

Minutes of the Consultants' Meeting  
held at 340 Wendouree Parade, on  
18<sup>th</sup> April, 1979.

Present Bishop R.A. Mulhearn, Msgr. L. Biscalini, V.G.,  
Fr. J. McKenzie, Frs. J. Badden, W. Melican,  
P. Downs, K. Arundell, D. Torpy.  
Apology Fr. S. Bell.

Barmelite Sr. Mary Labor and companion Sister  
House of Judith from the Barmelite House of Prayer,  
Prayer. Millgrove were admitted to the  
meeting.

Sr. Mary told of her vocation as a  
Barmelite Sister which began at Parkes  
in 1955. In 1973 she felt drawn to place  
her contemplative prayer life in the  
midst of the people. After discussions  
with various people, Sr. Mary and two  
companions moved into a house at Bairdstone  
on the Feast of the Epiphany, 1974. At the  
end of 1974, they moved to Millgrove where  
a house was provided by the Pallottine  
Fathers. In October 1976 a house was  
opened in Perth.

Sr. Mary now has 19 members in  
her community and is prepared to establish  
a new House of Prayer with an initial  
community of five. They have received  
invitations to the Discalced Barmelite  
Monastery, at Minto, N.S.W. and to the  
Archdiocese of Adelaide. Sr. Mary felt she  
would like to offer a Barmelite House  
of Prayer to the Diocese of Ballarat.  
A suitable building would have to be  
found. Sr. Mary said she was not in  
favour of an institutional style of building.

Bishop Coulter thanked the sisters for coming to the meeting prior to their retirement from the meeting after their presentation.

(iii) Fr H

The meeting decided that Fr. Kevin Arundell, E.V. for Religious and Fr. Bill Melican would discuss with Fr. John Martin, P.P. Colac, the availability of the Birregurra Presbytery as a site and the likely reaction of people in Birregurra and surrounding areas. Msgr. J. McKenzie would discuss with Fr. L. Sheahan the need for, and a possible site, for a House of Prayer in the Sunraysia area.

(iv) B

Minutes  
of the  
Previous  
Meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1979, at the Redemptorist Conastery were read and confirmed on the motion of Fr. K. Arundell, seconded by Msgr. J. McKenzie.

Minutes of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 1979 were read and confirmed on the motion of Fr. P. Madden, seconded by Fr. D. Jorpy.

Matters  
Arising  
from the  
Minutes.

(i) CATHOLIC  
ENQUIRY  
CENTRE

The Bishop reported on a discussion with Fr. G. McKenzie who doubted his ability to travel the Diocese on promotion work. Fr. Paul Mercovich and Fr. V. Keating have agreed to assist Fr. McKenzie in the promotion of the C.E.C. Fr. W. van der Bamp has also expressed interest in the work.

(ii) MC AULEY  
COLLEGE  
CHAPLAIN

Fr. B. Coffey has agreed to accept the position of Chaplain to the College. The Bishop has informed the Parish Priests of Donald and St. Bernard of the appointment.

(v) B

(iii) Fr. D. Heath. (A) Fr. D. Heath was happy to present his case to the consultants. (cf. Minutes 12/2/79.)

(B) Following a discussion with the Bishop on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1979, Fr. D. Heath decided to withdraw his application for permission to return to Chile until next Christmas. The Bishop will be attending a meeting in Bay regarding the staffing of Catholic College and it is hoped the obligations of the Diocese to the Seminary will be clearer after that meeting.

(iv) Birnegura. The Bishop reported that he had written letters to the Parish Priests of Colac and Apollo Bay asking them to decide on a boundary between the parishes and to the allocation of resources. The response was a map presented by Fr. R. Claffey with a suggested boundary based on electoral areas.

Moved Msgr L. Pizzalini, seconded Fr. W. Keelican: That the proposed boundary be displayed in both Parishes, Apollo Bay and Colac, and providing that there are no serious objections that the Parish of Birnegura be formally closed and divided according to the proposed boundary.

(v) BOORT. No written submission has been received concerning the pastoral care of Boort. Fr. B. Coffey had verbally stated that Fr. Peter Brennan, P.P. Chumbatook would begin celebrating a Sunday Mass from Easter Sunday. No

arrangements concerning finance have been made between the parishes.

## AGENDA ITEMS.

### I. STAFFING.

1. The Bishop reported that arrangements are in hand for Fr. Dan Torpy to begin a three year course at the Gregorian University, Rome. The course to which only twelve students are admitted will begin in October. The course will equip Fr. D. Torpy to be involved in formation work as part of the Seminary staff.

2. Fr. Paul Ryan has returned to Australia but has requested to be released from the Ballarat Diocese for pastoral work in the U.S.A. It was agreed that he be released but should not cut himself off completely from the Diocese at this stage. He could go to the U.S.A. on loan for a period "ad experimentum".

3. The Bishop reported that Fr. Brendan Davey, Stawell, will be away from June 10<sup>th</sup> until August 18<sup>th</sup> attending a Liturgy course in Brisbane. Fr. W. O'Halloran, C.S.S.R. will supply in Stawell.

Fr. Eric Bryant, Portland, will attend the same course. The Bishop will approach the Redemptorist Fathers for a supply for Portland.

### II TERTIARY STUDENTS PASTORAL CARE.

The Tertiary chaplain, Fr. John McKinnon, had suggested to the Bishop that Miss Helena White might be available for work with Tertiary students. Because of employment possibilities, she has since changed her

PROFE

mind but Fr. J. McKinnon would like to know the mind of the consultants about his seeking some help - lay or religious - with his work.

The following ideas surfaced in the discussion:

- (i) That the proposal of assistance to the chaplain be approved in principle;
- (ii) That there should be some structure and support for the chaplain and assistants to provide hope of success.
- (iii) That the possibility of a salary for an assistant be acknowledged because the chaplain is now supported by his parish.

No conclusions were reached but it was resolved that Fr. J. McKinnon be invited to the next consultants' meeting to discuss his work.

#### PROPERTIES

##### (i) Parish of ST. ARNAUD.

The Church of England is interested in buying the unused Stuart Mill Church. It was agreed that a valuation be obtained.

Moved: Msgr L. Fiscobini, seconded Msgr Fr. McKenzie: That permission be given to Fr. Harney, P.P. St. Arnaud to sell the Stuart Mill Church.

##### (ii) APOLLO BAY.

(a.) Fr. R. Lalaffey, P.P. sought the opinion of the meeting on the desirability of trying to acquire the house next door to the church for use as a Presbytery. Parishioners who had been consulted had agreed with

the proposition. It was decided that Fr. Claffey should carefully consider the proposal, in particular, the suitability of the building for use as a Presbytery; the advantage over the present site, and the cost involved.

(b) Fr. R. Claffey had also spoken to the Bishop about the possibility of establishing a Mass Centre at Aireys Inlet.

### (iii) EDENHOPE.

Fr. Gerry Ridsdale with the encouragement of the Parish School Board sought permission to sell a block of land near the school playground area. Probable value of the block \$3,000 - 4,000.

Moved: Fr. P. Downes, seconded Mgr. J. McKenzie. That if the Parish is in agreement, the block be sold.

Consu

### DIOCESAN OFFICES.

The Bishop reported on Mr. Peter Tegeelove's proposal to move a demountable classroom from Aquinas College to the rear of the Education Office and on the disrepair of the present offices, both facts called for some decision in planning for the future.

A wide ranging discussion covered such topics as:

- (i) the use of 1444 Sturt St.,
- (ii) the subdivision of 1444 Sturt St.,
- (iii) availability of finance,
- (iv) new offices on the present site,
- (v) viability of Aquinas College,
- (vi) possible restructuring of Cathedral Parish Primary Schools,
- (vii) activity of the previous investigating committee,

- (viii) consultation process among the priests,  
 (ix) engaging an architect. It was decided  
 not to engage an architect at this stage,  
 (x) since any definite decision would take  
 some years to be accomplished, some  
 painting and repairs to the fence and  
 buildings in Lyons St. Bld. should be  
 done immediately.

Moved: Fr. J. Scadden, seconded by  
 Msgr. J. McKenzil.

That it be communicated to the  
 Senate of Priests that the Consultors  
 favour the building of new diocesan  
 offices on the present site. Such a  
 new building would be financed from  
 the sale of diocesan property.

CONSULTORS.

The three year term for the  
 present group of consultors expires  
 during 1979. (They were appointed on  
 July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1976.) The Bishop thanked  
 the consultors for their efforts.

The meeting closed at 3-40 P.M.

+ Robert Tompkins  
 Bishop of Ballarat.  
 19/6/1979.