**St Joseph’s Pastoral Council Minutes**

**2nd June 2015**

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| **Date of meeting** | **6/11/12** | **21/05/13** | **01/10/13** | **13/05/14** | **16/09/14** | **18/11/14** | **3/2/15** | **2/6/15** |
| **Fr Jim Duggan** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **Chris McLaughlin** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **Veronica Dowling** | **A** | **P** | **P** | **A** | **P** |  | **P** | **P** |
| **David Melvin** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** |  |  |  |  |
| **John Seenan** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **A** | **P** |
| **Liz Grant** | **P** | **P** | **A** | **A** |  |  |  |  |
| **Bridie LaCombre** |  | **P** | **P** | **P** | **A** | **P** | **A** | **P** |
| **Alison Macdonald** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **Paul Graham** | **P** | **A** | **P** |  | **P** |  |  |  |
| **Pat Hassett** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **Susie Cullen** | **P** | **A** | **A** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Aisling Connelly** |  |  | **P** |  |  | **P** |  |  |
| **Angela Gow** |  |  | **A** | **P** | **P** | **A** | **P** | **P** |
| **Emma Merriman** |  |  | **A** | **P** | **A** | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **Gregor Hillhouse** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Amy Hughes** |  |  |  | **P** | **A** |  |  |  |
| **Matthew Jennings** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Nicio Ginestri** |  |  |  | **A** | **A** |  |  |  |
| **Colm Merrick** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Maureen Cumming** |  |  |  | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** | **P** |
| **Jonathon Cumming** |  |  |  | **A** | **A** | **A** | **A** |  |
| **Miriam Harding** |  |  |  | **P** |  |  |  |  |

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|  | **Decade of the rosary and prayer for priests** | **Actions** |
|  |  |  |
|  | **Attendance and apologies/resignations** | **Actions** |
|  | See table on page 1 |  |
|  | **Minutes of the last meeting** | **Actions** |
|  | Proposed: Pat Hassett  Seconded: Chris McLaughlin |  |
|  | **Matters arising** | **Actions** |
|  | **Fr Jim has not responded yet to the publisher regarding the proposed designs for children’s storyboards. He is intending to approach a graphic designer for customised images rather than rely on “off the shelf” images that are not suitable. c/f to next meeting**  **Action: Fr Jim to follow up with graphic designer regarding images for the children’s storyboards**    **Prayers for Divine Mercy: These took place on Mondays prior to the feast but are not ongoing.**  **Life In The Eucharist (LITE): Sessions were very well organised and received positively by those who attended, however turnout was poor. This may be partially explained by the running the Bishop’s catechesis throughout Lent and the Saturday session clashed with the celebrations of the Martyrdom of St John Ogilvie. Holding the sessions over 5 Thursdays may be more successful. Further sessions are available with a focus on the Gospels. The Pastoral Council agreed that in view of the current emphasis on Diocesan developments, further sessions from LITE should not be pursued meantime.**  **Catholic Education week: Pat thanked Maureen for the organisation of Catholic Education week, including the children who were involved as readers. The group acknowledged the commitment to having children working towards the Pope Francis Award from St Joseph’s and OLM acting as “welcomers” at Sunday mornings at Mass. This is working well and helping to raise the profile of the Award as well as involving more children in church activities.**  **Age Concern event: Angela advised that no further support from the parish is required for this as it is being organised by parish representatives involved in Age Concern.**  **Prayers of intercession: Angela advised that no prayers have been left in the box. She will place a further note in the bulletin after the summer.**  **Action: Angela to place note in bulletin regarding prayers of intercession after summer break**  **Fr Barron sessions – These were very successful, with attendance of 50 parishioners on a weekly basis, and resulted in considerable enthusiasm and discussion. Seven leaders facilitated the groups following the meeting hosted by Emma. A plenary session with leaders is planned to discuss the ideas generated. Leaders will be invited to identify volunteers to initiate the activities suggested as this is not something the Pastoral Council could undertake without considerable support.**  **Bulletin Notices about Pastoral Council meetings: Ali advised that this had been sent but not published in last week’s bulletin. Fr Jim acknowledged that there had been problems with receipt of some e-mails. A note will be placed in the bulletin regarding this meeting and access to previous minutes.**  **Action: Ali to send further notice to bulletin regarding previous minutes and date of next meeting** | **Fr J**  **AG**  **AMacd** |
|  | **Update from groups** | **Actions** |
|  | **Justice and Peace Group:**  **John provided an update on the work of the Justice and Peace Group.**   * **The ecumenical peace and justice forum organised a hustings prior to the general election. This was attended by approx. 150 residents within East Renfrewshire.** * **The Chair of the Ecumenical P&J forum has given notice of his intention to stand down.** **John has proposed a fixed term Chair, preferably from one of the other local churches.** * **Virtual Pilgrimage to Iona: This is an environmental initiative proposing that parishioners of local churches undertake a virtual pilgrimage to Iona by walking from home to church each week, and adding the miles until they amount to walking to Iona.** * **Citizen’s UK, a national charity involved in social issues in urban communities, is promoting local action to persuade Local Authorities to take responsibility for Syrian refugees, recommending that each LA offers places for 50 refugees. John met with head of the CHCP in East Renfrewshire to discuss this in the hope that this will now be taken to the full council meeting. The shortage of social housing in East Renfrewshire was acknowledged.** * **Just Faith programme – John has delivered 3 deanery talks on the Just Faith programme and has now passed this work over to an employee of SCIAF.**   **Parents in Prayer:**  **Emma advised that the group has now been running for 2 year. Thursday meetings continue with the purpose of providing parents with a supportive environment in which to prepare for Mass and provide fellowship. Tuesday monthly “retreats” for all parishioners such as Eucharistic Adoration and Stations of the Cross are now being organised and the group are also providing tea and coffee at 10 am Mass on first Sunday of every month. Potential problems with car parking have not proved to be an issue and there have been requests for tea and coffee on a weekly basis and for this to be extended to 12 o’clock mass. However without additional volunteers, this is not feasible. All activities co-ordinated by Parents in Prayer are organised by a Core team with other members providing additional support. A meeting is planned to discuss future direction of the group.** |  |
|  | **Good practice** | **Actions** |
|  | **No updates** |  |
|  | **Youth Development following on from NET** | **Actions** |
|  | **NET teams will be allocated to Scotland in August although St Joseph’s are not expecting a team next year. Net Scotland is being established but may take up to four years. NET Scotland offices will be hosted in St Joseph’s parish house, with one officer working full time for NET Scotland and another officer working part time for NET Scotland and part-time as a youth worker in St Joseph’s parish. Some support for the parish will also be available from one of the NET Ireland teams working in Scotland. Rent for providing accommodation will cover youth worker costs for the parish, which will therefore be cost neutral. The focus in St Joseph’s will be on developing youth ministry in the parish and building a strategy that is self-sustaining. Thought is also being given to provision of weekly social activities for those in S1-S3, given that the Sentry Group cater for primary school children and the Youth Group for S4 – S6 on Sunday evenings. The PC agreed it is important that a joined up service is provided in the parish delivered through the church for all children.**  **Bridie raised the continuing challenge of having a sufficient number of volunteers to sustain the Children’s Liturgy and reflected on how the service offered had diminished over time as fewer parishioners have volunteered. Maureen suggested that the Sunday morning Primary School welcomers couldinvite parishioners to volunteer and take contact details. Bridie agreed that she and Maria Lawless would then contact any volunteers to explain the process including the requirement for a PVG check. This would need to happen promptly to ensure they attend the PVG check session planned for 22nd June. Bridie advised that St Ninian’s provide the Wednesday word for the Children’s Liturgy and asked if this could be acknowledged in the bulletin.**  **Action: Maureen to contact St Joseph’s regarding the involvement of Pope Francis Award welcomers in recruiting Children’s Liturgy Volunteers**  **Action: Bridie to advise Maria of proposal and contact any volunteers for Children’s Liturgy**  **Action: Ali to add note to bulletin thanking St Ninian’s pupils for their support of the Children’s Liturgy**  **There was a discussion about the need for more volunteers to support activities within the parish. A number of potential approaches were discussed. It was agreed there was a need to review how support is requested and that a more proactive and intentional strategy of engagement is required, for example, asking parishioners what they can offer that could contribute to the parish community and developing a database of the skills and abilities eg web designer, support for implementation of a social media strategy. This links closely to the emphasis in the Diocesan Synod on involvement of lay people within the church. The group recognised within St Joseph’s that this requires a cultural shift to improve sustainability.** | **MC**  **BM**  **AMacd** |
|  | **Update on Diocesan developments** | **Actions** |
|  | **Pat and Fr Jim updated on progress towards the** [**Diocesan Synod**](http://rcdop.org.uk/diocesan-synod)**. Information can be found on the Diocesan website. The Synod will take place at Easter tide 2016 beginning with Mass in the cathedral. The topic of the Synod is “Evangelisation with the emphasis placed on the laity’s role. Membership of the Preparatory Commission was chosen from more than 100 nominations. Three areas of preparation have been identified: spiritual, catechetical and consultative. As part of the spiritual preparation there will be a Pilgrimage of the Our Lady of Paisley icon which is due to arrive in St Joseph’s in November.**    **The Lenten Catechetical preparation provided a very successful introduction to the Synod preparation, with more than 1000 parishioners across the Diocese attending every week. Further preparation is planned on the core topics of the laity (starting in mid-August) and evangelisation (planned for autumn). The consultative process will be facilitated through catechesis sessions, consultation with priests and establishment of a network of delegated parish liaison people, potentially those who were nominated, but not chosen, for Preparatory Commission. There are plans to produce a core document for parishioners on catechesis, which can be adapted for different audiences including school aged children, and this will be supported by social media. Materials will be provided for priests to use at local meetings. The bishop also plans to speak at five centres across the Diocese.** |  |
|  | **Plan for next session** | **Actions** |
|  | **At the September meeting , it will be agreed which PC members will support each event.**  **Action: Add event support to agenda for September’s meeting**  **Bereavement support:- Angela expressed interest in training however this would need to be done on a group basis. John provided an update on PC activities in an attempt to revisit this previously. He agreed to pass file over to Angela.**  **Action: John to pass file on bereavement support over to Angela**  **September**   * **Mass for anointing of the sick**   **November**   * **Mass in support of those who are bereaved – link to Mass for Holy Souls** * **Mass in celebration of marriage – this will take place on the Friday nearest Feast of St Margaret’s**   **December**   * **Penitential service: the PC are aware of burden on Fr Jim so it was agreed that member of PC, who has volunteered, will invite other priests.** * **Carol service** | **PH**  **JS** |
|  | **AOCB** | **Actions** |
|  | **Angela raised concern about the stall for merchandise sold within the church, which currently has no storage facility. This would require a lockable glass cabinet, however with space at a premium in the side hall, Fr Jim invited innovative suggestions for how this could be achieved.**  **Action: consider how to address issue of merchandise sold within the church and pass any suggestions to Pat**  **Pilgrimage to Carfin: this is planned for 9th August and includes anointing of the sick. There was a discussion about the low turn-out from St Josephs and the feasibility of providing transport. It was agreed that because previous uptake of transport was low, the parish would not provide transport.** | **ALL** |
|  | **DoNM** | **Actions** |
|  | **The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 8th Sept 2015. Other 3 dates to be agreed at this meeting.** |  |
| **12.** | **Closing prayer** | **Actions** |
|  |  |  |
| **Action table** | | |
| **Action: Fr Jim to follow up with graphic designer regarding images for the children’s storyboards**  **Action: Angela to place note in bulletin regarding prayers of intercession after summer break**  **Action: Ali to send further notice to bulletin regarding previous minutes and date of next meeting**  **Action: Maureen to contact St Joseph’s regarding the involvement of Pope Francis Award welcomers in recruiting Children’s Liturgy Volunteers**  **Action: Bridie to advise Maria of proposal and contact any volunteers for Children’s Liturgy**  **Action: Ali to add note to bulletin thanking St Ninian’s pupils for their support of the Children’s Liturgy**  **Action: Pat to add event support to agenda for September’s meeting**  **Action: consider how to address issue of merchandise sold within the church and pass any suggestions to Pat**  **Action: John to pass file on bereavement support over to Angela** | | **Fr J**  **AG**  **AMacd**  **MC**  **BM**  **AMacd**  **PH**  **All**  **JS** |
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