

St John the Baptist and St Kentigern Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 19 February 2020

1. **Welcome and Opening Prayer:** Fr Jeremy welcomed everyone to the meeting which began with a prayer, emailed by a parishioner, for the work of the new pastoral council.

2. **Present:** Fr Jeremy, Karen Birnie, Janice Gomez, Marlene McCallum, Brian Murray, Rita Phillips, Peter Robertson, Anne Simpson.

3. **Apologies:** Martin Spears.

4. **Introductions**

Council members briefly introduced themselves as not everyone knew each other at this first meeting.

5. **PPC Constitution**

Copies of the PPC Constitution were circulated. It was suggested that the wording make it clearer that the council does not mandate any action independently of the parish priest and that it would be helpful if some sub committees which might be set up e.g. social, outreach and youth would produce a report for the PPC.

a. **Chair and Secretary:** Peter Robertson agreed to take on the role of Chair and Marlene McCallum that of secretary. Anne Simpson agreed to chair meetings should Peter be absent.

b. **Frequency of Meetings:** It was agreed that the number of meetings in a year should be increased from four to at least six or more at present in order to make progress with the priorities established at the Parish Assembly.

6. **Review of Transitional Council, Parish Assembly and Assembly Follow-up**

Fr Jeremy circulated notes outlining the ideas and priorities discussed at the Parish Assembly in October, the thoughts of those who had attended the follow up meeting in December and had participated in the groups discussing the three identified priorities of Youth, Social and Outreach and the proposals for children's activities that had subsequently been put forward via suggestion slips. During an extensive discussion the following points and suggestions were made:

- More ideas for youth activities would be welcome. Use of the suggestion box could be promoted.
- It would be good to start with small youth projects before considering the possibility of a paid youth worker.
- To develop a sense of community and introduce people to the idea of staying after Mass some short fifteen minute activities could be offered immediately Mass had ended.
- A movie afternoon with a family type film could be offered.
- Another Family Day for all ages, similar to the one organised at Drumbrae in 2019, might be held. The organisers to be asked if they might be willing to be involved again.
- A one-day Parish Pilgrimage was proposed for June. Brian to speak to Mary Strachan, who had organised the previous year's pilgrimage to Lindisfarne, to see if she could assist.

Action: Brian

- Fr Jeremy confirmed that the two Masses for the Sick this year would be held at St John's on 25 April and 10 October. Young people could be involved with the Mini Vinnies helping and children singing.
- Children might be invited to sing at the Community Lunch or, alternatively, at a special afternoon event.
- Young people undertaking the Caritas programme would be encouraged to help the passkeepers.
- Children could be invited to participate in preparing and saying the Bidding Prayers on Laetare Sunday, 22 March. The Children's Liturgy leaders would be asked to help facilitate.

- As a number of suggestions for social and craft activities had been made by PPC members and at the two parish meetings, it was agreed that balance was needed in the yearly calendar to space out events. Karen volunteered to draw up a social programme to be brought to the next meeting.
Action: Karen
- The possibility of co-operation with the University of the Third Age had been mentioned. Marlene to make enquiries.
Action: Marlene

7. Agenda for next meeting

More detailed planning on how to move forward with the parish priorities would be the main item for the next meeting. PPC members would, by the time of the next meeting, have had more opportunity to consider the parish assembly and follow up notes.

**8. Dates for Next Meetings: Tuesday 24 March at 7pm at St John's
Tuesday 26 May at 7pm at St John's**

There being no further business the meeting closed with prayer at 8.50pm.