

St Joseph and St Patrick's, Wemyss Bay

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 24 October 2017

Attendees: Brian Blacklaw (Chair), Louise McCauley, Mary McCauley, Gerry McCauley, Marcus Barry, Isobel Quinn, Owen Quinn, Gillian Hall, Ryan Begley, Pauline Redmond, John Wilson, Anne Clark, Julia Gibson, Debbie Galbraith, Pam Blacklaw, Helen McMunn, Michael Tormey, Father Berry.

Apologies:, Jackie Watt, Hazel Mitchell, Andrew McShane

**1. WELCOME AND PRAYER**

Brian welcomed everyone and Father Berry opened the meeting with a prayer. Gillian read out the apologies for the meeting.

**2. MINUTE**

The minute from last year's AGM were approved and taken as read.

**3. REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2016-2017**

**a) Parish Council Initiatives:**

**b) Summer Mass Schedules:**

Father Berry advised that our Parish will be continuing with the re-introduction of three masses over the Saturday-Sunday period after running with two weekend masses over the summer. This will be reviewed at a later stage.

**c) Synod Visits:**

To date the Synod Committee has visited eighteen Parishes attending over forty Masses. The visits will restart the first weekend after the October holidays.

**d) Social Committee:**

Louise reported another successful year for the Parish with lots of social events, including St Patrick's night, Easter egg hunt, Summer fete and the up and coming Ladies night/Fashion show and children's Christmas party.

There is a full calendar planned for next year with a Race Night in the planning stages at the moment. It is hoped to repeat the successful Football Tournament from two years ago, especially with 2018 being a World Cup year. Louise and Anne would like to thank all involved in helping them with the social events.

**e) Fete:**

Father Berry advised that Tracy and John are happy to organise the church Summer fete 2018 and he wished to offer his thanks to them both and to all involved in making the 2017 fete a great success.

The fete raised £1900 and using these funds he planned to re-do the lighting in the church hall and re-paint as well. Also an outside light is to be erected to provide lighting at the side road to the church house and garage area.

#### **4. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

Reported as below:

Resignations - We have Dora from earlier this year, Michael Di Paola and Mark Galvin. Many thanks to them for their service over the years. Marcus to organise flowers for Dora to mark the end of her many years of service to the Parish Pastoral Council.

Re-election – Isobel Quinn who is happy to remain on the PPC, many thanks to her.

New Members – We have Anne Clark and Michael Tormey, welcome to both of them .

#### **5. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

Brian proposed Marcus for PPC Chairman and this was seconded by Owen. Owen congratulated Brian on his hard work as PPC Chairman and especially at a difficult time in our Parish. His planning and hard work ensured the Parish ran smoothly in the absence of Father Berry.

Marcus echoed Owen's sentiments and is now in place as the new PPC Chairman.

Gillian is happy to continue as secretary and this was proposed by Marcus and seconded by Brian.

#### **6. PROPOSED ACTIVITIES 2017-2018**

Marcus stated that we are here as PPC to help Father Berry and lighten the load. He asked for ideas from the floor on how we take the PPC forward in the coming year.

The meeting broke into small groups to discuss this on a two stars and a wish basis to establish things we do well and things we would like to do better.

Some of the feedback received from the groups is detailed below:

Stars:

- We are a generous Parish with funds and appeals.
- A caring Parish.
- Welcoming Parish.
- Strong Parish – pulling together when it matters.
- Organised Parish.

Wishes:

- To become a more approachable Parish.
- Introduce Passkeepers.
- Introduce Social media input in the future.
- Involve our young people in the liturgy and music at Mass.

- Outreach. So far ideas have not come to fruition to reach out to the sick, lonely or housebound in our Parish.

Father Berry reiterated the importance of engaging the youth and using the gifts and talents we have in the Parish. There was a suggestion of asking Andrew to oversee this initiative if he has the time.

Marcus added that Father Berry was considering the introduction of a liturgy class to help with the understanding of scripture and welcomed any input or ideas to assist him with putting this into practice.

It was advised that the new Parish website is up and running. Michael suggested adding some apps and website addresses as a way to help encourage and incorporate prayer into today's busy lifestyles.

## **7. AOCB**

### **a) Christmas and New Year Mass Times**

As Christmas Day falls on a Monday this year the proposed Mass times were as below:

#### **Christmas**

Saturday Night – 5pm Mass

Sunday Morning – 10am Mass

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Vigil 8pm Mass (7.30pm Carols)

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Masses 10am and 1130am

#### **New Year**

Saturday Night 5pm Mass

Sunday Morning 10am Mass

Sunday Evening 5pm Mass

New Years Day One morning Mass

### **b) Updating Photographs for PPC**

John will take photographs of the new members to update the PPC information sheet.

### **c) Notice Board**

It was suggested that we relocate the notice board to the back of the church by possibly removing the shelving area above the cupboard. The shelves are not used and it was felt that placing the notice board there would be a much better use of space and allow easier access for reading.

### **d) Child Protection**

Julia reported that Hazel had attended the Annual Child Safeguarding Seminar on 7 October 2017 and updated the meeting to say that any volunteers must be PVG checked and trained.

### **e) Outside Notice Board**

Brian advised that this matter is in hand and it will be installed in the very near future.

Marcus will organise a calendar of meeting dates for the coming year and will email these separately.

Marcus brought this year's AGM to a close.

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