

Northern Region Pastoral Council Meeting

Caritas College, Port Augusta and by IT link

Thursday 28th February 2019 from 5.00pm till 6.20pm

1. Welcome and apologies: Fr Paul

Present: Fr Paul Crotty, Fr Hau Le, John Hennessy, Phil Mouncey, Naomi Maloney, Nenen De Marchi, Sr Pat Hogan (via cisco)

Apologies: Damian Smith, Bernadette Lacey, Fr Brian Mathews

2. Acknowledgement of Country

3. Prayer (remembering abuse victims)

4. Discussion about abuse: there have been instances of angry outbursts with the conviction of Cardinal George Pell. It has been hard to come to terms with what has happened

5. Fr. Hau Le: Reflecting on Priestly Ministry in the Diocese of Port Pirie

6. Life in the parishes and schools - Areas of blessings/ struggle/Ideas for pastoral opportunities (contributions from around the table)

- Blessings: priests still in parish, parish prayer groups
- Struggles: lack of rain, many young families but not attending Mass, involvement of men in parish life

7. Minutes:

Business arising

- Some momentum in reconciliation programs
- MGL visit went well and had some involvement in northern region; the witness of the MGL's was good for youth; ACYF handout from Harold to consider; MGL to return for 3 weeks mid-year; *word of appreciation for Fr Harold's organisation and enthusiasm*

8. Child Protection

- Royal Commission recommended 10 standards and church authority is asked to implement them

- positive action is more important than prayers in a secular society- something hard and fast- prayer is not good enough; people need to be making good choices; diocese has been very active in this matter
- Bishop's Conference letter read out regarding Pell's conviction
-

9. New Business

- a. Diocesan Assembly update – (see attached email from organising committee)
- Northern Region theme is FAITH; a powerpoint presentation will be created to display the expressions of faith in the region for about 7 minutes; Phil Mouncey volunteered to present and help with photos. All parishes in region need to submit their photos by 18 March 2019 to Fr Paul (permission for photos)
 - b. Bishop's forum – Abortion legislation- Bp Greg's Homily and pastoral letter
- thank Bp for leadership; bill has been pushed back 6 months
 - c. Strategic Directions: parish clusters possible like Riverland
 - d. Sisters of St. Anne: Sr Elizabeth and Sr Nancy will move to Ceduna on 7 March to begin ministry – they are a great sign of faith
 - e. Jubilees/Celebrations: Caritas College will celebrate 150 years in 2021

10. Any other business:

11. Next meeting RPC Thurs Sept 19th 2019

12. Closing Prayer by Sr Pat

Meeting Closed 6.20pm