



News from Diocesan Council

April 2018

Diocesan Council Membership

It was acknowledged that with the Synod triennium elections taking place in May, this meeting could potentially be the last DC with current membership. Fr Michael Varnish indicated that he will not be standing again for re-election. His wisdom, calming presence and the wonderful service he has given to the Council over many years will be deeply missed. Fr Peter Simmons will be retiring soon and will also not be standing for re-election. Similarly, he has been a wonderful servant in this Diocese and also in Adelaide and Willochra. At the end of the meeting both clergy were thanked for their great contribution to the life of the Diocesan Council and as a final act Fr Peter was asked to close the meeting with prayer and Fr Michael was asked to give the blessing.

Appointment and Committees Regulation

Diocesan Council has recently amended the Appointment and Committees Regulation. A copy of this can be found on the Diocesan Website.

Registry Staffing

Discussion ensued about matters of risk and succession planning, and Council agreed that a group should be set up to look into this. Council noted that the broad outline of the work will be a very focused approach occurring expeditiously with a defined timeline, that conversation should not be limited by the personnel/post holder but a much more in principle, clear look at the associated roles.

Risk Management Committee

Council were informed that Dr Ted Sandercock has accepted appointment to the above mentioned committee. The Registrar should also be in attendance.

Safe Church Environment

Council was reminded that Parishes and Pastoral districts were requested to provide estimated numbers of people seeking to complete this year's courses so that the best locations can be chosen for the training. Details will be advised at the earliest opportunity.

Assessment Review

The report was circulated to members prior to the meeting and Murray McFarlane was thanked for his work. The results will be distributed to each Parish and Pastoral District.

Audited Financial Statements

The annual audit for 2017 has been completed. Financial Statements for all three funds, i.e. The Diocese, The See Fund and The Murray Fund, will be distributed to Synod Representatives.

Good News Stories - Taking mission to the people

A number of Good News Stories from around the Diocese have been shared with Council including; *Riverland*: Bishop John attended the Riverland in February and a Cafe Church was held in Berri with 30 people attending. The theme about temptation was carried through to this event. The second Cafe Church will have the theme of Easter - starting life afresh.

Port Elliot-Goolwa: 220 communicants attended over the Easter period, a significant increase in the previous year.

Mount Gambier: Passover Pizza night attended by 35 people and all then attended church, had Easter Vigil services with 30 at Port MacDonnell and 25 at Christ Church, a record attendance on Easter Sunday, a Parish Family Fun Day designed to be a beach party but due to bad weather all adjourned to the hall at Port MacDonnell, there are more children and families in Church.

Western Fleurieu: Utilised the York courses during lent with the latest one on the third day. St Nicholas is going to commence another York course post Easter.

Coming Soon...

Formation Weekends

Reformation Diversities with Fr David Patterson
Non-residential weekends offered at three locations around the Diocese. Sessions still to come are;

McLaren Vale: 4th - 6th May

Mount Gambier: 18th - 20th May

Contact the Registry Office for more details or to register your interest.

Ministry Training Fund

June is the month for the Diocesan wide appeal for the Ministry Training Fund. Materials will be distributed at Synod.

2018 Synod Dates

25th & 26th May, Woodcroft College

Website

www.murray.anglican.org

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www.facebook.com/pages/The-Diocese-of-The-Murray