**Minutes: Parish Pastoral Council 2025 Meeting**

**Date:** 16 August 2025  
**Time:** 6:45 PM – 8:30 PM  
**Venue:** St Luke’s Catholic College (after Vigil Mass)

**Attendees:** Fr Gayan Thamel (GT), Aleta Dela Cruz (ADC), Althea Dela Cruz (ADC2), Malinda Fernando (MaF), James Irudayaraj (JI), Ramon Gunasekera (RG), Nars Lumba (NL), Perpetua Oninye (PO), Chrissy Presello (CP), Jerome Semau-Roache (JSR), Alistair Soares (AS)

**Ex-Officio:** Ged Oblea (GO), Tessie James (TJ), Arvin Joya (AJ)

**Apologies:** Kelly Bauer (KB), Geraldine Santos (GS), Mandy Goswami (MG)

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| **1. Fellowship & Opening**  * Informal dinner followed by prayer and check-in. * Opening prayer led by Althea Dela Cruz. |
| **2. Key Ministry and Committee Updates**  * **Diocese/Deanery:** St Luke’s recognised as an exemplar parish at the diocesan level. * **Building & Operations:** Stage 1 building now accessible; walkthrough conducted post-meeting. Operational hours to be extended. * **Finance:** Reallocation of non-pledge building funds to support operational needs approved. Financial update to be shared in September. * **Fundraising:** Recent Dinner Dance raised over $11K. Additional events planned. * **OCIA**: No applications received yet * **Youth:** Rebranded as “Luke18”, now targeting ages 11–18. Focus on Mass participation and community presence. * **Safeguarding:** New Safeguarding Champion appointed; compliance data collection paused pending process review. * **Social Media & Engagement:** Continued push for greater visibility and parishioner involvement online. |
| **3. Parish Feedback (Vox Populi)**  * Positive sentiment around Stage 1 building progress. * Noted concerns around safeguarding compliance processes. * Pacific community to participate in upcoming offertory. |
| **4. Strategic Parish Initiatives**  * **Census Data:** Entry in progress; PPC to assist with completion. * **Feast Day & Stage 1 Opening (19 Oct):** Mass, morning tea, and new building launch confirmed. * **Leadership Reflection Day (1 Nov):** Formation session for PPC, PFC, and ministries. * **Parish Pilgrimage (15 Nov):** "Journey of Hope", capped at 40 attendees; Save the Date to be sent. * **Visibility Initiative:** PPC members to be present during monthly morning teas to engage with the community. |
| **5. Upcoming Key Dates**  * **1–23 Sept & 3–10 Nov:** Fr Gayan’s Leave * **19 Oct:** Feast Day & Building Opening * **1 Nov:** Formation Day * **15 Nov:** Parish Pilgrimage * **29 Nov:** Volunteers’ Christmas Party |
| **6. Meeting Wrap-Up**  * Reviewed action items and key takeaways. * Closing prayer led by Aleta Dela Cruz |
| **Actions & Next Steps (Summary):**  * Finalise and communicate major events (Feast Day, Pilgrimage, Carols). * Prepare and present parish financial report. * Implement parishioner engagement initiatives (visibility, youth involvement, social media). * Continue safeguarding and census follow-up |