewardship Offering - monitoring income streams. Need for parishioners check to see if deductions are still occurring.
- Thanksgiving/Sacrificial/Stewardship Offering Envelopes. In a major cost saving, OLOP will now print our own envelopes. Minor changes – update soon. Direct Debit preferred.

Community

- The 50-year anniversary of Family Groups in Australia.
- *VINNIES* This update from our Vinnies Conference is impressive and an indication of the work this band of volunteers undertakes in our local and wider community...*Established for 20 years, with approximately 20 members, servicing Donvale (6 calls per month), a residential house (approximately 50 rooms) and a 300 residential apartment block, both in South Melbourne. Donvale distributes more than any other Conference in Vic., supplying household furniture/equipment and assistance with living costs (up to \$7000/month for utility expenses and arrears). Also supporting children/families in the transition from primary to secondary schooling via bursaries (8 X \$1500).*

Standing items on the PPC agenda – updates included.

- *Archdiocese 'Mission' Plan.* Fr. Jerald mentioned that some parishes had progressed along the Mission Plan. There are clergy conferences in June/July which may provide updates as to what is occurring in the Archdiocese.
- *COVID* Nil issues/updates. OLOP is following government/Archdiocese directions.
- *Child Safety Policy.* *Maria Carey and Kathy Stewart are the two OLOP Parish representatives. A recent meeting with the Archdiocese Child Safety Committee revealed that OLOP was below average re the “Working with Children” permits. 154 outstanding – 30 expired and 124 not received. There will be a requirement for re-training every 3 years, not onerous, and involving a re-signing of the Code of Conduct. OLOP are compliant re policies and posters.*

Fr. Jerald's appointment & replacement There is no advice to date. It is hoped the Vicar General will be in contact with the PPC to seek input as to the attributes of the new Parish Priest that would best suit our community.

Future Work

- OLOP Parish Mission Statement – Review
- Parish Pastoral Plan

Peter GIVEN

Chairperson – OLOP PPC.