



ACFC 2025 Annual General Meeting

Purpose	ACFC PASTORAL & LEADERSHIP TEAM AGM
Venue	St Benedict's crypt
Date	12 July 2025, Saturday at 11:30am
Attendees	Fr. Gilbert Ramos, Ariel Abrogena, Lucy Ainsworth, Kookie Samin, Jonathan Arcular, Dadai Norman, Jeremie de Guzman, Rey Grafia, Brian Gonzales, Rose Manlapig, Junjie Cartagena, Elisa Saberon, Paolo Zamora, Jerom Miole, Dimple Espenido Kok, Pilar Boyle, Alma Villalobos, RJ Parnay, Henrick Guevarra, Fred Villanueva, Cecille Delutta, Bernie Delutta, Sonia Bonaobra, Kris Ryan Alansigan, Thelma Carlos, Lina Magalong, Maimai Sirilan, Bong Sirilan, Mercy Catoto, Sylvia Lamadrid, Jheany Panadero, Robert Baniel, Cherry Baniel, Josie Alob, Arlene Barraca, Carol Lim, Lizza Yntela, Michael Mitra, Ruth Paler, Hazel Viente, Bingle Ruiz, Jun Ruiz, Kenneth Panadero
Apologies	Lino Orquego, Carmen Shaw, Oscar Catoto, Fe Abrogena

	ITEMS	ACTIONS
1. Approval of previous minutes	Minutes of previous meeting (17 Feb 2024) approved and seconded	Dadai Norman - A Ariel Abrogena - S
2. Agenda	Leadership/Devotional Group Reports 1. Filipino Catholic Community (FCC) - Supported the ACFC initiative and activities - Emphasized encouraging better mass attendance - Goals include updating ACFC Charter and Organizational Structure - Plans to establish a committee for youth development - Provided caring services for sick, dead, etc. 2. Our Lady of Manaoag - A total of \$563.20 was collected and given to ACFC to assist with parish expenses (premises and electricity). - A donation of \$610 was made to support rural children in Manaoag Parish, Pangasinan. - The Feast Day of Our Lady of Manaoag will be on 26 April 2026, with the Nine-Day Novena scheduled from 17–25 April 2026. - Packed lunch distribution will be increased next year to better accommodate attendees. 3. Our Lady of Candelaria	Pilar Boyle Lina Magalong Maimai Sirilan

	12. God's Love - Have weekly prayer meeting praise and worship - Every 4th Sunday for prayer meeting is always held at St. Benedict's Meeting room with Father Gilbert - Always celebrate birthdays and anniversaries to honor the Lord - Giving services in other parishes such as Ministers of the Word - Planning to do better in spiritual growth 13. Legion of Mary - Always doing legion work to hospitals, retirement villages and the sick - Looking for recruitment of new members - Setting of new Praesidiums in other parishes due to demand - Branching out new Praesidiums to set up in Balmoral, which died due to lack of members 14. San Pedro Calungsod - 2 April is the past feast day but was changed - Fr Gilbert suggested to have the feast day on October instead to dedicate Holy week celebrations during Holy week months - ACFC is supportive and being led by Spiritual Leader Fr. Sam Pulanco - Have given fliers to support schedule for the rest of the year activities 15. Voice of God Catholic Charismatic Renewal Group - Life in the Spirit seminar has started every Friday - Doing Healing Masses with Sacred Heart group - 2nd and 4th Friday are for Praise and Worship 16. Our Lady of Peñafrancia - 21 September 2025 will be the feast day - The feast day will be held on St. John Vianney, Hillsborough - Having home visitations with the image of Mary - Everyone is invited to join the feast day 17. Auckland Catholic Filipino Chaplaincy (ACFC) Choir - First service as a choir was on 29 December 2024 - Sang at the first Kasalang Bayan and Easter vigil during Lenten Season - Teaching the members all the norms to follow - Still open for new members Individual Report of ACFC Pastoral Council Members Financial Report - 2024 income of \$142,643 which increased revenue of 31% from 2023 - The amount of money is not ours, only entrusted to us - \$200 is donated to Catholic Diocese of Auckland monthly - The collection from 2023 to 2024 increased of 24% - \$1,300 regular donation to St. Benedicts - Increased in novena, collections, fundraisings and donations - Expenses increased by 57% from 2023 - 1/3 of money goes to the house account, allocation is 33% - Migrant outreach – food gift cards, social events, medical and jobs assistance - Surplus decreased by 25%, from FY2024-\$25,843	Elisa Saberon Carol Lim Dimple Espenido-Kok Cecille Delutta Fred Villanueva Henrick Guevarra Rey Grafia
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- Inherent are unavoidable, Necessities is relevant, and DSP is case to case - Highlights: - Improved mass attendance, - Simbang gabi - Supporting Philippine Charities, - First Filipino Green MP Paulo Garcia - Knights of Rizal - Having first Kasalang Bayan - Lowlights: - ACFC Rise Up Festival low participation from community - Projects 2024 (Completed) - Replaced old choir loft chairs - New Priest vestments - New Mass equipments - Projects 2025 - Kasalang Bayan second batch - Emergency Wheelchair - 2026 Expectations - Independent ACFC trust - Compliance of Diocesan Finance norms - 2026 implementation	
Liturgy and Technology Report - New members have joined for Ministry of the Word - Have created and established ACFC Choir in 2024 - Senior Altar servers have moved with other ministries - Some choirs are reluctant to operate own powerpoints - Devotional groups had minimal coordination - 3 Year plan for Liturgy and Technology: - Document Norms for all lay ministers: dress code, process and procedures - Formation Choirs- Song selections and focus on roman missal - Video inductions for all lay ministers - Updated ACFC website style - 2 new members joining the tech committee - Created a volunteer page on the website - Establish a cybersmart culture - Establish online registrations for services - Having own ACFC web user accounts - Having ACFC Pastoral Council Organizational M365 accounts	Brian Gonzales
Youth coordination and Knights of the Altar - All 29 altar servers are serving both the 9:30am parish mass and 11:30am Filipino mass - Having catchup with youth every term - Investiture of new members to be confirmed - January 2024: All altar servers joined sinulog and novena masses	Jeremie de Guzman

	- Additional points to include: - We must focus not only on small chaplaincy communities, but on the wider Church. - Embrace synodality — the ability to listen to parishioners and walk with them. - The Church is not a democracy — it operates through structure, obedience, and mission. - The basic unit of the Church is the parish, not the chaplaincy. - The chaplaincy has no formal rights or privileges, aside from the responsibilities entrusted to the Chaplain. - The purpose of the chaplaincy is to maintain harmony, not cause conflict within the Church. - Every chaplaincy must have a base church, such as St. Benedict's, which serves as the ACFC's base.	
3. Catholic Diocese of Auckland	- Ethnic Leaders Formation Seminar - The format of the seminar needs to be revised to better suit the current needs. - A registration/information link will be shared with various ethnic community groups.	Fr. Gilbert Ramos
4. Other Business	- Police vetting and safeguarding clearances must be completed — especially for those who will be interacting with children or elderly individuals.	
5. Question and Answer	- D. Norman inquired about the ACFC Trust entity. - R. Grafia explained: a. For funds below \$500k, no audit is required. b. For funds above \$500k, an independent audit is required. c. Activities and services involving volunteers are reported. - Sylvia LaMadrid asked about the 33% donation rebate. ACFC Finance clarified that official receipts will only be issued to those who have registered for the annual pledge/donation program and not for one-off donations during Sunday Mass. - Regarding school preference forms, Fr. Gilbert noted he uses St Benedict's Parish for issuing preferences. - Fr. Gilbert emphasized the need to assist priests in discerning whether a matter is theirs to handle or not. - Lina Magalong inquired about the Safeguarding (SG) schedule and whether there is any upcoming renewal. - Sylvia LaMadrid asked whom to contact for help in cases of domestic violence. - Junjie shared a personal experience and stressed the importance of knowing which proper authorities to engage for assistance. - R. Paler asked whether a 1-month notice is acceptable when inviting Fr. Gilbert as a celebrant. He also asked if the ACFC Choir is currently singing in other parishes.	

	a. Response: <i>Not at the moment</i>. The choir sings only at St Benedict's for now. - Brian requested that the devotional groups must coordinate internally and with liturgy committee in advance first before: a. Disseminating any information b. Changing the roster c. Reassigning MOW (Ministers of the Word) or choir duties - Jhenny (KPF) shared her experience of building God-loving communities as a way to preserve family unity and prevent relationship issues. - D. Norman expressed concern about the high drowning rate among Filipinos, suggesting that ACFC should organize a seminar instead of leaving it to individual or group efforts. - Fr. Gilbert reiterated that Filipinos also lead in suicide rates among ethnic communities. He requested that Filipinos not be endorsed for GMC letters unless they are personally known to him.	
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Meeting ended: 4:30PM

Prepared by: Paolo Angelo Zamora 16 July 2025

Approved by: Kookie Samin