

PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING - PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 4th March 2013

PRESENT

Fr. Martin, Fr. Peter, Deacon John Cairns, Paul Toland, Agnes McFadyen, Betty McCartney, Celia Capaldi, Phil Tausney, Susan Crumlish, Anthony McGinley, Mark Malone, Alex Bett, Carol McFadden

APOLOGIES

Marion Murray, Charlie McFadden and Joe Byers

RESIGNATION

Anne Doherty

OPENING PRAYER AND WELCOME

The meeting began with an opening prayer and welcome by Paul Toland.

NOVEMBER 2012 MINUTES REVIEW

The minutes of the meeting held 10/11/12 were reviewed and accepted.

REMIT OF PARISH COUNCIL

Fr. Peter stated that the Parish Council are an advisory group to the Parish Priest; the PC should seek to develop different areas of parish life, and to work with the Clergy to develop the parish through the life of Christ.

PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Paul advised that it would be very helpful to have a means of communication in order that the group can keep in contact and be updated of any progress made between meetings. Phil distributed a contact sheet for members to detail contact numbers and email addresses; Paul will distribute.

YOUTH GROUP

Mark advised that 6 volunteers now have their disclosure but awaiting another 5 to be disclosed. He stated that the delay is due to the volunteers having to book an appointment with the Cathedral Office to have their paperwork checked prior to the disclosure application being submitted. All agreed that it was important to follow the correct process prior to the Youth Group starting.

He hopes the disclosure process will be complete in the next few weeks and is aiming to start the Youth Group after the Easter break, with additional parental help. Most of the required equipment is insitu (art supplies have still to be purchased). There was some further discussion re storage of table tennis/pool tables being downstairs.

WEBSITE

Fr. Martin advised they hope to have the Parish website up and running in the next few weeks. He is meeting with Gerry Magennis, Louise Biagini, and Paul to finalise the content of the web page. The basic information that will be shown is – Mass times, “What’s On”, Parish Groups, Sacraments, Historical Parish Information, and Hall Information (including a diary which will show when the hall is available). Agnes requested that the diary is input on excel so it can automatically update once she does her input on a Monday, to avoid duplication. Fr. Peter stressed that the website Hall diary would only show which dates were available and no private booking information would be displayed.

Once the website is up and running Louise Biagini will administer any changes/updates.

FOOTNOTE – Fr. Martin met with Gerry and Paul on Friday evening; Gerry ran through webpage management (how to upload content etc.); Gerry has offered to manage the background set up but actual content will be left to others to administer.

PARISH LINKING

Fr. Raymond from St. Alphonsus Parish, Tafara, Zimbabwe visited Christ the King in November 2012 where he became very involved in the parish – visiting the primary schools, attending 40 hours adoration, preaching at all masses and attending / presenting at a gathering in the hall.

Volunteers were recently sought to form a Tafara Group and Frances Burns is now leading this group of approximately 9 or 10 members. It has also been decided to refurbish the alcove at the back left hand side of the church as a permanent reminder that we are linked with Tafara. Tom Elder has been drawing up plans regarding this and he is meeting with the Tafara Group to discuss. The group will then give feedback re progress after the meeting in order that the whole parish is involved. It was suggested a poster be displayed at the back of the Church.

FOOTNOTE – the first meeting of the group took place on Thursday (7th March). Communication with Fr. Raymond recently has been limited; the Group will pursue this and in the meantime Tom Elder will continue to work on the proposal to develop the alcove.

CHILDREN AND SACRAMENTS

The Children’s Liturgy at the 10.30am has been well attended but Fr. Peter has noticed that the largest number of children present at Mass is at the Saturday evening vigil.

Christ the King parish has the largest number of children in the country making their Sacraments, however Fr. Peter stated that 1/3 of the children being confirmed are not from this parish. He also stated that a growing number of children are from an un-baptised situation and in order to address this, his plan (in the future) is to speak to the parents of children in Primary 2 regarding the preparation of the Sacraments. He wishes to engage with the children a lot more with their preparation. People will be directed as much as possible to their own parish for Baptism rather than being baptised in CTK just because they attend St. Mirins or St. Fillan’s.

Susan expressed concern re the way in which the children process to their seats on the day of their First Communion due to the volume of people. Fr. Peter will consider having the children process

from the back sacristy onto the altar and then down to their pews to avoid this situation happening again. He also stated that he would like two parent helpers to assist the children getting to their row and this may well be the parents who sit at the front pews. We also discussed having the children sing a Thanksgiving hymn on the altar after they have received Communion. Fr. Peter was concerned that they may not be heard. Carol has previously spoken with both schools and they were happy to rehearse with the children.

Susan also requested that the hall be available for the children before and after the service for a photographer to attend. Susan would arrange a photographer.

YEAR OF EVANGELISATION / YEAR OF FAITH

The Year of Evangelisation / Year of Faith is being promoted to give people a chance to link into adult faith. A programme of Catechism has been held in the North of the city (Our Lady of Good Counsel) and this may be held at Christ the King for the south side of the city. Meetings may be held in the back sacristy if the hall is being used. The programme would reflect the six themes of "This is Our Faith", and held either May or June. Meetings will be advertised via the bulletin.

FOOTNOTE: At the June meeting, Fr. Peter clarified the 'Year of Evangelism/Year of Faith', as "we are now at the year of faith with the New Evangelisation happening at the end.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Agnes advised that the events that they run each year are – St. Patricks Day Dance, St. Andrews Ceilidh, Childrens Halloween Party, Children's Christmas Party, and the Carol Service.

Agnes has noticed that numbers are down at events and they are struggling to sell tickets which she feels is a sign of the recession. She appealed again for new members for the social committee as they need more help and some new ideas.

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING MINDMAP

Phil distributed a copy of a mindmap he created showing all the different strands to the parish of Christ the King. All agreed it was a very good tool to show the different activities and groups associated with the parish. Phil will arrange to email a copy to the PC for refinements to be made – comments directly back to Phil. It was suggested this information be put on the website and a large copy be displayed at the back of the Church as it gives a visual display of what goes on in the Parish.

CAR PARK NOTICEBOARD

Fr. Martin and Paul have been discussing a new noticeboard in the church carpark. Details have still to be finalised regarding the direction in which it will face, size, colours, content and ease of which changes can be made. Agnes stated that she had previously had a quote for work to be done and Alex stated that black writing on yellow was the most prominent. Fr. Martin will keep us updated.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MONDAY 17th JUNE 2013