

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Report

By Louise Wellington

Membership and Activity

Members of the Parish Pastoral Council in 2022 were: Louise Wellington (Chair), Stan Sielaff (Deputy Chair), Robyn Emerson (Secretary), Mostyn Yong, Patrick Rident-Tiercelet, Charles Costello, Mary Anne Paddock, Jody Hurdial, Ben Goodison, Fr Wrex Woolnough and Duncan Maitland (St Ignatius School Principal). At the beginning of 2022, Allison King resigned from the position of Pastoral Associate which is an ex officio position on the PPC. The role has not been filled in 2022. In August, the PPC farewelled Jody Hurdial who left for Norway as part of an exchange for his university studies. Jody has not been replaced on the PPC. The PPC met each month between February and November via Zoom. Following each meeting, a verbal report was provided at each weekend mass.

Launch of Parish Website

In February 2022, the new parish website was launched complete with the new parish logo and style guide with fonts and colour scheme. The new website continues to meet the requirements of the Archdiocese of Brisbane regarding our demonstrated commitment to safeguarding. It also offers parishioners and visitors an easy site to navigate for information. Parents enrolling children for the sacramental program are now able to complete the process online.

Fr Wrex's Golden Jubilee Celebrations

2022 is the year of Fr Wrex's Golden Jubilee – ordained 50 years ago! To celebrate, the Parish Council arranged a mass and lunch for the parish. The event was held on Sunday July 24 when Archbishop Mark Coleridge was due to visit to the parish. Unfortunately, Archbishop Mark contracted Covid-19 and was unable to attend, so the mass was celebrated by Assistant Bishop Ken Howells.

Parishioners from all the parishes Fr Wrex has served in since ordination were in attendance. Lunch was a festive event, with each mass group contributing to the set-up, service of food and celebration of Fr Wrex's significant service as parish priest.



Women's Night of Spirituality



The Women's Night of Spirituality organising team were thrilled to co-host the night with Women in the Australian Church (WATAC) Garratt Publishing, Women who Preach and Stuartholme School. International guest speaker, Sr Joan Chittister held the 600 audience members spellbound by her call to change for the Church in the 21st Century.

Safeguarding

Kaylene Perissinotto completed her term in the role of Local Safeguarding Representative. Janine Curcuruto has now stepped into the role and Kaylene will continue her involvement with the Archdiocesan Office for Safeguarding. We are grateful for the work undertaken by Kaylene to establish a well regarded safeguarding commitment within the parish.

PPC Planning

Fr Wrex Woolnough will complete his term as parish priest at the end of 2023. In late 2022, the PPC met with Archbishop Mark Coleridge who has encouraged the PPC to commence a formal planning process. Consultations within the parish will be held in early 2023.



Continuing projects

Visiting choirs from schools including St. Laurence's College, St. Patrick's College, Mackay and Ambrose Tracey College have performed at various masses. Stuartholme School has asked to be involved in singing at mass next year. These initiatives are valuable in enabling students to enjoy well led parish Eucharist. They also serve to expand the community of the parish to assist with evangelisation.

Visiting groups perform in the outstanding acoustic of St. Ignatius Church. This year we hosted the St. Laurence's Alumni, St. Laurence's College and Will Brown's Choral Connection, which includes several parishioners amongst its members. These concerts normally raise funds for charities connected with the parish, such as Jesus Mission. As well, at the second Choral Connection concert held in November, the Peace and Justice group was able to raise significant funds by opening its stall at the end of the concert.

New developments in 2022

St. Laurence's College Year 10 Certificate of Volunteering Music Students worked with St. Ignatius Primary students to learn liturgical music which was then used at St. Ignatius school masses and as part of the sacramental program. The year 10s played instruments and added to the existing choirs. This bore fruit with much improved singing at the



St Ignatius Parish Music Report

By Anthony Young

The music ministers of Toowong have continued to provide reliably led liturgical music throughout the year. Professional and amateur musicians have worked together to enable all Weekend masses to have music in accordance with Musicam Sacram and Sacrosanctum Concillium. The 6pm Saturday night mass continues to be served by piano, organ and choir as does the Sunday night 5pm. The 7am mass has a regular organist and the 8:30 mass at Auchenflower also has an organist and a singing group led by Pat Higgins. The parish choirs combined for the Easter Ceremonies so that they could be celebrated with appropriate solemnity and they combined again for Fr. Wrex's anniversary mass. We are blessed by the singers who faithfully support the "full, active and conscious participation" in the liturgy to ensure that our congregations can sing the parts of the mass which are "rightfully theirs", particularly at a time when music ministries in many parishes are struggling. We thank the parish for its support.

children's masses, both by the students and the congregations, and much better parental participation at the Confirmation ceremony. This work will continue next year and is part of a wider project of evangelisation through our schools. We thank Duncan Maitland and Sue Suter for enabling this work to begin and continue. We plan to present a paper based on our school and parish liturgical music work at the Australian National Pastoral Musicians' Conference which will be held in Brisbane next year.

New developments for 2023

We are in the early stages of developing a young singers' workshop day to be held at the parish. This event would hopefully be co-produced by Liturgy Brisbane, Evangelisation Brisbane and the parish. We would invite young singers from throughout the Archdiocese to be involved in workshops with Dr. Irene Bartlett, Head of Vocal Pedagogy at the Queensland Conservatorium. She has already agreed to be involved. The plan is to start at lunchtime on a Sunday, do workshops in the afternoon, sing the 5pm mass and then have fellowship in the undercover area.

We hope to evolve the 5pm mass to be more family friendly, so there may some divergence in the repertoire in that mass from the rest of the parish, however, we will continue to ensure that all in the parish share a repertoire of common music so that we can sing together for major occasions.

Equipment

This year, the first major restoration work was done on the gallery pipe organ in St. Ignatius since its installation in the 1950s. The work was long overdue, and the organ had become unplayable. As a result of the re-leathering of the bellows, fixing of leaks in the trunking, cleaning of pipes, fixing of broken keys, and the replacement of the rectifier, the

instrument will now only require regular tuning for many years to come. We were able to use all the instruments together for Fr. Wrex's jubilee and the organ is adding a great deal of versatility to our masses. As well, the good stewardship of this asset is a tribute to the parishioners who had the foresight to purchase the instrument in the first place. While it is a very small instrument, pipe organs in Brisbane Catholic churches are rare and to be cherished.



Both electric organs are no longer new, but they are strongly built instruments and continue to give good service. The Allen organ company continues to make parts for all their instruments so they should remain serviceable for some time.

The electric pianos are now 3 years old and, sadly, these are generally wearing out in about 5 years. The major manufacturers are no longer keeping parts for any instrument over 5 years old, so planning should be made for replacement pianos in the next few years.

Both public address systems are in good condition, and will only need ongoing minor maintenance, such as the replacement of sagging microphone stands and such in the future.



St Vincent de Paul Toowong Conference Report

By Mary Anne Paddock



St Ignatius Toowong Conference has 12 members who visit people in their homes to provide financial assistance, emotional support and information to people in need. We do this in Christ, following the example of our founder Frederick Oznam. Our group meets every 2nd and 4th week to pray, reflect and discuss the help we provide.

In 2022, we have assisted 312 people in the Toowong – Auchenflower areas by providing \$26,058 financial assistance in the form of grocery cards, assistance with phone bills, rent, utility costs, new furniture including whitegoods, and any other financial assistance that helps people to survive the increasing costs of daily living. We have also provided \$4,010 in “in kind” support which includes Vinnies cards which can be used in any Vinnies shop to purchase clothing or whatever is needed.

This support took 200.17 volunteer hours to provide.

While most of our finances are provided by generous Parishioners, at Christmas time we are also financially assisted by St Ignatius Primary School. Stuartholme School and Toowong Centrelink also provide food and gifts for our companions. This year, through the efforts of one Parishioner – Anne Forbes – we also received a substantial cash donation following sale of handbags all made by Anne during the year.

While the number of people we assist has remained consistent, we are finding that more assistance is required. We are grateful to our Parish for providing the means to give this support.



Peace through Justice Group Report

By Judy Haines

St Ignatius

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Pope Francis' *Laudato Si* encyclical

Laudato Si Sunday in May and the final weekend of Season of Creation in September were highlighted by floral decorations in each church, special prayers, newsletter inserts, free plants and an explanatory video clip.

Fundraising and support

We donated a computer to an Iranian asylum seeker family who had suffered flooding.

Our Christmas fund-raising stall, enthusiastically supported by generous parishioners, raised \$2,000 which will be evenly split between the Romero Centre and Caritas Pakistan flood appeal.

Other activities

We ring the bells at St Ignatius Church on 11th day of each month at 10.55am to remind everyone of the time left to counter climate extremes on the Doomsday Clock.

We prepare and supply Peace and Justice themed prayers to Prayers of the Faithful. We host Open Door, a drop-in event at St Thomas' Anglican Church on Friday lunchtimes (first Friday of the month).

New members welcome

We are a small but friendly group who would welcome any new volunteers and we meet on the first Monday of the month (not January) at 7.30pm at the Horstmann Room in the St Ignatius Parish Centre on Kensington Terrace.