



## DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

### DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL BRIEF REPORT ON THE 125<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2015

**Present:** Bishop Bill Wright, Fr Brian Mascord, Mrs. Teresa Brierley, Fr Kevin Corrigan, Mrs Pat Campbell, Mrs Judy Crittenden, Mr Andrew McGinlay, Mr Lance Scriven, Mrs Irene Gover Mr Jim Curran, Mr John Donnelly, Mr James Elliott, Mrs Alyson Segrott, Sr Louise Gannon.

#### **Regional Reporting**

##### **Recommendation One to Bishop Bill:**

*If a Region is able to nominate a suitable representative then it should do so, but in the absence of such a nomination the Council or Bishop Bill will make the nomination, taking into account the existing representative membership and the needs of the Diocese.*

It was stressed that the first preference was for a Regional Pastoral Council or parish priest to nominate a suitable regional representative. If no nomination is received, then the Diocesan Pastoral Council or the Bishop will make a nomination, taking into account the existing representative membership.

The DPC members agreed that the above recommendation be presented to Bishop Bill for his consideration.

Bishop Bill accepted this recommendation.

#### **Regional Input to DPC**

##### **Recommendation Two to Bishop Bill:**

*In order for the Bishop and the DPC to gauge the life and mission of the local church the DPC will conduct three of its five yearly meetings as open meetings around the Diocese. The outcome is to plan and facilitate effective collaboration across parishes and the diocese.*

The Open Diocesan Pastoral Council meeting would be open to everyone in the community. People both from the local church and community would be asked to identify two issues to be discussed.

The DPC members agreed that the above recommendation be presented to Bishop Bill for his consideration.

Bishop Bill accepted this recommendation.

#### **DPC Representative Structure**

##### **Recommendation Three to Bishop Bill:**

*Regional reports would now cease. These reports would be replaced by Working Party reports that emerge from the Open Diocesan Pastoral Council meetings. The Councils and Agencies would still be required to submit their reports.*

Regional issues would now be identified at Open Diocesan Pastoral Planning meetings. This does not

exclude a regional representative being able to raise any other issues for discussion, at the normal DPC meeting held during the year.

The DPC members agreed that the above recommendation be presented to Bishop Bill for his consideration.

Bishop Bill accepted this recommendation.

#### **World Youth Day 2016**

Brian and Sue Lacey have been appointed as the World Youth Day 2016 (WYD16) coordinators. Brian and Sue will be attending a familiarisation trip in Poland in May. The coordinators have prepared an open aged pilgrimage through Italy in the lead up to WYD.

WYD 2016 will be launched on 26<sup>th</sup> July at Sacred Heart Cathedral in conjunction with the second Sprit and Truth praise and worship event.

#### **DPC outgoing and incoming members**

John Donnelly, indicated that he would continue his term as Adult Faith Formation Council Representative.

Louise Gannon, indicated that she would continue her term as Liturgy Council Representative.

Pat Campbell, Blackbutt Regional Representative, would not be continuing.

Irene Gover, Port Stephens Regional Representative, Indicated she would continue her term.

#### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes from the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014, was accepted as accurate.

#### **DPC Pastoral Planning**

The Diocesan Extended Executive team have now met to prepare the pastoral plan for 2015 – 2020. A new vision and mission statement was discussed. Bishop Bill explained it is too early to discuss the outcomes with the DPC as yet, but will be discussed in the future

## **Bishop's Update Happenings around the Diocese**

### **Clergy Movements**

Fr Greg Barker has arrived at Forster Parish, as the newly appointed Administrator Pro Tem.

Fr Thomas Sabu, Syro Malabar priest will arrive soon, he has recently been granted his visa.

Fr Sunny Varughese, an Indian priest, visa grant is expected soon.

Fr Thomas Chirackal, has arrived at Singleton and will work with Fr George Mullappallil.

Fr Stephen Hill, from the Ordinariate of Our Lady Southern Cross, has recently taken residence at Mayfield as an assistant priest. Fr Brian Mascord will be the administrator for Mayfield.

Fr Albert D'Souza, will return to India.

Fr Peter Tran, Wallsend-Sugarloaf parish will not be renewing his contract.

### **Regional/Council/Agencies Updates**

A number of parishioners since attending the LicenSing workshops are now more aware of copyright requirements. There are guidelines on the diocesan website for people to use to make the process easier. If parishioners are requiring more assistance they are more than welcome to ring the Liturgy and Adult Faith Formation office to request assistance.

Ecumenical and Interfaith Council will be holding a Interfaith Dialogue, on 2<sup>nd</sup> June at St Pius X High School, Adamstown. The panel will consist of Bishop Bill, Bishop Greg Thompson and Sheikh Mohamed Khamis and Farqoo Ahmed.

Social Justice Council will be holding a Transitioning to Renewable Economy Forum on the 10<sup>th</sup> June, to be held at St Pius X High School, Adamstown.

Diocesan Council for Ministry of Young people reported that planning is underway for the Australian Youth Festival, which will be held in Adelaide from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Revised Council Terms of Reference**

The current practices for Diocesan Councils have been identified. Where there is a difference between the current practice and the Term of Reference a recommendation has been provided. The document will now be provided to the Councils for their review. Once completed alterations to the Terms of Reference will be made. The final document will become the Terms of Reference and will be circulated to Councils.

### **Date of Next DPC Meeting 2015**

The next meeting of the DPC is Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015, at Holy Cross Parish Hall, Glendale commencing at 9.00am.

To contact the DPC phone 4979 1117 or e-mail  
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