



Diocesan Pastoral Council Summary of Minutes: 3-4 February, 2011

Current membership

Bishop Brian Heenan
Fr John Grace (Vicar General),
Fr Don White (rep. Council of Priests),
Sr Moira Truelson, rsm (rep Religious Orders)
Miss Leesa Jeffcoat (DCEO)
Lauren Cole (Ministry to Young People)
Adele Giles (coordinator AICCM)
Trevor Baldock (Clermont), Annette Rowe (Gladstone), Arthur Begeda (Bundaberg), Laurence Bonaventura (Mackay), Linda Esquerra (Rockhampton), Mick Williams (Capricorn Coast), Pauline Leahy (Rockhampton), Executive Officer Margaret Hallinan

Please note: While members are from diverse areas of the diocese they are chosen to represent the diocese as a whole, not solely their own region. Nevertheless parishes are recommended to be in touch with local councilors and invite them to a meeting/conversation.

Welcome Thursday evening 3 February

Bishop Brian welcomed all to the formation session and thanked all present for their commitment to the Diocesan Pastoral Council. Margaret Hallinan led prayer and formation. The focus for the evening was 'Stewardship'

Formal Meeting Agenda: 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Friday 4 February

1. Bishop's Matters:

Ad Limina Visit: The bishop will travel with all the Australian bishops to Rome between October 10-22. The Bishop outlined what happens. He will have a private audience with the Pope and the story of the Diocese will be presented.

2. Diocesan Response to the Flood: Following a rigorous debate on this issue it was decided that Bishop Brian put in place a reference group in place to ascertain what strategies would be required if another natural disaster was to occur.

3. Arrival of the Indian Priests: The Bishop informed the meeting that Fathers Marcel, John and Thadayoose would be arriving in Rockhampton 12 February. They will be welcomed at the 6.00 p.m. Mass at St Joseph's Cathedral 12 February. They will live at St Theresa's Presbytery for some time.

4. Diocesan Pastoral Plan Implementation update: Conversation took place regarding the outcome of the survey on Stewardship. It was felt that maybe we need to have a sub-title e.g. 'using our gifts well' all of life is gift' Stewardship Institute will be held in Rockhampton 2/3 September, 2011

5. Diocesan Pastoral Council priorities for 2011 – relating to the Diocesan Pastoral Plan

Time was taken to work through the Diocesan Pastoral Plan and ascertain what the Diocesan Pastoral Council could have as its focus for 2011. It was decided that Strand 2 Leadership and Structures How do we work together? Margaret Hallinan will write the rationale for this Strand and discuss with Bishop Brian the composition of a taskforce to progress this issue.

6. Audit of Parish Pastoral Plans: Margaret Hallinan tabled a proposal re an audit for Parish Pastoral Councils. This will be used to ascertain the state of the nation of Pastoral Plans in the Diocese. The Council agreed with the proposal and asked Margaret to progress the audit.

7. Review of Sacraments program and practices: Margaret gave an overview of what this review could look like. Discussion took place regarding keeping parents involved. Bundaberg has invited Patricia Brady to go to Bundaberg to look at an alternative approach to Sacraments preparation. Margaret Hallinan will attend the in-service. This review will be progressed through the Diocesan Liturgical Commission

Reports from Agencies/Commissions (*Commission for Ecumenism and Interreligious Relations; Commission for Justice and Sustainability; Diocesan Liturgical Commission*)

- a. Commission for Justice and Sustainability:** The Council took time to reflect on the mandate of this commission as outlined in its brochure. This brochure can be viewed on the Diocesan website.
- b. Ecumenism and Interreligious Relations**
Conversation took place on the brochure 'How living Church in Rural Church' can be promoted. The Bishop also informed the council that the part time position for this commission will be re-advertised in March
- c. Youth Ministry Report:** As Lauren was absent her report was tabled and discussed. The Council loved the way in which she is approaching her ministry in a very practical way.
- d. Diocesan Liturgical Commission:** Report tabled and it was noted that the survey re RCIA would be discussed at the Commission's meeting on 8 February

- e. **AICCM:** Adele informed the Council about some of her projects e.g. provided lunch for the homeless Indigenous on Christmas day – about 50 people were fed. She is also trying to encourage the indigenous children who attend States Schools to gather at Murri Wajda for some instruction and prayer. The Anglican Bishop and Bishop Brian alternate in leading a prayer service monthly for the indigenous people and their elders.

Meeting finished 12.15 p.m.

<i>Future meetings: 13 May, 12 August, 25 November</i>
