



News from Diocesan Council

October to December 2012

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS AND RETIREMENT

The Administrator announced the following clergy appointments and retirement during the October and December 2012 meetings:

Fr Bob Hupfeld, Rector, Onkaparinga Valley
Fr Richard Litjens, Rector-elect, Port Elliot-Goolwa

Fr Reg Farnell to retire 31st December.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL MATTERS

Safer Church Principles (Child Safe Environment):

Mr Peter Chapman, Dr Ted Sandercock and Mrs Julia Drought, of the Pastoral District of Southern Vales, together with Fr Paul Devenport, Priest Assistant, and reporting to the Administrator, continued to organise the National Council of Churches Australia (NCCA) Safe Training Courses in liaison with that organisation across the diocese. Ten seminars were organised for those who hold a ministry position in the diocese. This includes anyone who holds a licence as a bishop, priest or deacon, or has a pastoral assistants' permission, anyone involved in children's ministry, all choir directors, adult servers and churchwardens.

2013 training dates to be advised in the new year.

Pastoral Assistant Advent Renewal Process: Council communicated to all parishes for Pastoral Assistants to be made aware that their existing permission will be extended for a further 6 months to 31st May 2013. Details of the renewal process and the obtaining of Police Checks will be provided in the new year.

Church Properties: Council previously considered applications to sell vacant land at Naracoorte and the sale of the Loxton Rectory. Settlements for these properties is now complete. The Pinnaroo Church is expected to be offered for sale by auction in the new year. Council approved the re-allocation of two titles of land at Mount Compass to facilitate the sale of the smaller package of land as a housing block. Council has approved short term lease agreements for renting the Waikerie and Keith rectories.

Commitment to Evangelism: This Synod motion requested that a specific person be employed by the diocese to guide and support all parishes/pastoral districts in evangelism.

The Administrator asked Fathers Graham Cooling, George Kirreh and Bob Hupfeld to put together a proposal for consideration of the Council. This remains

a work in progress. Please refer to the article in the December edition of The Murray Anglican.

Carbon Tax: Council was asked to ascertain the impact on parishes due to the introduction of the government carbon tax, however it should be noted that it remains impossible to reliably measure at this point in time.

Governance Training: Diocesan Council accepted a proposal from Community Business Bureau (CBB). Diocesan Councillors undertook a three hour Directors and Governance training session for not-for-profit organisations in October.

Deaths: Council was informed of two deaths Murray Nelson, a former Registrar of the Diocese. "Heavenly Father we give you thanks for the life of Murray Nelson and for his contribution to the life of this diocese. We pray that now his earthly pilgrimage has ended he may be borne by the saints and angels into the mansions of heavenly light and rest in peace".

Mark Pickhaver, who served for a short period as Church Advocate for our Diocese under the administration of the then Administrator - Fr Brian Ashworth. We remember his widow Anne, and son Tom.

FINANCE, AUDIT & INVESTMENT COMMITTEE (FAI)

Distribution Rate: The interest distribution rate for the six month period 1st April 2012 to 30th September 2012 was set at 3.25% and paid on all diocesan/parish investments.

Various Rates for 2013: Diocesan Council set the various rates for 2013 for Stipend, Superannuation, Long Service Leave, Notional Housing Value, Travel and Occasional Services, together with diocesan wide targets for the Ordination Candidates and Home Mission Funds.

Internet Provision: Council accepted the recommendation of the FAI Committee that internet provision at the Rectory be made available to the clergy at a cost of the parish.

Centralised Stipend System: After a six monthly review Council resolved to move towards a common pay day for the payment of stipends on the 15th of each month commencing 1st July 2013.