

From the Parish Pastoral Councils of
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND ST THERESE (ICAST)

Parish Priest: Father Duane Fernandez



NEWSLETTER

September 2019

The ICAST (Immaculate Conception And St Therese) Parish Pastoral Councils (PPCs) met for their first combined meeting last Sunday night at St Therese. Once again, I was impressed with the really positive approach to what we are trying to achieve and the willingness from both parishes to work with the other – even more so, to care about the other parish’s needs.

The ICAST meetings will happen every 2 months, alternating locations and chairpersons. For the in-between months, each parish will continue with their own PPC focusing on purely local agenda items.

After each ICAST meeting, we will be publishing a short newsletter bulletin insert to let you know about the items discussed and the outcomes.

Key points from this first meeting are:

- Netty Broekman (local Plenary 2020 animator) presented next steps in the **Plenary 2020 project**. Some of you may have participated in the original sessions. The next steps in this process are a series of discernment sessions focused around 6 topics. More information on that will be provided soon, but the key point for this newsletter is that we will be running these sessions as a combined group rather than two independent parishes.
- There will be a combined parish social event at Figtree Bowling Club on **Friday 22 November 2019**. More information to follow.
- We have some great opportunities with **Youth ministry** at the moment. For the young adults (18 years and over) there will be a chance to meet over food and drink at the convent after the “Youth Mass” (5pm every 3rd Sunday of the month at St Therese). For year 9 to year 12, “IRON Youth” is happening on Friday evenings at St Therese hall (an initiative of the Disciples of Jesus Community). Immaculate Conception is taking the lead with the “younger youth” (year 6 to year 9) with the “ASCEND Youth” group. We really want to encourage the young people from both parishes to feel welcome to go to the group for their age no matter which parish it is running in. Children’s liturgy (ages 4 and up) in both parishes is strong and will continue as it has in the past at the Sunday morning Masses.
- Both **primary schools** will be putting ICAST-related information into their newsletters.
- **Christmas Masses** were discussed, and the following timetable was decided:
 - Christmas Eve – 6pm: St Therese (TIGS Hall) – large focus on families
 - Christmas Eve – 9pm: Immaculate Conception
 - Christmas Day – 8am: Immaculate Conception
 - Christmas Day – 10am: St Therese

More ICAST news to come in November.

Andrew Thornberry
Co-chair ICAST PPCs

(Thanks to Sue Briscoe for designing the new ICAST logo shown above – with the 12 stars representing Immaculate Conception and the flowers representing St Therese).