

**ST JOSEPH & ST PATRICK'S WEMYSS BAY
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 2ND MAY 2024**

Attendees: Helen McMunn (Chair), Canon Berry, Debbie Galbraith, Brian Blacklaw, Gerry McCauley, Martin McCauley, Michael Tormey, Marcus Barry, Anne Clark, Louise McCauley, Isobel Quinn, Gillian Hall

Apologies: Rob Reid, John Wilson, Kate Borthwick, Hazel Mitchell, Christine Malcolmson.

1. WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Helen (Chair) opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance. Fr Berry thereafter led everyone in prayer.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Helen requested a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 22nd February 2024. The minutes were proposed by Anne and seconded by Isobel.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

St Patrick's night: Anne stated the St Patrick's night was a success from the perspective that those who came along enjoyed themselves. However, she was disappointed with the overall attendance when compared to previous St Patrick's nights. There were approximately 32-35 attendees, but a far greater number of tickets sold. Anne advised food was purchased in line with ticket sales which led to much waste.

Louise suggested future events could be changed from a Friday to a Saturday. Fr Berry added that when, for example, a Race Night is held, people know exactly what to expect but perhaps this isn't the case with a St Patrick's night and maybe more information could be provided about what the night entails. Members agreed this was a valid point and will be considered for future events. The amount raised was circa £370.

Anne thanked those who helped, particularly Patricia and William McLaughlin and Louise.

Easter Egg Hunt: Louise reported that this was a great day once again (helped by the good weather). Approximately 40 people (over 2 masses) participated. There was no Tea Room this year therefore the set up was straightforward. Louise thanked Tracey and John McKenna for donating Easter eggs.

Appeal to Parishioners: Following an appeal to Parishioners for assistance, Helen advised that someone had volunteered to repair and manage the vestments. In addition, a parishioner made Easter Bonnets which were offered as raffle prizes - this raised £88. Helen proposed the funds could pay for items (i.e. vestments, altar clothes etc) needing replaced; Fr Berry agreed. Furthermore, a Parishioner volunteered to help with future social events. Unfortunately, there were no volunteers who could assist with matters relating to joinery, plumbing or heating/engineering work. Fr Berry acknowledged that making the appeal at Mass wasn't an easy task and thanked Helen for doing this.

Church Stall: Helen updated that the leaflet advertising items was left on pews but thus far there hasn't been a notable uptake. Members were mindful that Confirmations and First Communions were forthcoming, and it would be a good opportunity to remind Parishioners in the Bulletin. Thanks go to John Wilson who provided the display stand in the porch. Fr Berry requested an inventory was prepared so he can mention at Mass exactly what items are available for sale. Louise agreed to do this – Brian will add to the Bulletin.

Paul Laverty Ordination: Fr Berry provided an update on the service in Rome which he attended. Both Paul and his mother were said to be 'blown away' with events. Fr Berry has asked the PPC

to consider what we do for Paul's Ordination for Priesthood. Paul may want a mass of thanksgiving after his Ordination.

Readers' Lectern: Helen acknowledged previous discussions on the Lectern but noted it had already been removed. Gerry established that it's not liturgically correct to have two Lecterns therefore it was taken away. Fr Berry stated it can be a challenge manoeuvring around the Lectern when it's shared with readers. He noted some readers remain on the Altar until the Prayers of the Faithful and others leave and return. It was agreed that a chair would be placed to the other side of the Baptismal Font for those readers/cantors who wish to remain on the Altar after their readings.

4. CALENDAR EVENTS

Garden Party: Members agreed the Garden Party will be held on Sunday 2nd June 2023. Discussions thereafter focused on identifying Parishioners who could assist with certain tasks given the unavailability of regular helpers. An appeal will be made to Parishioners for donations for the bottle stall, raffle prizes and baking. Helen was keen to emphasise the requirement to know, in advance, what items people intended to bake. A request will be made for items to be handed in to the Church Hall on the Saturday night to avoid any last-minute panic baking! This was a specific point raised at the debrief last year. PPC members agreed the ticket price should remain at £3.

Foodbank: Brian advised there is normally a foodbank appeal at the end of June. Members agreed this will be done on Saturday 22nd June. Brian will add to the Bulletin after the Garden Party has taken place.

5. FABRIC COMMITTEE

This group has been renamed "The Property Management Committee". Helen advised that the Church is not entitled to a grant for insulation as this is only available to domestic properties.

Radiator reflector panels have been purchased.

Enquiries are ongoing relating to how we make the windows wind and watertight. Some members of the group have sought advice from architects to establish the correct course of action.

Fr Berry informed members that the turf in the garden cost £4k to replace.

Marcus highlighted that there are potholes on Forbes Place that need attention. Fr Berry added that there are parts of the road corroding at the junction of the A78 and Forbes Place. He had previously enquired about the feasibility of dropping the pavement here however he was advised this couldn't be done as any surface water would run into Forbes Place. Gerry advised members that Forbes Place is not adopted as a road but suggested we check the title deeds for further information on ownership/responsibility. Enquiries will also be made with British Telecom given that their property is also accessed via Forbes Place. It is understood Christine may have a point of contact in BT.

Discussion ensued regarding the number of weeds and overgrowth in the car park. Fr Berry has used weedkiller but it remains overgrown.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 20th June 2024 at 7pm.

7. AOCB

Fr Berry thanked everyone who assisted with the arrangement for the recent Funeral in the Church particularly in relation to some practical matters. He very much appreciated their help.

8. CLOSE

The Chair closed the meeting and thanked everyone in attendance.

