

Draft Statutes for the Interim Mission & Pastoral Council of the Parishes of St Vincent de Paul, Stratmore & St Monica, Moonee Ponds

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In accordance with the policy of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, there is to be a Mission and Pastoral Council (MPC) to enable the Parish Priest to obtain advice in his pastoral activities across both Parishes.
- 1.2. The Council, known as the Interim Stratmore & Moonee Ponds Mission & Pastoral Council, is an advisory body to the Parish Priest. The Council is separate and independent of other Parish committees, but the Parish Priest may choose to invite the Council to liaise with other nominated committees on particular issues.

2. ROLE OF THE MISSION & PASTORAL COUNCIL

- 2.1. The IMPC is a representative body of parishioners of the parishes of Stratmore and Moonee Ponds who advise and assist the Parish Priest in the mission and pastoral activities of the Parishes and its parishioners.

3. COMPOSITION OF THE MISSION & PASTORAL COUNCIL

- 3.1 Members of the Council are to be known for their integrity, and actively committed to the practice of the Catholic faith.
- 3.2 The Parish Priest is not a member of the Council, as it is an advisory body to him.
 - 3.2.1 Any assistant priest or deacon appointed to the Parishes will be an *ex-officio* member of the MPC
- 3.3 Membership of the IMPC is by invitation of the Parish Priest, following a process by which Expressions of Interest are sought from across the two parishes.
 - 3.3.1 Those invited to be members of the IMPC must be prepared to follow all the Child Safety protocols of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.
- 3.4 Membership is limited to no fewer than six and no more than ten persons who are representative of parishioners across the two parishes.
 - 3.4.1 With regard to those invited to be part of the IMPC, a balance of age, gender, parish involvement, parish support, parish of origin, is to be given consideration.

3.5 Members are appointed for an initial term of three years.

3.5.1 The last meeting for retiring members of the IMPC will be the meeting before Christmas.

3.5.2 The first meeting for new members of the IMPC will be the meeting after Christmas.

3.5.3 Members are expected to miss no more than two meetings in a calendar year.

3.6 Membership may be terminated by the Parish Priest

3.7 Membership of the Council ceases to exist if the Parish is vacant for more than three months.

4 MEETINGS

4.1 Meetings of the Council must be held at least once each quarter and may be held more often at the discretion of the Parish Priest.

4.2 Meetings shall only be held at the request of the Parish Priest who will attend all meetings. A quorum shall consist of half the number of members, plus the Parish Priest.

4.3 The Parish Priest may either chair the meetings personally, or nominate a chairperson, or invite the Council to elect a chairperson for the meetings. The chairperson shall hold office for twelve months, upon which the Parish Priest may nominate a new chairperson or invite the Council to elect a new chairperson.

4.4 The Parish Priest may nominate, or invite the Council to elect one member to act as secretary, and to be responsible for keeping the minutes of the meetings. The secretary shall hold office for twelve months, upon which the Parish Priest may nominate a new secretary or invite the Council to elect a new secretary.

4.5 No member shall serve more than two consecutive years as chairperson or secretary.

4.6 The agenda for each meeting should be prepared by the secretary, in consultation with the chairperson and the Parish Priest and distributed to the members at least one week prior to the meeting. Each meeting will commence at 7.30pm on the nominated day and be no more than 90 minutes duration unless the Parish Priest rules otherwise.

4.7 No member of Council is to communicate Council business outside the Council meetings unless authorised by the Parish Priest. Confidentiality is expected of all Council members on matters specified by the Parish Priest.

5 SUB-COMMITTEES


5.1 The IMPC may set up sub-committees, to be chaired by a member of Council, to advise it on matters of special pastoral concern. Other people, because of their particular expertise and competence, may be co-opted onto these subcommittees.

6 STATUS OF THESE STATUTES

6.1 These draft statutes are to be used by the IMPC.

6.2 Annually from the date of the adoption of these statutes, the Council may consider whether to advise the Parish Priest whether any amendments need to be made to these statutes.

These draft statutes were adopted at a meeting of the IMPC Working Group on 4th September 2024.


Parish Priest,
**Moonee Ponds &
Strathmore.**