

St. Joseph and St. Patrick's Wemyss Bay.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Thursday 7th May 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Father Berry, Brian Blacklaw (Chair), Gillian Hall (Minute), Joan Riddell, Louise Redmond, Michael Di Paola, Marie O'Hagan, Jim McColl, Marcus Barry, Dora Beeteson, John Wilson.

Apologies: Isobel Quinn, Owen Quinn, Andrew McShane, Mark Galvin, Hazel Mitchell

1. WELCOME AND PRAYER

Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting and Father Berry opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. MINUTE FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minute from meeting held on Thursday 5th February 2015 was accepted without any changes.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Passover:** Michael advised that the Passover meal this year went very well. Brian advised that Inverkip Church will take over the Passover meal service from 2016 and then it is proposed that the hosting is shared between our parish and the churches in Inverkip and Skelmorlie in rotation. Father Berry suggested that the booklet accompanying the Passover Service is reprinted with the print enlarged. He also congratulated the organisers and all involved in the Passover celebrations over the past few years.
- **Back Pack Appeal:** Louise advised that this project has been a huge success with approximately 140 of the Parish branded bags being returned so far. Father Berry will continue to chase for any bags still to be returned and Louise will arrange for Mary's Meals to come and collect the bags. It was suggested that a photograph of the collection of bags, along with some of the children of the Parish is taken, possibly involving the Greenock Telegraph. Louise will liaise with Julia regarding the logistics of this.
- **Website:** Brian advised that the website is being updated on a regular basis and Father Berry will put reminders in the bulletin to encourage Parishioners to have a look. It was suggested that once the minutes from the PPC meetings were agreed and accepted that they could be made available on the website along with rotas for Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Cleaners and Readers etc. This matter was discussed and it was agreed that this would be a useful and informative addition.
- **Krakow:** Joan advised that unfortunately due to insufficient numbers the trip to Krakow has been cancelled.
- **Development Team:** Brian advised that the team have had two busy meetings so far. Items for discussion included parking and the related health and safety issues. These discussions were ongoing and another meeting is to be held soon.

- **Thank You Evening:** The date has been provisionally set for Thursday 11th June 2015 and an open invitation is to be made to all Parishioners. Father Berry will give details of the night, a sheet will be put at the back of the church and anyone wishing to attend will RSVP to give an idea of numbers

4. AOCB

- **Synod Update:** The group has been appointed, plans are in place and Brian advised that the Diocese website shows no recent update on the Synod.
- **Assisted Suicide Bill:** A press conference was held recently announcing the full report on the proposals for the ASB. The Bill will be presented to Parliament in approximately 10 day's time. The meeting was reminded that we can still make our feelings known on this subject to our MSPs .
- **Welcome Brochure:** The logistics of producing and distributing a welcome brochure for the surrounding areas was discussed. It was agreed that for now if a leaflet was produced we would target local community notice boards, shops and the Wemyss Bay Caravan Park. A more prominent sign for outside the Church was discussed and this will be investigated and discussed again at future meetings.
- **Youth Mass:** Owen asked if the Council would consider establishing a Mass for young people, with age appropriate Liturgy and music. This was discussed and Father Berry said that he could ask at Mass if the youth could provide some input on this topic. The definition of 'youth' was suggested as from school leaving age, up to late twenties for the purpose of this Youth Mass. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.
- **Holy Year:** Dora felt that during the last Holy Year we did not celebrate due to the fact we were awaiting the appointment of a new Bishop. Father Berry felt that the Holy Year celebrations will coincide with the Synod and we should await direction from the Bishop. Brian advised that the devotion to Our Lady of Paisley will be celebrated in the coming year and the Icon of Our Lady of Paisley will be in our Parish around February 2016.
- **Crowding at Easter Services:** Dora expressed health and safety concerns at Mass when it is particularly busy. The need for a Passkeeper to help allocate seating, organise Communion etc was discussed and will again be discussed further at future meetings .It was also suggested the hall could be used as an overflow.
Marie enquired as to whether Father Berry would consider a Children's Service on Good Friday. Father Berry advised that due to timing of a Children's Service there would be no Kissing of the Cross at this service as it is held too early in the day. Another health and safety issue at busy Masses is again parking and this will be an ongoing topic for discussion.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Brian thanked everyone for their attendance. The next meeting will be Thursday 04th June 2015.