



Diocese of Port Pirie Chancery

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19/095

Circular to Diocesan Leadership Personnel (07/19)

Dear Sisters & Brothers

Concerning Clergy Transfers 2019

Herewith the clergy transfers for 2019, due to take effect by the third Sunday after Easter (11th May) unless otherwise notified. Pastoral responsibility for a number of communities has been transferred to another parish in a number of instances. These following suggestions come from the survey on parish clusters that were contributed by parishioners last year, and from what is being mooted by the Strategic Directions Committee of the Diocese in its planning for the future. There are factors that go into this changes, such as the need between parishes which together might be financially more supportive, distances involved, the availability of clergy, and so on.

In a number of cases, a number of towns assigned to the pastoral care of the priest is too large to enable the Eucharist to be celebrated in every place, every weekend. There will therefore have to be a service of the Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion in numbers of places on a rotational basis. This will require the appropriate training of laity to conduct such services. It is also an opportunity for an increased involvement in lay ministry, in areas such as the visitation of the sick, the welcoming of newcomers, the care of plant and fabric, the conducting of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, and so on. Pastoral responsibility for Port Broughton, Bute, Snowtown is transferred to the Kadina/Wallaroo/Moonta Parish. Redhill remains within the pastoral responsibility of Port Pirie/Crystal Brook. Pastoral responsibility for Peterborough is transferred to the priest of Booleroo/Orroroo/Laura/Pekina. Pastoral responsibility for Burra has been transferred to Jamestown.

According to the suggestions being made through the Strategic Directions Committee of the Diocese, we may need to look at the formation over time of a parish of the Mid North, and a parish of the Upper North. The former would embrace most of the towns covered presently from the priests at Jamestown and Booleroo Centre. The Upper North would embrace the communities north of Port Augusta. Some years ago we witnessed a successful merger of the various communities in the Riverland into the one parish of Our Lady of the River. That took time and discussion, and proceeded peacefully and well. Such a process could be initiated for the mid north and the upper north.

These appointments are in the first instance for three years, to allow an incoming Bishop to observe the Diocese and determine his own wishes concerning the placement of the priests. So these appointments are reviewable and renewable.

| Parish | Coming | Going |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Booloroo/Peterborough/Orroroo/Laura/Pekina/Wirrabara | Fr Ramel Morales | Fr Ben Mkuchu |
| Cleve/Cowell/Kimba/Wudinna/Kyancutta | Fr Leon Quinn | Mgr Paul Quirk |
| Cooper Pedy/Inland Mission/Uluru | Fr Paul Crotty | Fr Brian Mathews |
| Jamestown/Gladstone/Georgetown/Burra/Hallett/Spalding | Fr Brian Mathews | Fr Leon Quinn |
| Kadina/Wallaroo/Moonta/Port Broughton/Snowtown/Bute | Fr Matthew Newman | Fr Ramel Morales |
| Port Augusta/Wilmington | Fr Jim Monaghan | Fr Paul Crotty Fr Hau Le |
| Port Lincoln/Coffin Bay | Fr Ben Mkuchu Fr John Folkman | Fr Steve Ardill |
| Port Pirie/Crystal Brook/Redhill | Fr Jimmy Pantin | Fr Francis Montero Fr Harold Camonias |
| Quorn/Hawker/Carrieton/Leigh Creek | Fr Harold Camonias | Fr Jimmy Pantin |
| Roxby Downs/Woomera/Andamooka | Fr Francis Montero | |
| Streaky Bay/Chandada/Ceduna/Calca/Smoky Bay/Wirrulla | Fr Steve Ardill | Fr Matthew Newman |
| Whyalla | Mgr Paul Quirk Fr Hau Le | Fr Jim Monaghan Fr John Folkman |

1. Fr Jim Monahan will continue to exercise his office as Vicar General from Port Augusta, and Chairman of Centacare Catholic.
2. Fr Harold Camonias will continue to undertake his Youth and Young Adult ministry, and open up an involvement with Caritas College, Port Augusta. Fr Harold will reside some time each week in Hawker.
3. Fr Ramel has Peterborough associated with the Booloroo parish, and will spend some time residing each week in Peterborough, as well as in Booloroo.

The shortage of clergy is manifesting itself in the burden placed on Fr Jimmy Pantin as Administrator. He will have the assistance of Deacon Gary Stokes, and the part-time assistance of the Bishop (who is frequently absent) and Fr Arno Vermeeren (health modified).

I pray these moves will help animate the whole Diocese, and be a cause of blessings for us all.

Yours in Christ



+ Gregory O'Kelly SJ
Bishop of the Diocese of Port Pirie