

ST MARY'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 7 June 2017



PRESENT Father Eamonn, Roger Townley, Angela McNulty, Morag McGrath, Ann McQueeney, Pat Nicol, Maeve Jones, Fran O'Brien

APOLOGIES Patrick Ironmonger, Gordon Sutherland

Roger welcomed Morag McGrath, who has recently joined the Parish Council.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

- Minutes were read and approved.

MATTERS ARISING

- The Golden Jubilee mural has now been cleaned.
- A new book for the prayers for the sick has been purchased.

PPC CORRESPONDENCE

- After running the Prayer Line for a number of years, George McDermott has asked if someone else could take over this role. A note could be included in the bulletin, to ask if anyone would be interested in doing this.
- The Adoration Group meets the first Saturday of each month, 10.30 – 4.30pm, for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It is often difficult for members of the group to cover all of these times. Father Eamonn suggested that the group could consider meeting for one hour, after Mass on the first Saturday in the month.

FORWARD PLANNING

- The Mass for Parish Groups was held on Pentecost Sunday, instead of the usual midweek Mass. This allowed many more parishioners to attend and then meet in the hall afterwards for tea and coffee. Many thanks to everyone who helped to organise this, distribute the parish group newsletters etc. Also thanks to Averil Baker for all of her help.
- Father Eamonn has been in contact with Father Jim McManus from the Redemptorist Order, concerning the possibility of holding a Mission at St Mary's. It has now been confirmed that this will take place 28 April - 5 May 2018.

YOUTH GROUP

- A sausage sizzle is planned for Friday 16 June, 6.30 – 8.00pm.
- A meeting was held with the parents, some of whom have offered to help with the youth club on a rota basis. New volunteers would be very welcome.
- The suggestion of the children being involved in the Pope Benedict Caritas Award (6th year pupils) and the Pope Francis Award (P.6 and P.7) was discussed. Further discussion will take place in August.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Information continues to be maintained on the website and Twitter feed as appropriate.
- Patrick has updated the Parish Group newsletter on the website.

FIRST COMMUNION

- A Thanksgiving Mass was held in the school, followed by tea.
- Confirmation will continue to be held separately from First Communion. Confirmation will be celebrated in February, First Communion in May.

CHURCH REFURBISHMENTS / HALL

- Three cladding panels need to be replaced.
- Estimates for the speaker and the loop systems are being obtained.

EMBRACING CHANGE

- About 60 people (10 from our Parish) attended the evening in Saltcoats to learn more about the Distance – Learning course offered by Maryville Institute in Birmingham. Many of them have signed up for the course.

A.O.B.

- The Parish Golf outing will take place on Saturday 6 August. Non golfers are welcome to meet for high tea in the clubhouse afterwards.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 30 August 7.00pm