

**A letter to all Parishioners of
All Saints & St. Kevin's from your Parish Council Chairperson:
Alton Ruiters**

Dear Fellow Parishioners















Three years ago, in the latter part of 2022, you elected members of this parish to take up leadership positions on the Parish Pastoral Council. Those elections were run to the specifications set down in the newly promulgated Archdiocesan Statutes for Parish Pastoral Councils, signed by Archbishop Brislin in March 2022.

These Statutes determined a new structure for Parish Pastoral Councils, using designated Portfolios within the parish, with the Coordinators of these portfolios making up the leadership structure that is the Parish Pastoral Council. During the election process you, as parishioners, were asked to nominate and then vote for, people who would head each of those portfolios. The seven portfolios stipulated in the Statutes are:

- Evangelisation
- Liturgy
- Faith Formation
- Marriage and Family
- Youth
- Community Engagement
- Parish Community Building

Our vision statement states, ***"To be a welcoming parish, living out our Faith in action through building a vibrant and inclusive community with passion, vigour and love for Christ."***

Our Parish Pastoral Council comprises of the following members, leading their respective portfolios:

 RENE NAIDOO-BLASHOPLES 083 302 2805	 CLEMENT BOWERS 082 255 4321	 BEVERLEY YARROW 082 668 2285	 NOEL MILLER 084 325 2818	 MARIO SNOW 084 441 6141	 DARREN SEARLE 082 217 3535		
 PATRICK KAMIES 082 321 3907	 THEODORE SASS 061 470 6983	 CHANELL KAMIES 074 955 4877	 LISA ADAMS 083 390 0368	 STEVEN MINNAAR 073 999 8150	 ROSCO ADAMS 071 853 4739	 MARLIN LAI 071 035 7209	 DESIRE JACKSON 084 539 7757
EVANGELISATION	YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS	MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	FAITH FORMATION	LITURGY	PARISH COMMUNITY BUILDING	
FOCUS AREAS Reach out to lapsed Catholics. Foster relations with other Christian churches & non-Christian Faiths. Encourage vocations.	FOCUS AREAS Involve youth & young adults in the life of the church. Develop youth & young adult's spiritual welfare.	FOCUS AREAS (UNDER DEACON MARIO) Marriage preparation & enrichment. Support to newlyweds, struggling marriages & single parents. Develop parental skills. Care for the divorced and remarried.	FOCUS AREAS Poverty relief. Support for refugees and migrants. Foster an awareness to address issues of social justice and peace as well as ecological issues.	FOCUS AREAS Conduct effective RCIA programmes. Conduct effective adult spiritual/faith Formation programmes. Conduct effective Catechetical Programmes. Baptismal preparation (Deacon Mario).	FOCUS AREAS Plan & oversee all parish liturgies and devotions (under the guidance of the parish priest). <u>Plan the following for all Masses:</u> Hospitality, Proclaimers of the Word, Altar Serving, Music & Sound, Children's Liturgy, EMHC, Sacristans	FOCUS AREAS Foster a sense of community. Foster a sense of being part of the local Church of CT. Support for the sick and infirm, aged, marginalised, bereaved. Set up and maintain parish communication systems.	
TEAMS Alpha Programme, Ecumenical Outreach, Vocations, Small Christian groups (Lay Domicians)	TEAMS Youth, Young Adult	TEAMS Marriage preparation, Marriage support, Dissolved marriages, Parenting	TEAMS Refugee & migrants, Poverty relief, Social Justice and Peace, St Kizito	TEAMS Catechetics, Adult spiritual/faith formation, Baptismal preparation (Deacon Mario)	TEAMS EMHC, Proclaimers, Altar servers, Hospitality, Music, Sacristans	TEAMS St. Brigid's Communication	

Here is some selected information about the work done in these portfolios within our parish over the past three years, highlighting our successes:

1. Restarted the Parish Youth Group
2. Created awareness of available marriage and family support programmes (e.g. Retrouvaille program, Parenting Workshops)
3. Developed focused communication channels and enhanced existing ones to meet the needs of the parish (e.g. online registration and dedicated communication team for website, WhatsApp, Facebook)
4. Formalised Faith Sharing groups
5. Created support platforms for our parish family members who are migrants or refugees
6. Restarted and restructured the Soup Kitchen providing much needed meals to 100's of our vulnerable community members in most need of support.

7. Improved catechism programs within the parish by:

- Implementing a digital registration system and monitoring attendance to enhance participation and engagement
- Increasing the number of catechists

Although active participation by parishioners in various ministries has improved, increasing the levels of involvement remains a challenge.

During the three years we, your Parish Council have been in office, we have been guided and assisted by an Archdiocesan team known as *Parish Alive*, run from the Archdiocesan Centre for Pastoral Development under the leadership of Father Zane Godwin, the Episcopal Vicar for Pastoral Development. This *Parish Alive* initiative was formed in 2022 specifically to train, assist and support the leadership structures in all parishes of the Archdiocese. This team has provided seminars, summits, webinars and various ministry training sessions to enhance the leadership skills of all Parish Council members.

Now, in the second half of 2025, the term of office of all PPC members comes to an end, and the period of nominations and elections of a new Council begins. It is time for all parishioners to give serious thought to those in our parish who would be suitable for future leadership within the parish.

There are a few important points laid down in the Statutes that I wish to bring to your attention:

- Only adult parishioners of eighteen or older who have received the sacrament of Confirmation are eligible to stand for office.
- Only adult parishioners of eighteen years or older who have received the sacrament of Confirmation may nominate and vote.
- No elected person may stand for three consecutive terms of office.
- Selected parishioners may be freely appointed at the discretion of the parish priest; the numbers of appointees may be less than but shall not exceed the number of those elected to the PPC.
- The Coordinator of the Youth Portfolio on the PPC should, wherever possible, be between the ages of 18 and 35.



Our Nomination process begins 30th August and runs until 7th September. Please see the **PPC Elections Handbook** available at the [Link to PPC Election Handbook](#) for further clarification. We are confident this will answer all your questions and give plenty of food for thought as we move into this important election process.

On behalf of the outgoing Pastoral Council members, I would like to thank all parishioners for their constant support in all our endeavours.

We pray for your prayerful and fruitful discernment during this time.

Yours Sincerely,

Alfon Ruiters

All Saints and St. Kevin's Catholic Parish (Northpine and Brackenfell)

PPC Chairperson

(23 August 2025)