

Te Whetu O Te Moana - Star of the Sea Marlborough Catholic Parish

61 Maxwell Road, Blenheim. Marlborough 7201 New Zealand
+64 (0)3 578 0038 office@staroftheseamarlb.co.nz
www.staroftheseamarlb.co.nz



21/06/2024

Dear Parishioners

The Star of the Sea Parish Steering Group(SG) continues to meet regularly to implement the recommendations regarding the Parish's churches and properties that was presented to Cardinal John in 2019, and subsequently approved by him.

The SG comprises Tom Harrison, Gary Connolly, Simon Popham, Belinda Vavasour, Blair McLean, Greg Stretch, and Father Seph Pijfers. At the request of the SG to Archbishop Paul Martin, SM, Father Michael McCabe remains a SG member while we await our new Parish Priest. This has been agreed to by Archbishop Paul.

Currently, the SG is working on selling the vacant sections at Ward and Renwick. Under the Canon Law of the Church this is a formal process. The recommendation to sell the two sections of bare land at Ward and Renwick was made to the Parish Finance and Administration Committee. They then wrote to Archbishop Paul requesting permission to sell the vacant sections. After consulting with his Board of Administration and his College of Consultors Archbishop Paul has given his approval on 30 May 2024 for both properties to be marketed by the Parish Finance Committee.

During this past week, the Steering Group met on Monday 10 June 2024. On the following two days Steering Group members, together with Fathers Seph and Michael, met with parishioners from Renwick and Ward to update them on the marketing of these two properties. At its meeting with Renwick parishioners the recommendation was made to sell both properties at Renwick at the same time. Accordingly, the Finance Committee have written to Archbishop Paul Martin, SM, for his approval of the sale of both properties together. The Steering Group will continue to explore ways the former Renwick Church can be preserved at an alternative site.

The SG understand it's been a long process so please continue to keep the SG in your prayers as we continue to work our way through the recommendations following the 2019 review.

Any member of the SG is available to answer any questions parishioners may have.

God Bless

Greg Stretch
Chairperson
SOTS Steering Group