

St Columba's Social Justice
Minutes 7 November 2018

Attendees: Fay Hair, David Hair, Evelyn Umali, Maree Lucas, Therese Briggs

Apologies: Dan Umali, Desiree Leone, Tim Nelson, Elizabeth Mulrennan, Juliana Bates, Belinda Morrisey, Maria Fiataroni Singh, Fr Peter Smith, Amy Shipp and Carole.

Item		Action
Acknowledgement of Country		Read by Evelyn
Prayer and reflection	The group prayed "A prayer for our Earth" from Laudato Si	
Laudato Si	Reflection on Chapter 6 Laudato Si	For December: To reflect on the whole Laudato Si text and share how it as affected each of us. All
ACTION ITEMS (1) Anti Slavery (2) Community garden (3) Refugee Welcome Centre (4) Parish support for people seeking asylum (5) Social Justice Gathering (6) Sydney Alliance Assembly (7) "Occupation Native" (8) "Changing the conversation" education around refugees and asylum seekers	<p>(1) Fay advised that Belinda and Therese will meet with Alison Rahill from the Catholic Anti Slavery Task Force on the morning of 7 December. Meeting will be in the city.</p> <p>(2) Evelyn has advised that the garden is going well and new crops planted for the summer. St Columba's primary school will be involved next year with worms farm and dedicated bed. Evelyn prepared a delicious Salad Nicoise for our meeting with all the greens grown fresh from the community garden!</p> <p>(3) Moones from the Refugee welcome centre sent an acknowledgement and big thanks to the parish and in particular to Evelyn for her regular help and support. Elizabeth continues to help on Fridays and Fay will help during school holidays. Owing to resources events such as Christmas Party have been shelved but will be reviewed next year.</p> <p>(4) Proposed contribution programs etc need to get Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) endorsement.</p> <p>(5) Social Justice Gathering hosted by Justice and Peace Office (JPO) at St Columba's and focused on housing and homelessness was very informative. Our SJ team did a great job with the meet and greet, refreshments and welcoming all.</p> <p>(6) Sydney Alliance Housing Assembly is planned for 14 March 2019. Estimated 2.5k people. There will be a contingent from the Sydney Diocese</p> <p>(7) David advised that this would tie in well with St Columba's recognition of Naidoc 2019.</p> <p>(8) Fay recapped that the meeting with Principal and the Family educator at St Columba's was very positive and that we would be included in next year's program which would be developed around November.</p>	<p>(4) As SJ rep Therese to raise these proposals and strategies at next Pastoral Council meeting.</p> <p>(6) David and Fay will meet with the JPO and report back as to how Sydney Diocese recruitment will work for the event.</p> <p>(7) Therese to raise this as well as other SJ opportunities at the meeting with Pastoral Council</p> <p>(8) Fay to contact Principal regarding St Cols primary school's next year's program</p>

Item		Action
World Day of the Poor (a) Sydney Street Feast 16 November 2018 (b) Recognition at St Columba's	(a) David advised that volunteers have been called for to assist with the Feast and are waiting for advice from the JPO. (b) Therese recapped on how we plan to recognise the Day of the Poor at Saturday vigil and Sunday masses. These include a Vinnies hamper display and sharing information and challenges in the bulletin. Therese plans to speak in homily time at the masses however is unable to speak at vigil mass and will call for volunteers or limit the event to hamper and bulletin.	(a) David to follow up with Fr Peter and JPO for details. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Ruth Moraes from JPO (b) Therese to contact Fr Peter and other members of the SJ group to seek volunteers.
Attendance at PPC	Vasile was unable to attend our meeting. General discussion and agreement that a member of the SJ should attend each of the PPC meetings. Particularly important as SJ group is still interested in working with the PPC to incorporate the Social Justice Diary in planning for 2019.	Therese agreed to attend the next PPC and will email Vasile to find out the date. She will ask that the SJ diary is included in the agenda.
Bulletin articles	All agreed that we would review our input in the bulletin through the SJ column. In the meantime Therese has agreed to write the column until the end of this year 2018. All agreed that they would assist by providing links, articles and information relevant to our SJ mission.	Carry over to early next year All to provide information for the bulletin.
Other business	Fay recommended the book "No Friend but the Mountain" written by Behrouz Boochani an asylum seeker imprisoned on Manus Therese advised that the cupboards in the church foyer would soon have items for sale in support of UNHCR and Eden School.	
Next meeting	David and Fay have agreed to prepare the agenda and chair the meeting. Therese has agreed to do the minutes.	

Next meeting

Wednesday 5 December 2018 6.15 pm in the Parish Hall.