

Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Parish

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ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND
ANNUAL REPORTS OF PARISH ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY 3RD JULY 2022

AFTER THE 11.15AM MASS IN THE NARTHEX

CELEBRATE ,
INFORM,
ENCOURAGE



**“WE ARE A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY WHO
PROFESS, CELEBRATE AND WITNESS THAT
JESUS LIVES, AND TO WHOM OUR FATHER
SENDS HIS SPIRIT. WE EXPRESS THAT
BELIEF BY LIVING OUT AND SPREADING
THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL.”**

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OPENING PRAYER

(USED BEFORE EVERY SESSION OF THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL)

WE STAND BEFORE YOU, HOLY SPIRIT,
CONSCIOUS OF OUR SINFULNESS,
BUT AWARE THAT WE GATHER IN YOUR NAME.

COME TO US, REMAIN WITH US,
AND ENLIGHTEN OUR HEARTS.
GIVE US LIGHT AND STRENGTH TO KNOW YOUR WILL,
TO MAKE IT OUR OWN, AND TO LIVE IT IN OUR LIVES.

GUIDE US BY YOUR WISDOM, SUPPORT US BY YOUR POWER,
FOR YOU ARE GOD, SHARING THE GLORY OF FATHER AND SON.

YOU DESIRE JUSTICE FOR ALL;
ENABLE US TO UPHOLD THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS;
DO NOT ALLOW US TO BE MISLED BY IGNORANCE
OR CORRUPTED BY FEAR OR FAVOUR.

UNITE US TO YOURSELF IN THE BOND OF LOVE
AND KEEP US FAITHFUL TO ALL THAT IS TRUE.

AS WE GATHER IN YOUR NAME,
MAY WE TEMPER JUSTICE WITH LOVE,
SO THAT ALL OUR DISCUSSIONS AND REFLECTIONS
MAY BE PLEASING TO YOU, AND EARN THE REWARD
PROMISED TO GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS.

WE ASK THIS OF YOU, WHO LIVE AND REIGN
WITH THE FATHER AND THE SON, ONE GOD, FOR EVER AND EVER.

AMEN.

SS PETER AND PAUL'S PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 3RD JULY 2022

AGENDA

1. WELCOME
2. OPENING PRAYER
3. APOLOGIES
4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES- 2021 AGM
5. BUSINESS ARISING
6. CORRESPONDENCE
7. PARISH PRIEST REPORT
8. SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORT
9. PASTORAL COUNCIL
10. FINANCE COMMITTEE
10. OTHER MINISTRY REPORTS
11. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINISTRIES AND Q & A
12. GENERAL BUSINESS
13. CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**HELD ON SUNDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2021
ON ZOOM**

Attendees:

Fr Jerald Mariadas, David Ng, Cheryl Tay, Frank Smit, Trish Vandekolk, Greg Sleeth, Marie Cameron, Bernard Ferre, Monica Chai, Madge Martin, Harry Martin, Verna Carter, John Mirams, Muriel O’Gorman, Ravi Kamath, Michael Liddy, Bernadette Selleck, Dawn Pratley, Angela Iozzi, Carmel Nigro, Sheryl Kamath, Chrys Gunanayagam, Imelda Sutanto, Jim Walsh, Maria Ryan, Sharon Yeo, John Mendes, Barbara Gratton, Ron Gratton, Shelaani Rosenthal, Nicole Morabito

1) Welcome and Opening Prayer: Fr Jerald led the meeting with the prayer used at the Second Vatican.

2) Apologies: Paul O’Connor.

3) Confirmation of Minutes 2019 AGM: The minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting were accepted on the motion of Frank Smit and Cheryl Tay. (There was no AGM in 2020.)

4) Business Arising: There was no business arising.

5) Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

The Way of the Gospel: Frank Smit reported that at the meeting of priests in April and laity in May the Archbishop of Melbourne has started a program of restructure of the 209 parishes in the archdiocese into about 56 “Missions” consisting mainly of a number of parishes in each “Mission”, although there will be some “Missions” which will be a single parish because of the large area and number of parishioners.

So far there have been 4 meetings: 28 April a priests meeting, 12 May a laity meeting, (both at Veneto), then 24 August and 14 September priests & laity Zoom meetings.

At the meeting of laity in May there was a lot of negativity (during breaks and after the meeting closed) because what was presented did not show any sign of renewal of the Church’s Mission. Similar feelings were shown at the priests meeting.

At the Zoom meetings of priests and laity the only mention of evangelisation or renewal was introduced by the Eastern Region Episcopal Vicar Fr Tony Kerin. I expressed support for him at the September meeting and he replied that I should shout it from the rooftops.

I sent a feedback to the Proclaim team and was invited to speak with Lorraine McCarthy, Team Leader – Parish Animation, and had a long Zoom meeting with her telling her that they started on the wrong foot by first talking about re-organising parishes instead of ‘We want to renew the Church and be evangelical which might mean that some of the parishes might need to be joined because they are too small’. They would have got a better response.

Lorraine showed a set of slides which would have explained their intent and would have started on a better footing. These were not shown at the meetings.

I still believe that what they want to renew the Church so that it will have a future. They have feedback from many and if they follow some of it they can achieve it. There is a timeline that we need to discuss it with the parish and after that with other parishes by February 2022 and give them feedback.

It appears that not following their structure is most likely impossible so we must plan it to make it work the best for us. Therefore the parish should meet to discuss this in detail, face to face, as soon as possible.

Fr Jerald then added that a lot of priests advised the archbishop that they are not in favour of it. More time and consultation is needed. One fear is separation of the Parish Priest from the parishioners because of possible rostering of Mass between a number of priests.

The proposal was that Our Lady of the Pines, Saints Peter & Paul, St Gregory, Saint Kevin and Saint Clement would be in one "Mission".

At the first meeting they said it was because of shortage of priests but now they say that the reason is Pastoral – inconsistency.

At this stage there appears to be no plan. What is the objective? How will it operate? How will we reach out to people, including young people? How are we going to bring healing to those hurt by the Church?

We need to plan locally to retain our identity, because each community is different, and work together with our neighbouring parishes. We need to discuss the pros and cons of what could happen when these parishes become a "Mission" because it will happen in the next 1 to 3 years. We will not be given a choice in the end.

David added that we need to pray about this and discuss it as a parish when we can meet. And hopefully we will have more information.

Cheryl asked whether this "Mission" idea comes from the archdiocese or the Vatican. Fr Jerald answered that it is from the archdiocese but it has been tried in different ways in many dioceses around the world – sometimes in only part of a diocese. In Melbourne the first one is in Bayside where there are difficulties because there was no consultation beforehand and there are significant differences in the 5 parishes involved.

6) Parish Priest Report: Fr Jerald reported on the past 2 years, mainly on the changes since the first lockdown in March 2020. He thanked all the staff and volunteers who helped with the pre-recorded Mass and later with the Zoom Masses. The Zoom Masses also allowed people to talk to each other before and after Mass, keeping at least some communication alive.

During these lockdowns he kept in contact with parishioners through phone calls and with the various Zoom episodes of prayers, rosary and discussion groups.

The parish also ran Mental Health First Aid courses with the financial help of Manningham Council. These online courses were facilitated by Neal Murphy of OLOP parish.

Since January 1, 2021 the school (along with all Catholic schools in the archdiocese) was taken over by Melbourne Archdiocesan Schools Ltd, (MACS) so all administrative, teacher employment and teaching responsibility is no longer under the auspices of the parish or the parish priest. The Parish Priest still retains spiritual leadership of the school community.

Fr Jerald thanked Liza and Cheryl, who have been working from home, for their support and extra work, e.g. the broadcasting and Zooming.

He thanked all the parishioners for keeping in contact by phone to support him especially while he has been unable to go to his family in India.

7) School Report: Trish Vandekolk reported on her 2nd year at St P&P school. The lockdowns started early 2020 and they all learned the remote teaching and learning very quickly. The goal was to achieve a quality education especially under the new remote learning conditions and to continue to build partnership with the parish.

Updated IT infrastructure ensured that the teachers were able to work with the students and families remotely every day. This included daily prayer sessions with students praying for the pandemic to end. Her favourite time was the fortnightly assembly, celebrating the learning and prayers remotely with all the students and teachers. A special session was held for Father's Day with some fathers, grandfathers and others joining from overseas.

A lot was learned about the possibilities of remote learning. The students were keen to meet their friends – even remotely – and the school had a cooking lesson where they prepared a family meal under the guidance of a Chef and later shared photos of the meal. Despite the remote learning all students progressed for the year.

Enrolments did not increase as expected in 2021 because the government funded an extra year for four year old early learning and some parents took advantage of that by giving their child an extra year of kindergarten before school. Post pandemic an increase is expected. There was an increase in staff in 2021 with 4 new teachers.

From January 1 the school became part of Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS) so the parish priest is no longer the employer, but it does not diminish the relationship between the school and the parish and Fr Jerald is Custodian of Mission on the school council.

The outlook for the school is positive in terms of staffing and expected increase in enrolments.

Trish thanked Fr Jerald, the office staff and the parish for the support received during the past 2 years.

David thanked Trish for the hard work being done by the whole school team.

8) Pastoral Council Report: David Ng reported that the Pastoral Council met by zoom during the year but due to the lockdowns the pastoral plans that were prepared for the year have been postponed or cancelled. We could not celebrate the 60th parish anniversary.

Fr Jerald's appointment to SSPP was for 6 years which are up early in 2022. We hope that his term with us will be extended, so we ask for your prayers.

The Pastoral Council also thanks Liza and Cheryl for their tireless efforts, beyond the call of duty, during these difficult times, Frank for accepting the role as representative in the "Mission" project, Albert Ling for his work on the website and all the volunteers who helped with the extra tasks because of covid19.

Our parish is aging but has shown that we can do the work as required when we are called.

The current Pastoral Council has passed the length of its official term but has continued to act. We need new members especially younger members and new parishioners. There are no set qualifications except enthusiasm and willingness, and we welcome you to join us to give support to Fr Jerald.

9) Finance Committee Report: Frank Smit presented the report for 2020 as printed in the distributed documents.

In 2019 we had a surplus of \$51,392 because we received a bequest of \$81,770. Without that it would have been a deficit of about \$30,000. In 2020 we had a reduced income because of covid19 preventing Masses and finished with a deficit of \$21,310. This has continued in 2021 and so far this year we have a deficit of \$48,000 at 31 August and expect to finish the year with a deficit of \$60 – 70,000. Some of the deficit will be refunded later this year because it covers an extra staff member working at OLOP who will refund the payments later this year.

At this stage the reduced income is due to the lack of collections at Mass and not receiving the envelopes.

Regardless of the deficit, we will help those who are desperate and call on us for assistance and also refer them to St Vincent de Paul.

We have about \$300,000 with CDF and NAB at about 0.5% interest. Should we be investing about \$200,000 with a licenced investment company where we can expect to get up to, or over, 5%. We realise that the stock market is volatile and we will get professional advice before acting, and we will split the investment into at least 2 separate entities. We don't want to do this behind the parish's back so we are asking whether you agree to doing it. We realise that the CDF pays low interest so that other parishes can borrow money at a better rate. So there is not only a monetary consideration but also a pastoral consideration for the whole archdiocese. We will also keep about \$100,000 in the NAB and CDF so that we have access to it when required.

We are also looking at the possibility of live streaming Masses from the church. We have 4 quotations at about \$13,000, \$26,800, \$27,400 & \$39,000. A subcommittee is looking at the quotations with Michael Davis, who is the son of one of our parishioners and an expert in this field. We will come back to the parish with a recommendation.

Questions:

Ravi Kamath queried whether an increase of 3% was worth the risk with the market being quite volatile and we would reduce the benefit to other parishes by our small gain. **Frank** answered that we would not rush into it and would seek professional advice and the parish's opinion in a further meeting before we act on this.

Cheryl Tay asked how much will we put in licenced investment companies? **Frank** answered that we have about \$330,000 we would put about \$200,000 in them and keep about \$100,000 in CDF/NAB so we can access it when required and not have to cash in investments when the market is low and make a significant loss.

John Mirams asked if there are any archdiocesan regulations as to where we can invest. **Frank** answered that there were not but that they prefer that the money is invested in the CDF. Other parishes are investing elsewhere. **John** asked if the licenced investment companies are the best. **Frank** answered that they might or might not be the best at this time and we will get as much professional advice as we can.

Cheryl asked what investment term we would be looking at. **Frank** answered that with licenced investment companies it is not for a fixed term, one can withdraw it (by selling shares) at any time.

Dawn Pratley asked about crowd funding. **Frank** answered that he knew nothing about crowd funding. He also said that parishioners could drop their envelopes in at the parish office where we could have someone there to collect it between 10 and 12 on Fridays.

Harry Martin commented on a view expressed by John Mirams before the meeting about bank capital notes which are returning around 4%. **Frank** commented that we would look into that as well and get advice.

Bernard Ferre commented on his report in the distributed reports that the parish is running a deficit almost every year and that we would eventually use it all up but if the interest we are earning was increased by investing it we could possibly avoid that situation.

Cheryl Tay asked how we would get the parish's opinion. **Frank** answered that the proposal would be put to a "face to face" parish meeting where we would put all the advice we receive.

Bernard Ferre advised that his comments were only general in nature and not financial advice. **Frank** said that was understood by the meeting.

Frank had to leave the meeting for an unavoidable appointment.

David thanked the Finance Committee for its work throughout the years.

10) Matters Arising from Ministries:

- a. **Catechists.** **David Ng** reported that sacramental classes in reconciliation, holy communion and confirmation were held all year and assessments for the confirmation classes were done on line. He thanked the catechists, especially the 2 new recruits this year. Because of the lockdown the first holy communion and confirmation (7 candidates) have been postponed to next year. The next classes will start in early 2022.
- b. **One in a Hundred.** **Harry Martin** reported that the target of \$10,000 for the year has been reached and he is waiting on Sr Trudy's banking arrangements. Sr Trudy also advised that they are now also delivering food to the needy families. David thanked Harry and all the contributors.
- c. **St Vincent de Paul.** **Muriel O'Gorman** reported that the annual appeal this year will be held at that St VdP Mass on November 27/28. During covid19 some members have been seeing clients outdoors (on their nature strips) and giving out Woolworth food vouchers. They will be asking for cash donations and non-perishable food at the appeal.

11) **Q & A:** Nil

12) **General Business:** Nil

13) **Closing:** **David Ng** thanked Cheryl for hosting the Zoom meeting and thanked all the attendees. Fr Jerald thanked everyone for the support he has received, especially during these difficult years and closed the meeting (in this month of the Rosary) with a Hail Mary.

14) **Minutes written by:** Frank Smit

15) **Reviewed by:** Fr Jerald Mariadas and David Ng (PPC Chair)

ANNUAL REPORTS 2021

PARIEST PRIEST REPORT 2021/2022

FR JERALD MARIADAS

Peace be with you! Peace is the predominant message in the post resurrection Bible narratives. Post lockdown last year left us with fear, anxiety, confusion, frustration and with uncertainty of what the future holds. This affected not only us but our parish life as well. In addition to our fear factor we also had to deal with all the Covid protocols like the implementation of the Vaccination policy and mask obligation . All of these deterred parishioners from returning to church. However, in all this circumstance we trusted Jesus' words which he spoke to his disciples "peace be with you".

At SSPP, we are truly fortunate and can take pride in having a well-coordinated parish team which takes care of the different activities, both spiritual and pastoral.

Spiritual and Pastoral

A person's faith and spiritual growth is central to their wellbeing. During and post-pandemic providing spiritual care and help to our community members were our utmost priority and main concern.

Our Liturgy committee members together with other ministries like members of our Choir, Sacristans and Covid Marshals provided a safe environment for parishioners to participate in meaningful liturgies, especially during Christmas and Easter , their generous contribution of time and talent was very much appreciated. It was not easy working with limitations and having to adhere to protocols, but they all did and did so magnanimously and with joyousness of spirit. Thank you all.

Faith formation during this time with the help of Cheryl Tay together with OLOP volunteers Trish Keley and Steve Kay provided online resources like video reflections, Bible sharing and online Rosary. This all provided parishioners with spiritual resources in order to feed one's spiritual life.

Amidst the challenges of Covid restrictions the Baptism Group, Catechist, RCIA, Communion Ministers to the Sick ,Grief Support and Youth Group were able to still provide support to our community where needed. I thank them all.

Amidst the challenges of Covid restrictions the Baptism Group, Catechist, Communion Ministers to the Sick, Altar servers, welcoming team and hospitality team were able to still provide support to our community where needed. I thank them all.

I would like to thank the PPC and FC for their continued support, advice and direction, especially during the lockdowns when we all had to work differently.

Parish Schools

Last year was such a challenging year for everyone, especially for our dear teachers. Regrettably, due to Covid restriction we were not able to continue with class masses and other regular school masses last year. We hope to resume all masses as soon as possible. Our Teachers however went above and beyond what is expected, and as a community we are indebted to them and would like to express our thanks to our school principal, Trish Vendekolk, the leadership team, all staff members and parents for the sacrifices they have all made in time and effort.

Supply priest or support priests:

I would like to make a special mention of Fr. Pat Jackson for his generous support to me and our parish throughout the year specially during Holy week and Easter last year. We appreciate his love for our community and his insightful preaching. We would also like to welcome Fr Kevin Dillon who from Feb 2022 has helped me on a minimum of 2 masses every weekend. I thank him for his generous support to me and the parish .

Child Safety

As a parish, we take the safety of our children seriously. We have a combined SSPP AND OLOP parish Child safety team who work together to keep in place all the measures to make sure that SSPP is a safe place for children following the guidance of the Professional Standards Unit of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The team had plans in place to address our parishioners regarding our Child Safe Policy, but due to COVID protocols at the time and a reduction in our mass attendances, this has been put on hold. The team meets regularly at Ss Peter and Paul's to keep up to date with all updated requirements and to ensure that all our processes are in place.

New Audio and Live Stream System

Plans to upgrade our again audio system together with the installation of live streaming equipment began with the formation of an evaluation panel comprising of Fr Jerald, Cheryl, Frank smit, Derek (parish musician) and Michael Davis (son of parishioner Wendy Davis who has experience in the industry). We received quotes from 3 vendors and had an opportunity to have demo from each vendor. Following parishioners feedback on the quality of the demonstraions, the decision was made to proceed with eh Clear Systems quotation. We hope to have the Installation of the new audio system and live stream equipment soon. will be very soon.

Future:

There are still many challenges that are in front of us, namely getting Parishioners back to church and participating in liturgy and social life, resuming various ministries back to life like Children's Church, school masses, Pastoral visit to the school families etc. We have a long way to go and at times this seems like an uphill road, but with the grace and guidance of our Lord, we will get there. We have still not been able to realise our Pastoral Plan and Pastoral Priorities as intended. This is still on the agenda and is imperative for our intended outreach.

Parish Mission:

Last year, our Archdiocese introduced a proposal to "take the way of the Gospel" for the future of all parishes to "Re-imaging our local church as mission communities". The proposal was to form a Mission Parish comprising of four to five neighboring parishes. The Objective - Whilst our parishes will remain at the heart of the gathering of God's people locally, we need to adapt the way we resource our local communities, including the placement of clergy, catechists and other lay leaders, to form Missions that comprise a family of faith communities.

Two update sessions were initially given to priests about the Parish mission and it is proposed that the Doncaster Mission will be comprised of Doncaster, Doncaster East, Donvale, Templestowe and Bulleen.

Regional updates were given to parish representatives via a Zoom gathering during the lockdowns . Our Parish was represented by Frank Smith, Liza Jansz, Cheryl Tay and myself. During these meetings all the parishes were asked to discern about the reimagining the local church.

As a parish we had discussions at our PPC meetings as well as discussions with the community during the last AGM . During these meetings parishioners concerns were noted and was presented to the Archdiocese.

Some of the feedback we received from the community was to not rush into mission during Covid and that more consultation with parishioners was needed.

On the 30th March 2022, during the Melbourne clergy briefing Fr Joe Caddy, our Vicar General invited Melbourne clergy to take up parish mission and encouraged us to find ways to implement it. At the same time assurances were given that the implementation of parish mission will not be against the wishes of the parishioners. He also assured us that there will be proper consultation and listening.

Before I conclude I would like to express my sincere thanks here to Liza Jansz and Cheryl Tay for all the outstanding work that they have always been doing for both SSPP. I appreciate their professionalism, dedication and hard work specially during these uncertain times.

I would like to thank all the committees and individuals in our parish community for all their hard work and commitment you have made over the last 12 months, making Our Lady of Pines, our small community a special place to be.

God bless you all.

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORT

MRS TRISH VANDERKOLK

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

On behalf of the school staff and community of the 2021 school year, I present this Principal's Report outlining some of the major achievements of 2021. It is a report built from a deep sense of pride and gratitude for all that has been accomplished in 2021.

After a challenging 2020, we approached the 2021 school year with a positive mindset, hoping that the difficulties of the pandemic were in the rearview mirror. The year began well with the first weeks, whilst cautious, able to pass by with relative excitement and ease. However by the end of Week 3, we were again in a statewide lockdown for three days. This was to be the start of three periods of lockdowns and remote learning in 2021, with the longest period being from the end of Week 1 Term 3 to the beginning of Week 3 Term 4. Students were in remote learning for approximately 13 weeks of the 41 week school year. This did not deter us in our pursuit to provide quality learning and teaching within a faith filled

environment. With a wealth of experience from and knowledge gained in the 2020 school year, we adjusted and continued to be agile in responding to the pandemic and its impact on our teaching and learning programs. We did so with a strong focus on the pastoral care and wellbeing of our children.

Implications of COVID-19 have seen us move rapidly into a new era. In 2021, each staff member at Ss Peter & Paul's demonstrated true professionalism as they faced the enormous task of adapting to teaching and learning in a world where educational norms continued to change. They again adapted to working and learning from home and then back at school again. They ensured that every student was provided with meaningful learning experiences that facilitated their continued growth whilst also supporting their wellbeing. At school, they adhered to even higher levels of hygiene and cleanliness. Staff maintained strong relationships with students, families and one another when physical distancing made things all the more difficult.

Overall, 2021 was an extraordinary challenge with enormous burdens for the entire school community, parents, staff and learners. Through a high level of mutual trust, flexibility, solidarity, empathy and commitment from all, I believe we managed to minimise the negative consequences of this pandemic for our school and especially for our learners in 2021.

EDUCATION IN FAITH

SIP Goal:

- To build a strong Catholic Identity that is reflected in both our words and actions.

Ss Peter & Paul's School enjoys a strong relationship with our parish. Despite the parish having also experienced considerable disruption due to COVID-19, collaborative efforts with our Parish Priest - Fr Jerald and Pastoral Associate Cheryl Tay, ensured our Yr 3, 4 and 6 students were able to celebrate the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation respectively in 2021.

I take this opportunity to thank the staff involved in the 2021 Sacramental Program as well as the families for your support, especially when last minute changes were needed!

Greater connections with the Parish through:

- Beginning School Year Mass - induction of school leaders and staff
- Sacramental Preparation Programs
- Assemblies through online Google Meets - prayer and reflection were an important element of these gatherings.
- Graduation Ceremony
- End of School Year Mass - handing over of student leadership

Religious Education Framework

- Appointment of Religious Education Leader - Curriculum
- Exploring further the Pedagogy of Encounter
- Exploring REsource - CEM online resource for the learning & teaching of religious education

LEARNING & TEACHING

SIP Goal:

- To build a collaborative and engaging learning environment that focuses on rigour, challenge and high expectations. (Curriculum)
- To develop a school pedagogical framework that draws on effective evidence-based practices across all areas of the curriculum. (Pedagogy)
- To build systematic processes that record and monitor a broad range of school performance indicators to ensure continuous growth. (Data Analysis)

Curriculum Design for Learning

- Timetabling of Specialist Classes on a Wednesday enabled class teachers to use the most part of the day to collaborative plan, engage in professional learning together and take on positions of leadership within the school
- Engagement with system leaders in Mathematics and Literacy to professionally develop staff, facilitate collaborative planning and build leadership capacity of staff
- Strong formative assessment practices in literacy and numeracy

- Building of teacher capacity to understand and use the Literacy Continuum to inform and direct teacher instruction
- Focus on Guided Reading Strategy to improve reading outcomes for all students
- Development and use of Teacher Focus Sheets to assess and monitor student learning and to inform planning
- Student Data Wall - a focal point within the Staff Hub during Collaborative Planning, PLTs and Case Management Meetings - all staff know where all children are on their learning continuum and track progress over time
- Enhancement of the Staff Hub to include yearly overviews of curriculum and anchor charts of key learning and teaching practices across the school
- Cycle of Professional Learning Team Meetings to incorporate English, Mathematics & Student Diversity (NCCD)
 - Whole school planning of Inquiry Learning Units each term enabled intended curriculum foci to be collaboratively planned and implemented
- Curriculum Design of Inquiry completed and a documented 2 year cycle of units, concepts and understandings developed
- Appointment of staff leadership roles in: Sustainability Education, Indigenous Education & Family School Partnerships

Assessment & Reporting

- Assessment Schedule for English and Mathematics - adjustments made in response to remote learning at different times across the year
- Ongoing monitoring of all students throughout the year - remotely and onsite
- Semester 1 Reports written and delivered as intended. Semester 2 Reports modified to reflect the teaching and learning delivery and experience of Terms 3 & 4
- Parent Teacher Interviews online and phone calls
- PSG Meetings for identified students conducted on line
- Regular check ins with all students whilst in remote learning
- Use of Fountas & Pinnell Reading Assessment tool to enable greater tracking of student growth and progress
- Use of Essential Assessment in Mathematics - to enable greater differentiation with instruction
- Use of PAT Reading & Pat Mathematics to track student progress
- Our internal tracking of students indicated that all students progressed in their reading and mathematics despite the interruptions to onsite learning. Not all students demonstrated the same degree of progress.

STUDENT WELLBEING

SIP Goal: To build student confidence and capacity to respect and care for themselves and others.

- Appointment of a Student Wellbeing Leader
- Appointment of a Student Diversity Leader
- Adoption of weekly Case Management Meetings with Leading Staff
- Continued implementation of Berry Street Educational Model strategies and practices
- Explicit consistent teaching of school expectations
- Student Well Being Staff meetings

- Buddy Programs for Year 6 and Prep students
- Student services parent support program
- Regular student support group meetings
- Compliance with Ministerial Order 870 Child Safe Standards
- Positive relationships between Teachers and Students
- Circle time class meetings
- School Camp at Golden Valley Lodge - Flinders
- Continually building student voice through Student Leadership including class Social Justice Leaders and Green Team Leaders
- Intervention Framework - Professional Development for Staff
- NCCD professional learning and implementation for all staff
- Trauma informed practice through Berry Street Educational Model

SCHOOL COMMUNITY

SIP Goal: To engage with the wider community in support of improving learning and engagement and situating learning in context

- We engaged the services of a new Social Media Manager - School Presence
- Our online profile through social media channels continued to build with the introduction of an Instagram account to build on our Facebook profile. These platforms provided a wonderful opportunity to share the great work of our children with the wider community.
- Community Engagement in Learning Group - Through the dedication of the team of parents - students were able to engage in another very exciting and engaging Science Day whilst in remote learning.
- Successful grant recipients for gardens - Vegetable Garden
- School Athletics Day
- Prep 2022 Orientation- weekly online sessions before we were permitted to have onsite sessions

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

SIP Goal: To build a strong collegial culture of mutual trust and support.

Enrolments

- February 2021 Census enrolment - 74.2 (77.2 - 3 Full Fee Paying Overseas Students)
- August 2021 Census enrolment - 74.2 (76.2 - 2 Full Fee Paying Overseas Students)

Projected Enrolments February 2022 - 74.2

(76.2 - 2 Full Fee Paying Overseas Students)

Staffing

- Appointment of New Staff - Mrs Michelle Sabbatucci - STEM, Miss Sophie Bugliera - PE, Mrs Annie Guzzardi - LSO & Mrs Danile Marolda - LSO
- At the end of the 2021 school year we farewelled Sophie Brugliera.
- Leave was granted to Mrs Anita Calvitto - LSO

Enrolment Maximisation Framework

- Continuing MACS facilitated support
- Appointment of Social Media Manager - School Presence
- School Advertising
- Print Media - brochures, pamphlets
- Social Media

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The School Advisory Council has continued to work diligently as a team throughout 2021. Their expertise and collective wisdom have continued to provide a strong support to me, as Principal. The school has continued to be a progressive and innovative environment for our children to flourish. Despite having most meetings over the year in a remote setting, we were successful in completing the School Advisory Council Terms of Reference, ready for ratification at this AGM.

Thank you to Susie Borg, the Advisory Council Chair for her leadership and Priscilla Cheng for undertaking the task of Secretary. To all other Advisory Council members, thank you for your support and willingness to collaborate around a shared vision this year.

We farewelled our Chair - Susie Borg at the conclusion of the school year when her youngest child completed his primary school years with us. We extend a sincere note of thanks to Susie, not only for her work in and position on our School Advisory Council, but to her and husband Frank for their unfailing support of our school and for their very active involvement in sourcing and promoting a deepening of learning for all our students.

CAPITAL WORKS

- Staff Laptops replaced
- New Administration desktop computers
- Setup of STEM Room

BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

- Tree audit, removal and maintenance
- Mulch laid throughout the gardens
- Sensory Garden installed
- Indigenous Garden Redevelopment started

LOOKING FORWARD INTO 2022

- Undergo School Review
- Appointment of new staff members - Deputy Principal, PE Teacher & LSOs (2)
- Invest in IT infrastructure - fleet of new Chromebooks and Ipads
- School Art Show
- Continue our work in School Improvement Learning Collaborative (SILC) with Eastern Region Office Consultants in English, Mathematics, RE & Student Diversity - attend facilitated planning and professional learning meetings - to facilitate our whole school approach to best practice in learning and teaching
- Maintaining a covid safe environment to eventually be able to gather as a whole school community.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON REPORT - MR DAVID NG

The past two years have really been tough and difficult for all of us, and the Parish as well. We were all hard hit by the prevalent virus, Covid-19, then the Delta and Omicron strains plus the long lockdown. Our lives were totally affected and our daily routines curtailed. Now, with lockdown and restrictions relaxed but with the virus still prevalent amidst us, as we all try to reclaim our usual and normal lives, much has happened.

For our Parish of SS. Peter & Paul, we have lost some 20 families since the pandemic and lockdowns began, the Parish's thanksgiving collection has dwindled by over 50%, so much so that we have to dip into our Parish reserves to help with running costs. Attendance at masses have also dropped considerably with parishioners and families opting to stay away due to the virus or preference to following online live masses that has become very popular due to the lockdowns and restrictions. It is hoped that parishioners who have left us due to the lockdown will return to our community and help us in our efforts to re-build the vibrant Parish before the pandemic.

Despite all the difficulties, life in the Parish has to continue and in this regard, the PPC has and is still working hard together with Fr. Jerald to find ways of overcoming the difficulties faced.

By the time the Parish AGM is held in July, 2022, the Church would be in the process of getting a new/better audio/visual system installed. At the same time, Wifi is also in the process of being installed in the Church so that we will be able to provide live recordings for various types of masses, when requested to help cut costs for our parishioners.

One very important and pressing issue which the Parish has to deal with now is the Archdiocese Mission Plan, which is amalgamating few parishes with at least 2 priests. For our Parish, Frank Smit is representing us to discuss and check with other neighbouring parishes (St, Gregory, OLOP, SSPP, etc.) in this regard, This matter will be opened for discussion and feedback with and from you, the parishioners in due course, once more information is made available and will be coordinated by Frank.

Lastly, I would like to inform the Parish that I have informed Fr. Jerald that I intend to step-down as the Chairperson of the PPC having held the position for the past 4 years. The decision is not by choice but by necessity as I am now a full-time carer for my wife, Margaret. I would like to take this opportunity too, to thank Fr. Jerald, Cheryl Tay, Pastoral Worker, Liza Jansz, Parish Secretary and members of the PPC for all their help and support.

There is still a lot of work to be done in the Parish and I would like to appeal to you parishioners, to come forth and offer your help and services to the Parish and to Fr. Jerald, in particular. The Parish Pastoral Council needs new members (as current

members are recycled from term to term and are always the same people who volunteer)! We need new ideas, new directions, new talents and your expertise! No qualifications or experience are required. Trust in the Lord and the Holy Spirit will guide you. Please, do come forward and offer your kind services and help to our Parish.

Despite the fact that there are hardly any restrictions and no lockdowns now, please do not be complacent, do take care, keep well and stay safe, at all times.

PASTORAL WORKER REPORT

-MS CHERYL TAY

While 2020 was marked by extended lockdowns in the state, 2021 was the year we were trying to establish the COVID-normal. Liturgical and sacramental celebrations were cautiously resumed while social activities were kept to a minimum to minimise the spread of the virus in the parish community.

Liturgy

With the assistance of the Liturgy Planning Committee, in particular, Carmel Nigro and Nicole Morabito, special focal elements were set-up in church in celebration of the Feasts of St Joseph, Ss Peter and Paul, Mary MacKillop, Assumption, Christ The King, Holy Week, Advent and the reconciliation service. Their ongoing efforts and creativity have helped enriched the liturgy for our parishioners. The committee is also keen to bring onboard new members. The committee also prepared special gifts for parishioners for Mother's Day and Father's Day that were well received.

Due to the lack of choir members, and stepping down of the musician in the second half of the year, there was no liturgical music for mass on Sunday at 11.15am. Efforts to re-commence children's liturgy in the second half of the year also came to naught as most of the leaders stepped down from their role.

Six volunteers also stepped down from their role as reader, commentator or data operator at the end of 2021, with efforts ongoing to recruit new volunteers.

Sacramental Preparation

On the baptism preparation front, Annewee Lee and myself prepared 10 families were prepared for baptism in 2021. The team is in need of more volunteers to assist in this important role to bring new families into our parish community.

David and his catechetical team for prepared 4 candidates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, 10 for First Holy Communion and 6 for Confirmation.

Faith Formation

The Lenten Program was run over Lent, using the book from the Diocese of Wollongong, with about 5 attendees. An advent program was also run was a joint parish effort with Our Lady of the Pines Parish, with about 4 to 8 attendees.

The bible sharing group continued weekly with 6 to 10 members who meet to pray for our parish, reflect and share the word of God and share fellowship over a light meal after.

Safeguarding of Children and Young People

The Safeguarding Committee is working on ensuring all parish volunteers, staff and clergy hold a valid working with children's check and sign a Code of Conduct Declaration. At present, that is 80% complete. To spread the message of child safety to the congregation, and to children, relevant posters were put up on the boards at the back of the church, and handed to parents of our sacramental candidates to ensure the message of conveyed to the young people of the parish. Work has also commenced on preparing an induction handbook that ministry leaders can use to share with new members of their ministry.

The start of 2022 has shown signs that we have accepted that the virus is here to stay for a while, and begun to resume sports, community and social activities. Life in the parish is slowly returning, with parishioners returning for mass and activities. Parish social activities will soon recommence, and hopefully, this will help rebuild the community and its connections with each other. All in His time, according to His will.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MR FRANK SMIT

During the 2020 and 2021 financial years the financial situation of the parish has been negatively affected by the covid-19 pandemic as have the whole economy and many of our parishioners.

The profit & loss (surplus and deficit) account and the balance sheet shown are a summary of the Annual Financial Statement for the year ending 31st December 2021 submitted to the Archdiocese.

The 2021 financial year for the parish shows a deficit of \$81,093. The main points are:

INCOME

- 1.The Thanksgiving income for 2022 was \$65,097 against \$69,581 for 2020. This is significantly lower than the long-term pre-covid trend of around \$120,000. We believe that this is due to the lower Mass attendance during the 2 years of covid lockdown. We also believe that it is unlikely to return to the higher figure because the Mass attendance has not increased back to its pre-covid level.
- 2.The external Grants received, \$44,364 in 2021, are government grants related to Jobkeeper and are not expected to be available for 2022 or future years.
- 3.The Rental income for 2021 was up from \$2,331 in 2020 to \$12,479 in 2021 because we were able to start renting the hall out during parts of the year. We hope that it will increase too the pre-covid years which were around \$25,000.
- 4.The Other income of \$4,484 included about \$2,000 of donations.

EXPENDITURE

5. The Cleaning and Maintenance of \$21,362 is high because it included the extra the cost of cleaning the overhead rafters etc at \$3,400 and \$5,800 carry-over from 2020 which was not invoiced until 2021.
- 6.The Electricity, Gas and Water is high because of an undetected water leak. We are negotiating a credit with Yarra Water.

7. The Insurance of \$14,472 is consistent with previous years but is expected to increase due to the general state of all insurance companies after the natural disasters of the past three years.

8. The Printing of \$8,225 includes printing for 2020 and 2021 which was not invoiced for 2020.

9. The Repairs and Maintenance includes \$3,400 for cleaning the overhead rafters in the church and \$1,765 for extra difficult (high) window cleaning which can not be done by the normal cleaners, \$5,800 for tree pruning at the school in 2020 which was not invoiced until 2021 and \$3,900 for electrical works related to the installation of the air conditioners in the church.

10. The Supply Fees of \$3,100 covers the cost of other Priests saying Mass when Fr Jerald is not available. This is expected to be higher in 2022 with Fr Kevin Dillon helping out because Fr Jerald will spend more Sunday time at Our Lady of the Pines.

11. Naturally the highest individual expenses of \$86,526 are Salary related. The total covers salary \$73,149, Superannuation \$6,382, Long Service Leave Provision \$1,927, and WorkCover of \$5,068.

BALANCE SHEET

12. During the year we have drawn down \$50,000 from the investments giving us a reduction of available cash (including investments and the current account) from \$423,743 to \$359,155. While we are not broke, this diminishing of our reserves will be a continuing problem in the future.

The years of covid restrictions have made life difficult for the parish in many ways. The absence of Sunday Mass has reduced our sense of community as well as reducing our parish income. At this stage we do not know whether we will return to the number of parishioners coming to Mass on a regular weekly basis, but we hope that the numbers will increase. The absence of Mass has made us look at providing Live Streaming of the Sunday Masses and possibly the weekday Masses. To this end, we have ordered the Live Streaming equipment which include an update of the audio system. The cost of around \$20,000 will be paid for out of the current reserves. It is expected that this will be installed in the next few weeks, having been delayed by covid. Donations towards the cost of the system are welcome. See the parish newsletter.

Apart from the details provided in the financial statements we recognise that the many services that are provided by many parishioners add many dollars' worth of value to the community. Some of these areas are the donations to the St Vincent de Paul Society, the One in a Hundred Appeal for the Zion sisters in Israel, the Retired Priests collection, the Lenten collection, the recent appeal for Ukraine and various other charities. While these do not show up in the accounts, they are a considerable contribution to the communities both locally and elsewhere. On behalf of the beneficiaries the Finance Committee thanks the whole Parish Community for its generosity.

I hope that the covid restrictions are permanently over so that the parish can again function normally and continue to provide its full service to the community.

New Accounting System.

The Archdiocese is introducing a new accounting system for all parishes to be incorporated from 1 January 2022. Training is being done and the existing system introduced a few years ago will be transferred to the new system. I sure hope that it will be easier to use and give better reports which should be more accessible to those needing to work with it.

Finance Committee.

I have been on the Finance Committee, and lately Chair, for many years despite the fact that, by Archdiocesan rules one should only be on it for four years without a break, so, after discussing it with Fr Jerald, I have decided, with Fr Jerald's support, to hand over the Chair to Ravi Kamath and stay on as a member until the end of 2022.

I have tried my best for the parish – with a few failings along the way – and thank you for your support and friendship, and giving me the privilege of serving God in this manner.

I encourage younger members of the parish to become involved in its administration.

God Bless you all.

Frank Smit

Finance Committee Chairman.

Fr. Jerald presides over the Finance Committee meetings.

Finance Committee Members: Vic Belmonte (Secretary), Ravi Kamath, Harry Martin, Bernard Paes, Shelaan Sivananthan, Sharon Yeo.

Parish Accountant: Bernard Ferre. (adviser to, but not a member of, the Finance Committee.)

Ss Peter and Paul's Parish Doncaster Eater		
Surplus/Deficit Account	2020 Actual \$	2020 Actual \$
INCOME		
Donations	804	2,317
Grants – External	95,899	44,364
Interest Income – Bank	8	202
Investment income – Interest and Dividends	4,244	1,149
Other Income	2,331	4,484
Rental Income	5,980	12,479
Sales of Resources	416	1,043
Thanksgiving Income	69,581	65,097
Total Income	<u>179,263</u>	<u>131,134</u>
Other Expenditure		
Bank Charges	521	9
Books, Publications and Resources	0	2,018
Catering	0	304
Church Requisites	1,223	1,823
Cleaning and Gardening	11,668	21,362
Computer Expenses	2,375	2,156
Electricity, Gas and Water	8,630	10,272
General Expenses	14,569	9,451
Insurance	14,473	14,472
Interest – Bank Accounts	568	743
Archdiocesan Levies	4,088	14,947
Liturgical Expenses	517	0
Postage	1,804	1,698
Photocopy, Facsimile and Stationary	2,933	3,410
Printing	3,098	8,228
Municipal Charges	2,220	446
Repairs and Maintenance	19,679	26,132
Security	0	200
Subscriptions	387	0
Supply Fees	925	3,100
Telecommunications Cost	4,200	4,929
Total Other Expenses	<u>93,876</u>	<u>125,701</u>

Staff Payroll Expenses		
Staff – Long Service Leave Provision	5,388	1,927
Staff Salaries	98,054	73,149
Staff Superannuation	6,080	6,382
Staff – Workcover Insurance Premiums	3,000	5,068
TOTAL STAFF PAYROLL EXPENSES	<u>112,523</u>	<u>86,526</u>
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	<u>206,399</u>	<u>212,227</u>
NET OPERATING SUPRLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>-27,136</u>	<u>-81,093</u>

BALANCE SHEET 31/12/2022

	<u>2020 ACTUAL \$</u>	<u>2021 ACTUAL \$</u>
ASSETS		
Bank – Main CDF Account	37,985	26,924
CDF Investments	182,370	129,953
Other Investments	203,389	202,279
Total Cash and Investments	<u>385,759</u>	<u>332,232</u>
GST Paid on Expenses	8,854	79,535
GST Collected on Sales	3,138	-32,550
Prepaid Expenses	10,131	-12,816
Prepaid Subtotal	<u>22,124</u>	<u>34,169</u>
Building	4,631,322	4,631,322
Office Equipment, Furniture and Fittings	632,199	632,119
Plant and Machinery	1,786	37,449
Subtotal	<u>5,265,307</u>	<u>5,300,890</u>
Total Assets	<u>5,711,174</u>	<u>5,694,214</u>
Liabilities		
Payroll Clearing Account – PAYG	5,388	5,329
Other Creditors/Accruals	0	16,736
Special Collections – Holy Places	0	917
Special Collections – Lent Project Compassion	0	3,244
Special Collections - Other	0	81
Sub Total	<u>5,388</u>	<u>26,306</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>5,388</u>	<u>26,306</u>
Net Assets	<u>5,705,786</u>	<u>5,667,907</u>
Equity		
Accumulated Funds from Previous Year	3,850,355	3,829,045
Current Year Earnings	-21,310	-81,093
Asset Revaluations Reserves	1,958,338	-1,958,338
Historical Balancing	3,835,079	3,878,293
Total Equity	<u>5,705,786</u>	<u>5,667,907</u>

SSPP AND FUNDRAISING

-MR HARRY MARTIN

Everyone driving initiatives in the fundraising arena will speak highly of the generosity of our Parishioners, when it comes to a variety of calls for assistance from and for outside the Parish.

Worthy causes are a constant, and the responses we give are a testament to the beliefs we share as faithful followers of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Appeals are many but the main ones we are most engaged in today include support for the good works of St Vincent de Paul's Society, sending funds to Sr Trudy in Jerusalem for the Notre Dame De Sion Local Children's Education Fund to help educate the children of poor Palestinian families, and since this February, support for the Ukrainian Emergency Fund following the attack by Russia on Ukraine with terrible consequences for the civilian population.

Vinnies

There has been a Vinnies Conference operating from Ss Peter & Paul's for decades, with members of the team regularly visiting the most in need in the local community with Woolworths cards and Vinnies cards. Our Parish has been a constant supporter by donating generously in support of our actions.

In the last year your contributions have raised \$10,731 in support this great work of charity, including the recent Winter Appeal. We thank you very much, and hope that you will continue to partner with us into the future.

Financial year to date we have made 89 visits and assisted 131 adults and 102 children, supplying Woolworths cards to the value of \$7,020 and donated food assessed at \$1,505.

SsPP One in a Hundred Appeal

Since the early 2,000's this has been the Parish overseas-aid outreach supporting Sr Trudy Nabuurs project in Jerusalem dedicated to assist poor Palestinian families in educating their children via the Notre Dame De Sion Local Children's Education Fund. It originated from the association of a number of Parish families with daughters educated at Our Lady of Sion College in Box Hill. Sr Trudy, a Gippslander, has been living and working in Jerusalem all this time, based at the Ecce Home Basilica on Via Dolorosa. The targeted number of contributors has been one hundred and the commitment to \$10 a month, often contributed as an annual sum. And it has been very successful thanks to all of you. In recent years the Appeal has achieved an average around \$10,000 a financial year from 1st July. The most recent transfer in January 2022 was for \$13,000. It will be renewed for the year ahead later in July and your support will be vital to its success. Thank you all in anticipation of your support.

The War in Ukraine

The world has been shocked by the Russian invasion and its terrible consequences for ordinary people going about the business of their lives. Caritas Australia is the lead agency raising funds in support of the Ukrainians through the Ukrainian Emergency Fund which it established. The Parish encouraged our Parishioners to support this initiative and this has been most successful. On-line donations have flowed to the Emergency Appeal, and while they are confidential between the individuals and the fund, we believe they total in the thousands of dollars. Additionally Leaving Collections were held on the weekend of 28-29 May for cash contributions resulting in a further \$990 raised. This situation is ongoing as is the need for continuing support – just go to www.caritas.org.au for guidance, and please pray for Ukraine.

VISITATION, HOSPITALITY AND LADIES LUNCHEON

-MRS MURIEL O'GORMAN

VISITATION GROUP

Because of Covid, visitation to Donvale Rehabilitation Hospital is just resuming. The group has taken up the task of ringing parishioners to keep in touch and see how they are going. Most of those contacted have appreciated the call and some have asked for Holy Communion to be brought to the home as they are no longer able to attend Church. This group organises the Anointing Masses held during the year.

HOSPITALITY GROUP

This ministry consists of providing morning tea after 8am and 11.15am Mass each Sunday from the Narthex kitchen and is an excellent way of providing fellowship among parishioners after the celebration of Mass.

This ministry is carried out by a devoted group of volunteers. The narthex kitchen is a valuable asset in providing hospitality to various group meetings and functions within the parish. It is excellent that the Youth Group is now involved in this ministry and will be doing each third Sunday of the month. The annual cost to the parish for this ministry is approximately \$400 but we have parishioners who donate biscuits, tea and coffee which is a wonderful saving to the parish.

A big thank you goes to all those lovely people involved in this ministry. Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact Muriel on 0417 055 617.

Ladies Luncheon Group

Since the last Annual General Meeting, the ladies have attended the following venues

8/7/21 Malaysian Kitchen (23 ladies) 11/8/21 Templestowe Hotel (23 ladies). With Covid shutdowns, the group resumed on the 20/4/2022 with a luncheon in the Church Narthex that 16 ladies attended.

11/5/22 Venuto Club (12 ladies) and 8/6/22 Cherry Hill Tavern (19 ladies). Great fellowship is experienced during our luncheons

Our next function is at the Sino Kitchen in Tunstall Square on Wednesday 13 July. Bookings are now open and everyone is welcome - please contact Muriel on 0417 055 617 if interested in attending.

SSPP GARDENERS AND OUTSIDERS

-MR HARRY MARTIN

It is appreciated that we have a very "green" outlook to our Parish site, that is maintained extremely well on a weekly basis by two groups of volunteers.

The Gardeners:

Whether it is the variety of bushes and trees on site, or the memorial garden and the roses, we have to thank Kevin Connell and Brian Donovan for their long-standing commitment to having all look their best.

The Outsiders

All the greenery is fine, but it does tend to create the need for regular removal of leaves etc to have the paved areas to the entry side, and back of the Church, clean and presentable for the benefit of both Parishioners and visitors. The team we have labelled "Outsiders" currently numbers nine, and includes John D'Silva, Frank Smit, Greg Sleeth, Tessa Leung, Lawrence Tso, Henry Gatt, Margaret Lee, Julian Siaril and Harry Martin. We say thank you to all for doing, on a rostered basis, what you do in all seasons.

The ongoing service in both areas depends entirely on the generosity of our volunteers, and for it to continue we are open to anyone who would like to join us. Just call my mobile on 0421 770 498.

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP

-MRS DAWN PRATLEY

We still have 6 Family Groups who are trying to meet as regularly as they can, especially now that Covid restrictions have ended. I hope some of the groups can attend the lunch celebrations for the feast day of Ss Peter and Paul this year with a get-together after the 11 am Mass on 26 June, as we have been doing for some years, .

We are always open to welcoming new members and I am able to supply application forms to anyone interested in joining an existing group, or maybe forming a new group of like-minded people. The Passionist Family Group Movement is a movement to help people connect with each other, have a good time together socially and to support each other. Please contact me, Dawn Pratley, on 0410 255 948 if you are interested in joining us.

PIETY STALL REPORT

-MRS JAN PRENDERGAST

The Piety Stall has been active for a few years now & we thank the Parishioners for their support. It is not for profit, but we are a little bit ahead financially. At the present time we are only open for 11.15 a.m Mass so need volunteers for the other Masses. We stock a big variety of religious items & take special orders. The 11.15a.m. time is covered by Angela Iozzi, Joan Hayes & Jan Prendergast. If you can volunteer at any of the other Masses or have any queries please contact Jan 0428425867.

DROP IN CENTRE REPORT

-MRS PAULINE DONOVAN

The Drop In Centre has reopened this year after 2 years of closure during Covid 19.

It was decided to change the operating hours from weekly to fortnightly as a way of easing back in safely. Drop In now operates on the first and third Mondays of each month instead of weekly, but this will be reviewed later in the year. Activities remain the same as have been in the past, with the ladies enjoying time for conversation, craft, games, lunch and afternoon tea before being picked up by a driver at 2.30 pm and transported back home.

Sadly several members have passed away over the past year which has reduced the numbers now attending. The number of drivers has also reduced because of other commitments.

Although not meeting at the Centre on a regular basis over the past 2 years, the ladies continued to produce beautiful, hand crocheted or knitted items, some of which will be sold on a stall in the Church foyer later this year and others given to Charity.

The Drop In centre continues to support St Vincent de Paul and the "1 in 100 Appeal" with a yearly financial commitment.

CLOSING PRAYER

God of our lives,

You are always calling us to follow you into the future, inviting us to new adventures, new challenges, new ways to care, new ways to touch the hearts of all.

When we are fearful of the unknown, give us courage.

When we worry that we are not up to the task, reassure us that you would not call us if you did not believe in us.

Remind us that you can bring change and hope out of the most difficult situation.

And for all you call us to be, to do, to remember and to dream, we thank you and praise you. For you are with us now, and forevermore.

Amen.

