

# PARISH PASTORAL PLAN 2013-2015

## 1. Parish Social Justice Group

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Proposal</b>         | That the Parish of Forster Tuncurry establish a Parish Social Justice Group.  |
| <b>Rationale</b>        | <p>Catholic Social Teaching is ‘one of the best kept secrets’ of the Church, yet is a necessary part of the Christian response in faith. It is difficult for the Parish community to embrace the Social Teaching of the Church when it remains largely unknown.</p> <p>In order for the Parish community to become better acquainted with this aspect of Church teaching, the Parish will establish a Social Justice Group that aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Educate the Parish community on the contents of the Social Teaching of the Church;</li> <li>b) Advocate within the Parish community, and the broader community, on issues touched on by the Social Teaching of the Church; and</li> <li>c) Reach out to other Christian churches, and the broader community, to establish common support for the promotion of the Social Teaching of the Church.</li> </ul> <p><i>As a ‘sub-proposal’: A newly formed Parish Social Justice Group should explore the possibility of becoming a community-based, ecumenical Group that encourages the engagement of the Christian Churches of the local area in these issues.</i></p> |
| <b>Oversight</b>        | <p>The Parish Social Justice Group will be constituted as a self-supporting Parish Group.</p> <p><i>Should the Parish Social Justice Group accept the ‘sub-proposal’ above, this suggestion would need to be reviewed to find the most appropriate structure.</i></p>   |
| <b>Foundation Areas</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission and Outreach</li> <li>• Formation and Education</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Resources</b>        | Minimal financial costs required, apart from the acquisition of resources to assist the Group in the mission.   |

## 2. Explore Ministry with Young People and Children

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Proposal</b>         | That the Parish of Forster Tuncurry establish a Family Ministry Committee to explore parish based ministry with young people and children.   |
| <b>Rationale</b>        | <p>The absence of young people, children (primarily of school age) and their families is clearly recognisable within our Parish community. This has been a long term issue that constantly remains despite every effort expended in the past.</p> <p>In an attempt to come to terms with this issue, and how it might be addressed in the future, and so that the issue doesn't get 'lost' amongst other issues that might also become pressing, the establishment of a Family Ministry Committee, with a specific mandate, would be an appropriate course of action.</p> <p>The objectives of the Family Ministry Committee would be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To gather data to determine the ministry needs of young people, children and their families in the Parish;</li> <li>b) To explore possible models of youth ministry that would meet the needs identified;</li> <li>c) To explore models for funding youth ministry in the Parish;</li> <li>d) To prepare the Parish community for the implementation of a preferred model of parish through education and formation;</li> <li>e) To assist in the recruitment of personnel to undertake ministry with young people and children in the Parish;</li> <li>f) To offer ongoing support, oversight and mentoring of those engaged in ministry with young people and children;</li> <li>g) To continually review the ministry needs of young people and children in the Parish, and to offer this information to those engaged in that ministry; and</li> <li>h) To promote the importance and significance of ministry to young people and children in the Parish community.</li> </ol> <p>It would be anticipated that the majority of the objectives of the Family Ministry Committee would be completed during the life of the Parish Pastoral Plan for 2013-2015, although regular reports to the Parish Community would also be appropriate.</p> |
| <b>Oversight</b>        | The Family Ministry Committee would be responsible to the Parish community via the Parish Priest, and would be supported by the Parish Pastoral Council.   |
| <b>Foundation Areas</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership and Structure</li> <li>• Mission and Outreach</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Resources</b>        | <p>Initially the resource required most will be the time of the membership of the Committee, although some minimal financial resources might be needed to support their work.</p> <p>The implementation of a model of ministry to young people and children would need to be resourced once such a model is determined.</p>  |

### 3. Using Information Technology and Social Media for Evangelisation

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Proposal</b>         | That the Parish of Forster Tuncurry develop and refine its use of Information Technology and Social Media in furthering the proclamation of the Good News of the Kingdom.  |
| <b>Rationale</b>        | <p>The primary mission of the Church is the proclamation of the Good News of the Kingdom, and Christians receive this mission with baptism.</p> <p>The Church is called to proclaim the Good News to each new generation according to the means that it has at its disposal, using the means of the age to proclaim the Good News to that age.</p> <p>The Parish already has a website and Facebook presence, but there are always new technologies being made available that might assist the Parish in its primary task of evangelisation.</p> <p>To that end, the Parish should continue to explore the possible use of existing and emerging technologies, social media, and other similar avenues to develop and refine how it goes about proclaiming the Good News in the current age.</p> |
| <b>Oversight</b>        | Initially, the Parish Priest and Parish Office will take on the responsibility of this task. Should there be an individual or small team who feel called to this aspect of Parish ministry, they could take over future responsibility.  |
| <b>Foundation Areas</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission and Outreach</li> <li>• Identity and Community</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Resources</b>        | Although many of the online technologies are available at little or no cost, the acquisition of any service or technology that requires the expenditure of financial resources would be approved in the usual way.   |

*This Parish Pastoral Plan was adopted by the Parish Pastoral Assembly held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2013.*