

St John the Baptist and St Kentigern Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 16 April 2024

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

Apologies: Rita Phillips

1. **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with a prayer for guidance.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Proposed – Fr Jeremy; Seconded - Karen

3. **Matters Arising from Meeting 16 January 2024**

- a) **Singalong in St John's Hall:** The event planned for 9 April had been cancelled as it had not been possible to provide musical accompaniment. September was suggested as a possible future date.
- b) **Sycamore programme:** It was agreed that a meeting to review the Sycamore session evenings, which had been aimed primarily at parishioners, should be held soon in order to prepare for an Autumn enquiry course for people who wished to explore the Christian faith. Marlene to arrange a meeting with the volunteers on 25 April. **Action: Marlene**
- c) **Use of St John's Oratory:** A keypad for access was required.
- d) **Newsletter Sick List:** There had only been one request for inclusion.
- e) **Purchase of cleaning supplies for church halls:** Responsibilities for this had now been agreed.
- f) **Archdiocesan award to Margot Donoghue:** Parishioners had appreciated the chance to gather together on a social occasion in the hall. Fr Jeremy thanked Anne, Karen and all who had helped.

4. **Parish Mission**

The following details were discussed:

- a) Arrangements for the Mass for the Sick on the Thursday were being made by the SSVP Conferences of both churches.
- b) A request for assistance in serving and baking for the week's events to be sent to the newsletter. **Action: Marlene**
- c) Ideas for entertainment for a party after the final service on Friday 24 May were discussed and it was agreed that Fr Jeremy, Brian and Karen would speak to some musically-talented parishioners about participation and what form that might take. Brian also to speak to amateur group Roughcast about a short performance. **Action: Fr Jeremy, Brian, Karen**
- d) Wine, sausage rolls and sandwiches to be served at the party. **Action: Anne, Karen, Marlene**
- e) The possibility of the school choir and parish musicians taking part in the mission services was mentioned.
- f) Details of the Mission to be posted on the parish Facebook page. **Action: Fr Jeremy**

5. Parishioners Suggestions

- A Sign Up Sunday to recruit volunteers for various ministries had been suggested. It was agreed that on a Sunday following the parish mission, sheets, with a list of the various tasks for which volunteers were required, would be distributed in the churches. If a parishioner ticked the appropriate box to indicate interest and gave contact details, the leader of that group would get in touch to discuss further and confirm whether or not any screening such as a PVG was necessary for the role. Fr Jeremy to draft the list of volunteer roles.

Action: Fr Jeremy

- An enquiry had been made about having suggestion boxes or sheets in both churches but it was thought that the newsletter item asking for suggestions in advance of PPC meetings was now sufficient.
- There was a suggestion that children should be more involved at Mass, for instance in offertory processions. It was noted that procedures were different in the two churches, due to tradition, layout and other practical matters, but it was agreed that, if timings could be co-ordinated in St John's, the children returning from Children's Liturgy might be able to take part in the offertory procession. Older children at St Kentigern's had recently become involved with reading at Mass on the Family Coffee and Connect Sundays.

6. Any Other Business

- Projected numbers for the Cyrenians homeless event to take place on 24 April in St Kentigern's Hall were low but at the time of the meeting it was still planned to hold the event.
- The Finance Committee were interested in PPC members' views on tarmac surfacing of the grass at the side of St Kentigern's near the car park to provide more car parking and to prevent damage to the grass when cars were parked on it. PPC members took the view that there was sufficient on-street parking around the church and that there was no need, for both environmental and financial reasons, to carry out the work. Anne to look for 'Do Not Park' signs to prevent people parking on the grass. **Action: Anne**
- Fr Jeremy gave a brief explanation of how parish funds were affected by the work that needed to be done in the churches, with the St Kentigern's windows project being the most urgent. The replacement cooker for St John's Hall kitchen would be another gas appliance as the cost of installing an electric cooker point would be very expensive.

7. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 14 May at 7.30pm at St Kentigern's.

There being no further business the meeting closed with prayer at 9.45pm.