

St Columba's Social Justice
Minutes 4 July 2018

Attendees: Fay Hair, David Hair, Evelyn Umali, Dan Umali, Maree Lucas, Belinda Morrissey, Maria Fiataroni Singh, Fr Peter Smith, Therese Briggs,

Apologies: Desiree Leone, Tim Nelson, Elizabeth Mulrennan, Juliana Bates,

Item	Action	
Acknowledgement of Country		
Prayer and reflection	The group prayed "A prayer for our Earth" from Laudato Si	
Laudato Si	Additional copies distributed. The group reflected on and discussed chapter 2 and agreed to read chapter 3 for the next meeting. Fr Peter helped with some theological and philosophical questions. Also advised he had written a paper in review on Laudato Si titled "Love of God, Love of Neighbour, Love of Creation https://researchonline.nd.edu.au/solidarity/vol5/iss1/6/	All - to read chapter 3 of Laudato Si.
NATSICC AND NAIDOC	<p>Therese explained that this year NATSICC (1 July) and NAIDOC (8 to 15) don't run consecutively so gives us an opportunity to run the recognition over two weeks with flags on the alter and articles in the bulletin.</p> <p>Fr Peter advised that the parish had received some beautiful plaques recognising NATSICC and the committee agreed that they would be perfect placed at the entrance of the church and in the parish hall. See bulletin 7 and 8 July for more information.</p>	Fr Peter - to attach the plaques
SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY - OPPORTUNITIES	<p>The committee agreed that we use the Social Justice diary of the Aust Catholic Social Justice Council (ACSJC) as a guide for our SJ committee focus and activities. They also agreed the diary provides an opportunity to connect with the community through Parish council (PC) and other groups such as liturgy group. The intention would be to meet when the diary is published (November/December) to set the year's programs. Therese agreed to attend the PC to raise the initiative with the members and if agreed obtain nominees.</p> <p>It was also recommended to subscribe to the ACSJC</p>	<p>Therese - to contact Pastoral Council to obtain next meeting date, advise nominee and ask for agenda item</p> <p>All - Sign up to be a ACSJC subscriber www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au</p>

Item		Action
WORLD DAY OF THE POOR 18 NOVEMBER	Fr Peter advised that the Sydney Diocese is planning "Sydney Street Feast" at the forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral on Friday 16 November. SJ met with Vinnies Nth Leichhardt conference with the intention of working together to recognise World Day of the Poor. Rather than having a fund raising event (although that could be a part of it) we proposed a "reality check" and reflection event. It could be something as simple as the Vinnies emergency food hampers displayed on the altar. The committee agreed with working with Vinnies and develop this concept.	Therese to liaise with Vinnies and SJ in coming weeks.
SETTLEMENT SERVICES INTERNATIONAL - JOB OPPORTUNITIS IN THE INNER WEST	Fay has been working with the recruitment and employment arm of Settlement Services to draft and advertisement to match refugees and asylum seekers who are seeking work with jobs opportunities that might exist in our parish. The Committee agreed on the wording of the advertisement for the bulletin and the notice board and that we'd run the advert every 4 weeks.	Fay - to adapt the advert for the notice board with rip off details and contact tags. Therese - to put the first advert in the bulletin of the 14 and 15 and every 4 weeks following July and face book
USE OF GLASS CUPBOARDS IN THE CHURCE FOYER	There were a number of suggestions for the use of the glass cabinets in the church foyer. They include: UNHCR items for sale with honesty box (managing "use by dates"), a borrow, take and swap book library based on the Street Library Scheme and Children's religious books library for children during mass. SJ Committee agreed that the ideal time to start the library is World Literacy Day the weekend of the 8 September a notice in the bulletin the week before. SJ members are asked to bring a book or two the week before to start the library.	Fr Peter - to buy children's religious books Therese - to provide UNHCR items for sale signage and collection box Someone? - Provide signage for the new Street/Church library
REFLECTION ON NATIONAL REFUGEE WEEK	All agreed that the activities around Refugee week were very successful in that we all had the opportunity to meet two extraordinary people and hear their stories, it brought together our parish community and for some it started the conversation and for others it continued the conversation. Feed back was very positive and many people wanted to know "what else can we do?". The SJ committee agreed to reflect on this question. On this theme Fay shared information from Jesuit Refugee Services Australia about the Governments cut in SRSS payments. All agreed they wanted to have the link and it could go into the bulletin.	Fay - to send JRS information with the SJ Committee Therese - Article for bulletin
ANTI SLAVERY AND FAIR TRADE	Fay reported that Katherine Maloney will be available at the end of July and called for volunteers to attend a meeting with Katherine (likely to be in the city) about what we can do as a parish to support fair trade and ethical trade.	All - send nominations to Fay

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PARISH COMMUNITY GARDEN	<p>Evelyn has volunteered to plant out and tend the lovely community garden at St Columba's. The committee agreed that (eventually) we can share and swap and surplus with the community and also invite the community to bring in any surplus they might have (eg: lemons) Fr Peter agreed to subsidise the purchase of the plants.</p>	<p>Evelyn - to buy plants and "get her hands dirty"!</p> <p>All - consider how we can make the swap and share work.</p>
ADMIN AND COMMUNICATION	<p>SJ committee agreed the admin protocol for communication. Email any items for general distribution to Secretary. In the email advise where the article is best placed i.e.: the bulletin, Facebook, church vestibule or website or all of those places! Where possible put the item into context with a short para, make sure that the dates current and the link is viable. Also be aware that the cut off for the each bulletin is the Tuesday for the following weekend.</p> <p>The SJ committee agreed that the 10 great ideas is a "great idea" and to keep them rolling in. The secretary will manage them and release them when it is relevant (i.e. a message on peace would be released to coincide with World Peace day)</p> <p>Where possible SJ members to also distribute items, issues and events of interest to other members - that's how we spread the word!!</p>	<p>All - items for general distribution to Secretary by Tuesday for the following weekend.</p> <p>Secretary - to manage the SJ column for the bulletin and the 10 great ideas in conjunction with the Social Justice Calendar.</p> <p>Belinda - to meet with Adrian so that SJ can manage our webpage on t Columba's site</p> <p>All - share emails of interest with other members</p>
OTHER ITEMS	<p>Fay and David shared their experience with Politics in the pub at Harold park and highly recommended a visit.</p> <p>Therease advised that she had visited the Fair Trade shop and cafe called "4 Brave Women" at Summer Hill and highly recommended the coffee and the food!</p>	

Next meeting

Wednesday 1 August 2018 6.15 pm in the Parish Hall.