

MINUTES OF PARISH PASTORAL MEETING

HELD IN ST COLUMBA'S HALL ON

WEDNESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER AT 4.30pm.

PRESENT: Fr William, Fr James, Ann McCarthy, Ann Mosquera, Amy O'Donnell, Sue Carr, Tim Moore, Carol Galvin, Pauline Rourke, Peter Devine and Eileen Irwin.

The meeting opened with a prayer.

APOLOGIES: Lawrence Hordley, Tom Coyle, Mike Maxwell, Freda Blundell & Francis Coxhead.

RESIGNED: Emily O'Donnell & Maura Connolly have resigned from the Pastoral Council. We thank them for their participation and the work carried out. Letters have been sent.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

It was agreed that a sentence would be added to the previous minutes, Update Since the Lockdown, item 4 saying "We are all grateful to the significant number of people who contributed to the continuing life of the parish under lockdown".

Ann McCarthy proposed the minutes and Carol Galvin seconded them.

UPDATE FROM FR WILLIAM:

Fr William thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Since the last meeting weekday Masses are taking place on a Wednesday at St Columba's and on a Friday at St Theresa's. Confessions are available at both churches. In the weeks before Advent it is hope to increase the daily Masses provided things have greatly improved. The two choir leaders are preparing something for later this month following the government's guidelines. Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and sacristans have been asked to assist at Mass and after training Advent would be a good time to start. Fr William and Fr James have been able to visit people.

COMMENTS ON VISION FOR THE PARISH:

Due to Covid 19 and the lockdown Fr William and Fr James haven't been able to settle into the community as well as they would have liked, but hope that this will be sorted when we get back to some sort of normality and we can see how things are. It is not something that needs to be hurried.

SUB COMMITTEE ISSUES

Communication: Fr James and Francis Coxhead have been working hard on the website etc. to make it appropriate to our needs. Fr James gave an update saying it was very hard to meet and work together because of different commitments and Francis has been away for some time. The website has two parts:- the front end which is seen by all and a back end which has restricted access. This provides security so it can't be hacked easily. We want to make it easy to find out information from the website. With the people we have in the parish we should be able to manage the new website, we would like to say a big thank you to Bernard for his tireless work on the website over the years. He has been using wordpress from his home computer and this responsibility now needs to be more widely shared. There will be a parish e mail address to be used so that individuals will not use their own emails. We will continue with the newsletter for those who can't access the website. David Savage's comments were noted and would

be addressed. All will be taken into consideration. Parishioners have been asked if and how they would like to be contacted in the future, we can use the information we already have to do this. Currently we are producing 125 newsletters for St Columba's and 75 for St Theresa's: this will be looked at on a weekly basis.

Finance: Colin Hedley has produced a comprehensive report on recent finances at St Columba's, we thank Colin for this. Income is falling greatly. There is money in the Central Fund but permission from the Diocese is required before we can access this. A basket will be put out for the weekday Masses as some parishioners are going to weekday Mass instead of Sunday. This to be put in the newsletter. There has been no income from St Columba's Hall since lockdown. A risk assessment for the hall will be sent to the Diocese asking if we can re-open the Hall for bookings as clubs who use us will go elsewhere if they can't use us. A Finance meeting will be arranged to consider the financial statement in more detail.

Liturgy: A note has been received from Lawrence. Catherine Green has stepped down from the Liturgy Group, a new member to be sought. Catherine to be thanked for her work. Fresh blood needed as some have been in the group for many years. Fr William and Fr James are looking into this to see how best to re-organise the group. We thank them on behalf of the PC for their good work and keep them in our prayers.

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Lynsey White has expressed an interest in coming back on the PC. She will be most welcome.

Fr William asked if there were any questions or clarification required.

A.O.B:

David Savage is willing to help as a newsletter editor to replace Anne Siddall who has stepped down. Ann to be thanked.

CAFOD: There is a Service of Creation being held at St Theresa's on Sunday 4 October at 3pm. Please put this date in your diary, more details to follow. Tom Coyle put some information about this in the newsletter last week.

Advent Talks are planned to start on the 17 November by David in the Newman Room. He has invited the pastoral Team members to attend.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is on Wednesday 21st October at 4.30pm in St Columba's Hall.