

## St John the Baptist and St Kentigern Parish Pastoral Council

### Minutes of Meeting held on 17 October 2023

**Present:** Fr Jeremy, Anne Simpson, Rita Phillips, Karen Birnie, Brian Murray, Martin Spears, Marlene McCallum

**1. Opening Prayer:** Fr Jeremy opened the meeting with a prayer asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

**3. Matters Arising from Meeting 17 August 2023**

- a) **Bunting Prayers Event:** It was decided that the bunting prayers and brunch event proposed for 5 November should be rearranged and the St John's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary film, of approximately thirty minutes duration, would now be shown after both St John's Masses on the weekend of 11/12 November. Refreshments would be served on both occasions. Arrangements to install a new Lincat water boiler in St John's kitchen were in progress. This would necessitate reorganisation of the kitchen. It was agreed that the current urn should not be used in the meantime as a recent incident had highlighted safety issues.
- b) **St Kentigern's Social Evening:** The ceilidh had been enjoyed by all and Fr Jeremy thanked all who had helped. The provision of an affordable evening out had been much appreciated and it was suggested that other opportunities be provided for those who struggled to afford to socialise. A Christmas sing-a-long at St John's on 5 December from 2.00 to 3.30pm, with refreshments, was suggested as a trial, with the possibility of more regular events. It was thought at least two musicians would be needed.

**4. Sycamore Faith Formation Courses**

A meeting had taken place with parishioners interested in running sessions in faith formation and renewal, beginning with a Lent course aimed primarily at practising Christians or those with some Christian background. This would be followed by a weeklong parish mission if it could be booked. Fr Jeremy to contact the Redemptorists. Another enquiry course was planned for the following autumn aimed at the wider community. **Action: Fr Jeremy**

**5. Advent and Christmas**

- Christmas Eve Mass times to be 6pm, with carols at 5.30pm, in St John's and 8.30pm, with carols at 8pm, in St Kentigern's. Christmas Day Mass to be at the usual times of 9.30am in St Kentigern's and 11.30am in St John's. As Christmas Eve is a Sunday, the usual Sunday Masses would take place for the Fourth Sunday of Advent in the morning.
- Prayer paperchains would be created in both churches on Sunday 10 December, replacing the prayer bunting event originally scheduled for 5 November. Martin to organise in St Kentigern's and Karen in St John's, with bacon rolls being offered. **Action: Martin/Karen**
- Candlelit Masses followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation would take place on Mondays at 7pm. 4 December and 18 December in St John's and 11 December in St Kentigern's.
- On Sunday 3 December after Mass in St Kentigern's there would be a family Coffee and Chat with a short film.
- It was suggested that an Advent Sycamore course could be held. To be discussed at the next Sycamore planning meeting on 5 November.

- The St Kentigern's Christmas lunch organised by the SSVP would take place on Saturday 2 December.
- The Martha and Mary activity and reflection event would take place in St Kentigern's Hall on Saturday 25 November.
- The St Kentigern's Christmas Fair would take place after Mass on Sunday 26 November.

#### **6. Parishioners' Suggestions**

In response to information received by a parishioner, Karen had participated in a webinar run by Eco-Congregation Scotland about decarbonising church buildings. Multiple grants could be available for work needed, including 80% of the cost of replacing boilers. The criteria for grants took into account the location and usage of a church. Draught proofing was a basic action which could be very effective. There was discussion about the opening and closing of particular doors in both parish churches. The webinar had encouraged the use of renewable energy where possible. However, the parish's supplies were part of the archdiocesan contract. The details of the work on St Kentigern's windows were still under review.

#### **7. Any Other Business**

- A parishioner had enquired if there had been a post-covid directive about how to conduct the Sign of Peace. Fr Jeremy clarified that there had been no directive, so it was left to the discretion of individuals.
- The annual St Kentigern's Feast Day celebration and Big Breakfast would take place after 9.30 Mass on Sunday 14 January.

#### **8. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 16 January at 7.30pm at St Kentigern's.**

There being no further business the meeting closed with prayer at 9.15pm.