



## PARA HILLS/MODBURY PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

### PRINCIPLES and AIMS

#### PARISH VISION

The Vision of our Parish Community is to cultivate a welcoming, spiritual and vibrant people, centred on Christ, reaching out to all and having the courage and trust in God to embrace an ever changing future with hope and true commitment.

#### ROLE

As the mission of the Church is to witness God's love in the world, the role of the Parish Pastoral Council is to reflect the life of the Church.

#### AIMS

The Parish Pastoral Council aims to:

- be people who pray regularly, are guided by the Holy Spirit and have a desire to work with the whole community to create the world God wants
- reach out and involve themselves in the pastoral activities of the parish between meetings
- care for the unity and communion of the parish by meeting fellow parishioners, listening to their ideas and concerns and providing feedback to the PPC
- ensure a process is in place so all parish employees and volunteers abide by the Professional Standards of the Archdiocese of Adelaide regarding the implementation of the Child Safety Policy and the Child Protection Charter.

#### PRINCIPLES

- The PPC is an essential body of the Parish
- The PPC abides by the faith, morals and Canon Law of the Catholic Church.
- The PPC is a consultative body presided over by the parish priest, who ratifies its decisions.
- The Parish Priest shares in the Council's consensus and voting procedures
- The PPC reflects upon and articulates God's call to the parish in *these times*.
- The PPC promotes initiatives to empower fellow parishioners in their mission as baptised Catholics.
- The PPC nurtures the life of the community by listening to the stories of parishioners' lives, recognising the gifts of each person and encouraging each person to use their gifts for the good of the whole community.
- The PPC discusses pastoral, administrative and financial issues of the parish as part of its pastoral care and mission.
- Prayer and reflection, enlightened by Scripture are integral elements of PPC meetings providing the foundation of all business undertaken, that connects to the fullness of parish life.
- Council members play key leadership and support roles in the parish bringing to light the hopes, needs and concern of the Council.
- PPC members will represent the parish at diocesan, civic and ecumenical events and on committees as required.
- The Executive Committee of the PPC consists of the parish priest, chairperson and secretary.
- The Executive sets the PPC meeting agenda, and where necessary makes decisions on confidential issues or urgent matters.

The Parish Pastoral Council recognises, encourages, nurtures and supports the gifts of the people within the parish community groups. (see Appendix A)

### **Liturgical celebrations and prayer**

- Eucharistic celebrations, honouring all ministries, respecting all gifts and talents and offering a welcome and sense of belonging to all
- Reaching out to all those who are unable to attend the Eucharistic celebrations
- Prayer groups
- The Liturgy committee invites people to prepare special liturgies for the parish

### **Outreach and Pastoral Care**

- St Vincent de Paul Society – provides practical care to the poor and needy
- Bereavement groups – offer initial care, arrangements for the funerals and follow-up care
- Care Groups – visit the sick, elderly and frail parishioners in private homes and in nursing homes
- Legion of Mary – members visit those they know who need some regular contact and any other household referred to them by the parish team.

### **Schools**

- The designated Catholic schools of St Francis Xavier Regional School and Gleeson College work in a spirit of cooperation in
  - encouraging school families to connect with parish life in the preparation and celebration of sacraments
  - developing the faith formation of young people for life and in the works of charity and outreach.
- The Para Hills/Modbury Parish reaches out to young people who belong to this parish that attend Catholic schools in neighbouring parishes
- The parish supports the work of the chaplains in the schools, other than Catholic, that exist in the parish.

### **Young people**

- Young people are empowered to connect with the parish through parishioners knowing, supporting and encouraging them in their daily lives

### **Children's Ministry**

- Religious Education programs for children
- Preparation and celebration of sacrament of initiation
- Ongoing involvement in parish ministries
- Children's Liturgy of the Word

### **Adult formation and education**

- Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults – journeying with adults in preparation for the sacraments of initiation into the Catholic faith
- Bible Study programs offered by the parish, Advent and Lent study groups and courses offered by the Catholic Theological College
- Preparation of families for Baptism of infants

### **Social Justice**

- East Timor Committee – generates support for our sister parish of Maliana through prayer, financial support and raising awareness of injustices in East Timor
- Recognition and response to people in countries requiring immediate aid due to disaster (natural/man-made)

**Communication**

- Weekly bulletin
- Communication with the wider community through leaflets
- Seek ways to connect to all Catholics within the parish especially those who do not attend church regularly
- Website – [www.paramodcath.com.au](http://www.paramodcath.com.au)

**Social life in the Parish**

- Promoting and nurturing community life through various social functions and activities

**Finance**

- The Finance and Maintenance Council oversee the parish Planned Giving Program, maintains effective communication regarding the state of the parish finances and consults with parishioners about issues of major expenditure
- The council also maintains parish property and is responsible for implementing the Workplace Health and Safety Act within the parish

**Miscellaneous**

- Ecumenical activities – working and praying with other Christian denominations in our community.

**APPENDIX A**

Fr is currently working on a list of all the groups within the parish.