

ECB Catholic Parish

Parish Pastoral Plan 2020 - 2025

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A parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers.

Evangelii Gaudium, 28. (On the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today's World), Pope Francis, 2013.

Who we are

With a rich history, two churches, St Francis de Sales (Torbay) and St John the Baptist (Mairangi Bay), and a diverse community, the East Coast Bays community is called through Baptism to celebrate the presence of Christ in Word, Sacrament and Action.

Our Mission

To build a loving, inclusive, caring, Christ-like community that inspires all to spread the message of Jesus Christ

Our Vision

A loving, caring, Christ-like community

Where we are

ECB Parish Pastoral Council

The current ECB Parish Pastoral Council was formed in 2018 after many years without a Council. Parishioners were invited to attend a meeting in January 2018, discussion was held around the key priorities for the parish going forward, and from this the Parish Pastoral Council was formed.

The current council is made up of our Priests and 6 parishioners. The Parish Pastoral Council has been meeting monthly and each member holds responsibilities for a key portfolio. Each portfolio has sub-committees of parishioners who work cooperatively towards the parish vision.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has been in operation for many years assisting the parish priest in fulfilling the mission of the church through financial stewardship and managing the financial affairs of the Parish.

The Finance Committee assists the Priest with the following:

Resourcing ensuring that the parish has the financial capacity for the provision of assets and facilities and financial support of those carrying out pastoral works

Planning and budgeting

Accounting, administering and safeguarding parish income

What is a Parish Pastoral Council?

In 1971 it became mandatory for each parish in the Diocese of Auckland to have a parish pastoral council.

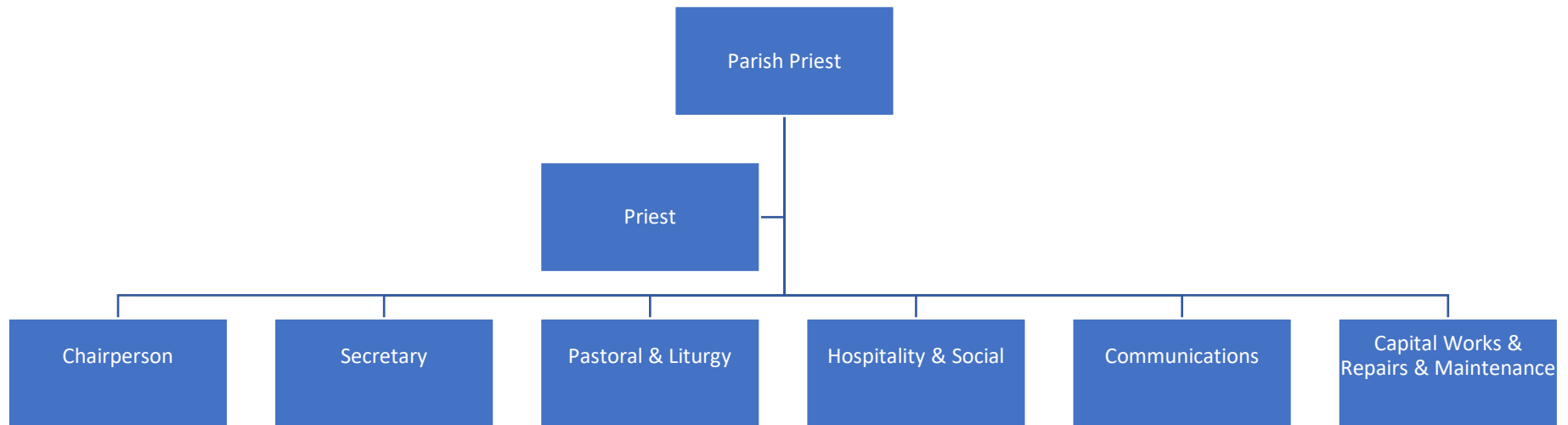
The Parish Pastoral Council is not a body of representatives but a representative body whose primary function is to set the vision and plan to make “the life and activity of the parish ever more closely conform to the gospel.” Their focus is on the **pastoral** aspect of the parish. (see Appendix A)

The **Parish Pastoral Council** (PPC) consists of the Parish Priest and a team of parishioners chosen by the parish community. ***The Councillors work collaboratively to build a vital Christian community in which parishioners’ spiritual growth is fostered and their baptismal calls to mission are discerned and supported.*** (see Appendix B)

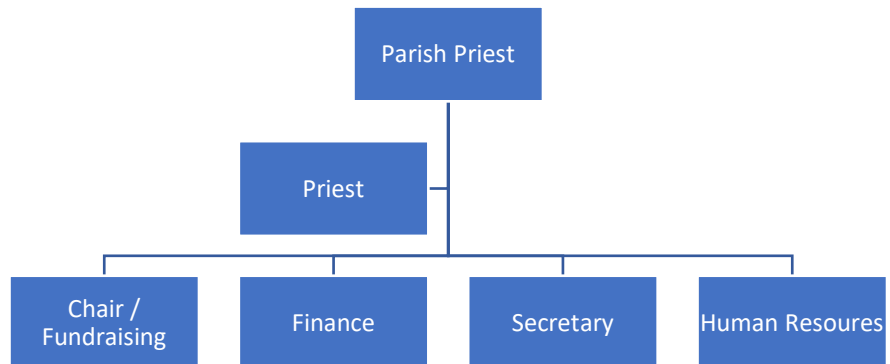
ECB Parish Pastoral Council Terms of Councillors

- Councillors are appointed from members of the parish community, by the Parish Priest or via a call to service
- A term of office is three years
- The total term of office is six years
- Succession planning will be reviewed every three years so that there is always a combination of existing and new members on the Council

Current Parish Pastoral Council



Current Parish Finance Committee



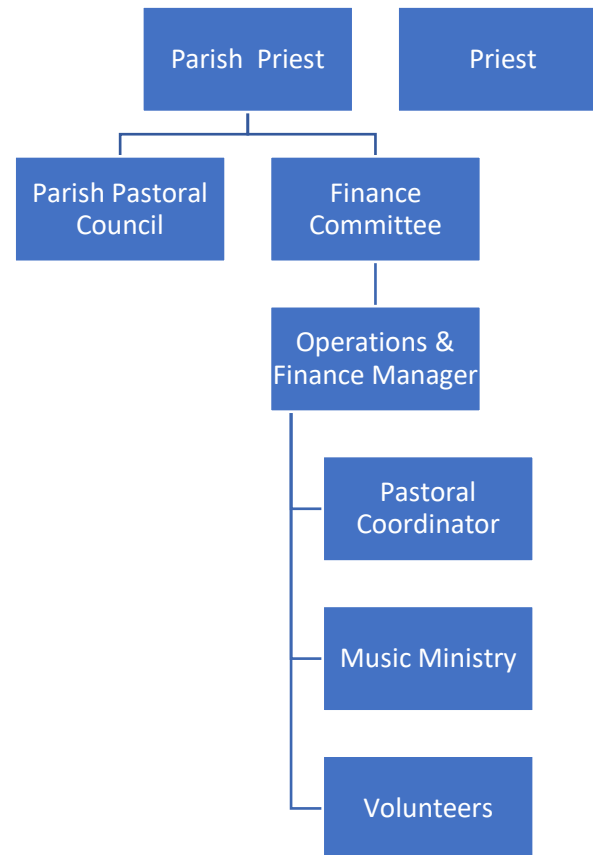
Work undertaken by the Parish Pastoral Council & Finance Committee

Since inception considerable work has been undertaken by Parish Councillors and Finance Committee members to assist in understanding the past, embracing the present, and setting the platform for the future - parish, pastoral and financial. Work has been undertaken in the following areas:

- Understanding existing structure, operations, costs and legacy issues
- Identifying and working through maintenance issues
- Upgrading Parish office layout, IT and furniture
- Reviewing communication tools and databases to allow a greater variety of communication methods
- Maintaining pastoral care and liturgical celebrations
- Establishing 2 paid roles of Youth Pastoral Assistant & App Coordinator and appointing Operations & Finance Manager
- Continuing to build community through events and celebrations
- Identifying and planning for building upgrades
- Developing a Parish Pastoral Strategic Plan to assist the growth and development of our parish community and set the platform for the future of the parish

Current Parish Structure

Office



Current Tasks performed by Volunteers

These and many other tasks are performed by Volunteers who are the lifeblood of the East Coast Bays Parish Community

- Sacristans
- Church Linen
- Cleaning
- Mass Setup
- Music
- Flowers
- Greeters/Ushers
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Readers
- Altar Servers
- Hospitality
- Children's Ministry
- Choir
- Community Outreach
- Sacramental Programmes
- Collection Counters
- Computer Operators
- Parish Council
- Finance Committee
- Office Administration
- Gardening

Where we are aiming to go

Focus from Pope Francis

"I have a dream. I dream of a 'missionary option' for the Church, so that all her structures can be used for evangelization of today's world rather than for her own self-preservation."

Pope Francis further explains that this is not an "ERA OF CHANGE. It is a CHANGE OF ERA." In his vision and that of the diocese, the parish becomes a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach.

Inspired by these words from Pope Francis and the guidelines of the Auckland Diocese (see Appendix B), we enter the next 5 years with the following goals:

To move from a Maintenance to a Missional Parish by

- Forming Missionary Disciples through faith enhancement and education
- Being in regular contact with parishioners in their homes and lives
- Rebuilding the local Church by opening ourselves to the diversity amongst us
- Redefining Pastoral Care to include outreach to the wider community
- Moving from a ministry of mere conservation to a decidedly missionary pastoral ministry.
- Encouraging and training our members to be evangelizers

To develop the qualities of a Missionary Disciple in each parish member so that

- They have a personal relationship with Jesus
- They can share their faith with others
- They are open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- They have knowledge and love of Scripture
- They know basic Christian theology
- They have a daily prayer life
- They experience real Christian community
- They are committed to Sunday Eucharist
- They celebrate the Sacraments regularly
- They can pray spontaneously out loud when asked
- They see their life as a mission field
- They participate in one renewal course each year

What do we want to achieve during the period 2020-2025 for the ECB Community?

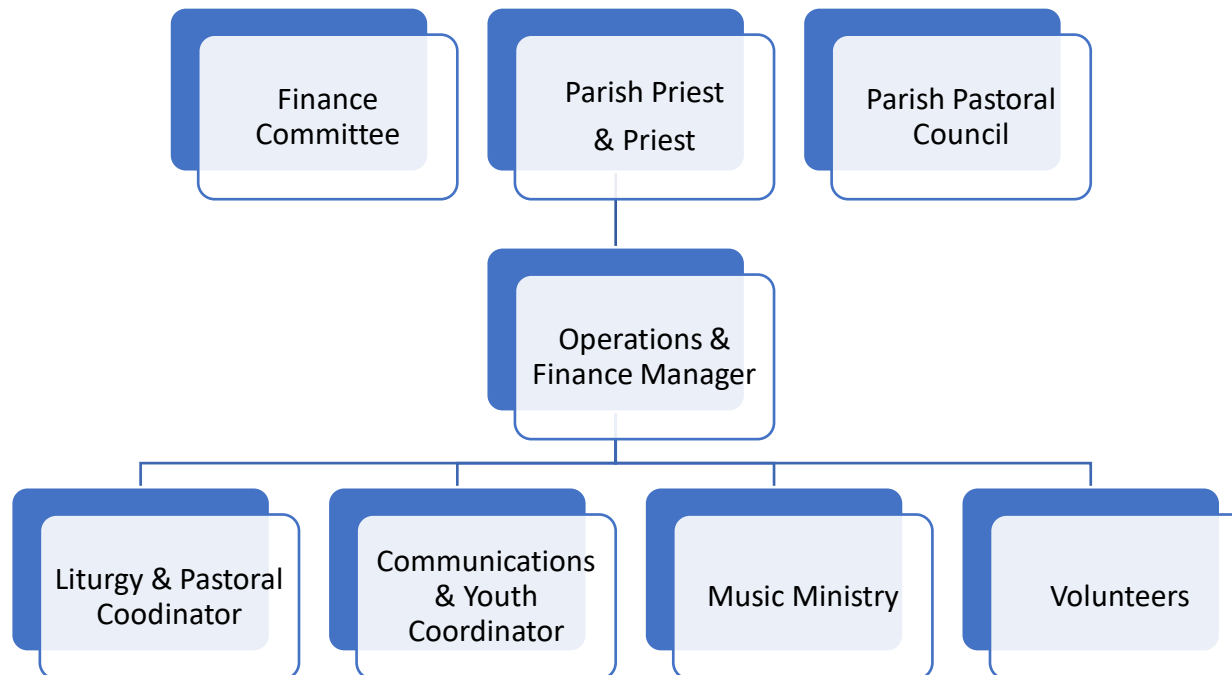
- True connectedness within the ECB community through
 - Spirituality
 - Community programmes such as Alpha, Family Groups
 - Bible Study
 - Prayer groups
 - Parish Mission
 - Adult faith formation
 - Social life and events
 - Family groups
 - Frankie & Johnny Café
 - Community outreach e.g. CAMP Soup kitchen
 - SVDP with intergenerational sharing of vision and tasks
 - Children & Youth specific groups
 - Parent support and childminding services
 - Cultural activities
 - Food trucks featuring different cultural cuisines
 - Cooking demos on YouTube
 - Multi-cultural recipe book
 - Multi-cultural liturgical celebrations

- A structure to support delivery for the future through
 - Leadership which provides clarity, supports accountability, and inspires collaboration and teamwork
 - Communications which connect and engage parishioners through multi-media platforms
 - Parish census/survey to improve accuracy and determine parishioners' expectations of their church
 - Effective paid positions to deliver ECB Catholic Parish strategic plan and meet the needs of the parish going forward
 - Greater level of volunteerism to assist with engagement and utilisation of skills of parishioners
 - Effective financial management considering the impact of COVID-19 and aligning costs to the Parish financial situation and the anticipated economic slowdown

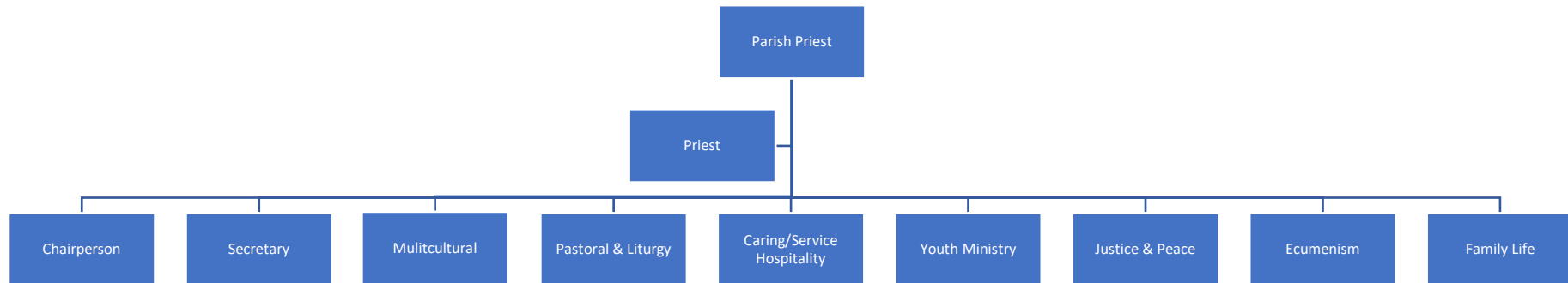
- Long-term plans incorporating
 - Long term maintenance
 - Long-term financial direction
 - Community spaces at both churches
 - Presbytery upgrade
 - Effective use of spare land
 - Income generation opportunities

What structure do we need 2021 - 2025 which will allow us to achieve our goals?

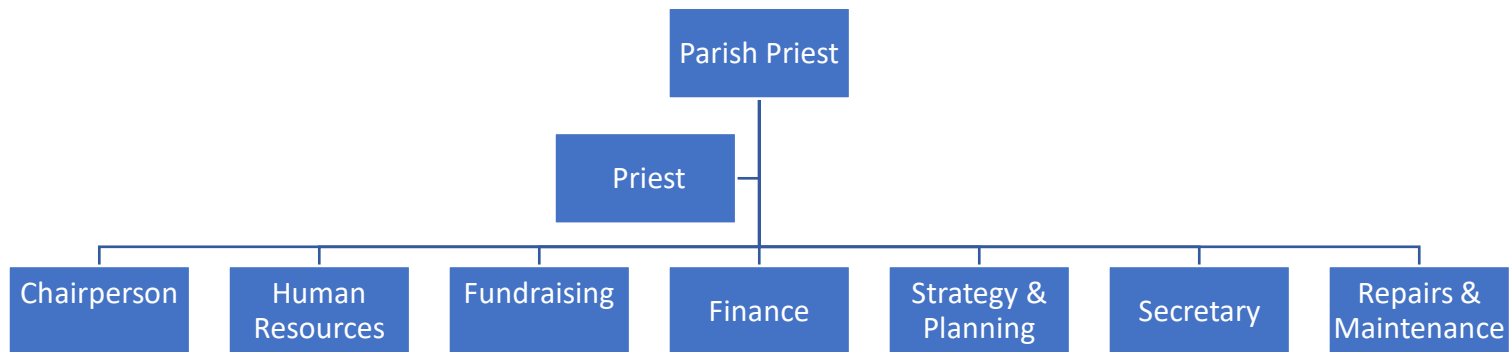
Office



Parish Pastoral Council



Finance Committee



What Actions do we need to undertake to achieve our goals?

2020

| Goal | Action |
|----------------------|--|
| Community engagement | Conduct a survey of the parish in relevant languages |
| Community engagement | Share the parish plan with the parish |
| Community engagement | Generate plans for St Francis Community Centre & determine cost |
| Community engagement | Commence refurbishment of interior & entrance of St Francis church |
| Social engagement | Install working coffee machines at both churches |
| Social engagement | Commence monthly Sunday morning teas and quarterly BBQs at St Francis church |
| Structure | Develop a pandemic plan |
| Structure | Introduce new staff to community |
| Structure | Seek strategic planning member for Parish Council |

2021

| Goal | Action |
|----------------------|--|
| Social engagement | Launch Frankie & Johnny container café at St John's |
| Cultural engagement | Run monthly food truck/stall |
| Structure | Appoint Youth Coordinator |
| Social engagement | Invite other churches to launch CAMP outreach |
| Spiritual engagement | Commence Alpha courses |
| Spiritual engagement | Run Parish Mission |
| Planning | Re-cost St John's Community Centre & Presbytery Upgrade plan |
| Planning | Complete St Francis renovation |
| Structure | Present plans to diocese |

2022

| Goal | Action |
|-------------|---------------|
| | |

The 1983 Code of Canon Law provides that:

In all juridical matters, the Parish Priest acts in the person of the Parish, in accordance with the law. He is to ensure that the Parish goods are administered in accordance with Canons 1281 – 1299.

[Canon 532]

In each Parish there is to be a Finance Committee to help the Parish Priest in the administration of the goods of the Parish, without prejudice to Canon 532. It is ruled by the universal law and by the norms laid down by the Diocesan Bishop, and it is composed of members of the faithful selected according to these norms.

[Canon 537]

Finance Committees are mandatory in every Parish, as are Parish Pastoral Councils. Strong communication and co-operation between these two groups will be an effective means of combining the pastoral and financial aspects of the entire Parish. A member of the Parish Finance Committee should either (a) be a member of the Parish Council or (b) liaise closely with the Parish Council.

The Finance Committee is primarily concerned with helping the Parish Priest or Administrator in fulfilling the Mission of the Church in terms of:

2.1 Resourcing

To ensure that the Parish has the financial capacity both for the provision of assets and facilities (such as church, presbytery, hall, etc) and for the financial support of those involved in pastoral works, i.e. the Parish Priest, his staff, Parish pastoral assistants, etc.

2.2 Planning

To plan, in a systematic way, both for the provision of this resourcing and its budgetary management.

2.3 Accounting, administering, safeguarding

To account for, administer and safeguard all Parish income, expenditure and assets.

Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines 2019

Appendix B

The Parish Pastoral Council is not intended to be a management team for the parish. Rather it is a collaborative ministry whereby members of the parish pastoral council work with the parish priest to set the vision, plan the missionary endeavours and enable their community of faith to proclaim the message of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit lavishes diverse hierarchical and charismatic gifts on all the baptised, calling them to be, each in an individual way, active and co-responsible.

The **purpose** of the Parish Pastoral Council is to build up the pastoral and spiritual vitality of the parish in a way that takes account of diocesan priorities and provide opportunities for parishioners to:

- proclaim the good news of God's love throughout the world
- invite more people into the community of disciples
- encourage the whole community to grow in holiness
- transform the world until the justice, peace and love of God's reign prevail

It also includes offering support for the Parish Priest and planning for matters that will need attention in the future.

Auckland Diocesan Pastoral Plan - 2019 - 2024

Appendix C

All parishes in the Auckland Diocese, Priests, Parish Council and Parishioners, were invited to attend sessions in March 2019 held by the Bishop. Various Parish Councillors, staff, volunteers, and parishioners attended. The intention of the meeting was for Bishop Pat to pass on thoughts intended to help develop ways and opportunities to assist with Pastoral Plans to build new missionary disciples in the church through the parishes.

The previous Pastoral Plan 2015-2019 - Fit for Mission - was about building outward strength and adding to our parish fitness. A lot of good work by the parishes has resulted in many successful projects in that time.

A new "era" will be to go out and be *missionaries* in our parish lives. Bishop Pat outlined helpful examples that we can follow including Fr James Mallon and his "Divine Renovation" platform and the success he is having in his parish.

Pope Francis is directing us as the body of Christ to "go out" and get our "hands dirty" in ministry to the large numbers not attending in our parishes and who are disenfranchised.

The diocese will walk beside parishes to assist, train, and provide resources, including Alpha and Life Teen, that will help in this change of direction over time.

The Catholic Church is embracing the Alpha programme and is committed to working with parishes to implement it. Over 26 million people have tried Alpha in over 100 countries and in over 100 languages. Alpha is a tool for introducing people to an initial proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ. Alpha is for everyone, all backgrounds, all contexts, and all ages. The Alpha format is a meal, a talk and small group discussion. Catholic leaders all over the world, including New Zealand, are very enthusiastic about Alpha.