

## **AGM St Columbkilles's Parish Council, Aug 29 2017**

### **St Columbkille's Parish Hall**

#### **Opening Prayer**

#### **Apologies**

Claire Griffiths, Mairead Brown, Donald and Ailing Anderson, Aileen and Michael Dunne, Frances Watson, Paul MacNeill, Ed McGuigan

#### **Present**

Miriam McKernan, Katie McMillan, Jim Gallagher, Julie Wilson, Deacon Bill, Michael Mcgrath, Patricia Morrow, Marie Tedeschi, Owen McAulay, Fr Bernard Mournian, Irene Galt, Kathy Thompson, Anne Dempsey, Kathleen Connor, Evelyn Kearney, Elena Cappani, Fr Pat, Donald Campbell, Patsy Beveridge, Helen Deeny

#### **Report from Chair (Miriam McKernan)**

##### **Parish Mission November 2016**

This week involved so many people in the parish and around. The spiritual and social activity was of great benefit. We took on further work with Night Fever events, the CTS stall, and our plan for developing our ministries over 2017-2018

##### **Re opening of Church June 2016**

We were so happy to return to our almost new church and are most grateful to the contractors who completed the work, to our sponsors Viridor, and to the volunteer workers of the Building group.

##### **Work of groups**

We are proud of so many active people in our parish and are grateful for their work in SSVP, Legion of Mary, UCM, First Tuesday Club, Craft Group. SSVP doing great work also with the school students.

##### **Mission Statement**

This has been written. We hope to adopt it. We aim to renew our Constitution of the Parish Council in line with the Mission statement.

### **Report from Finance Group (Margaret McGrath)**

The management of the parish finances and other administrative issues was formalised last year by the establishment of the Parish Finance Committee. This followed receipt of guidance from the Diocese of Motherwell on the roles and responsibilities of the Committee.

It is a consultative body established to help and advise the Parish Priest in the administration of the goods of the parish. The committee has a role in a number of functions undertaken in the Parish, specifically in relation to:

Terms and conditions of lay employees

Health and safety issues including security

Due diligence in managing all parish assets

Setting an annual budget, monitoring income and expenditure against it

Ensuring full and proper books of accounts are kept in accordance with Diocesan procedures.

The committee meets every three months. Our next meeting will be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. All terms and conditions of lay employees have been reviewed. Deacon MacMillan takes the lead on Health and Safety issues and has undertaken risk assessments or cleaning materials used in the church. Paul MacNeill is our link with Church refurbishment Steering Committee and leads a small team looking after ongoing maintenance of the church and house. The committee is monitoring our ongoing income and expenditure and will continue to keep parishioners informed. The Committee will also discuss plans for repayment of our loan from the Diocese. Details of our debt commitments were published in 2017 and made available to all parishioners. At three monthly intervals details of our debt repayments are published in the Bulletin and on a Thermometer in the porch.

Agenda and Minutes of all meetings are published on the parish website.

### **New website (Michael McGrath)**

Michael demonstrated the new website with all its pages and functions. We are all asked to visit this site, applaud what is good, point out inaccuracies and fill omissions

### **Mission Statement**

Michael McGrath presented a draft mission statement and suggested we use this to develop a fresh constitution.

### **Report from Parish Groups**

#### **Word**

##### **Ministers of the word**

Ministers commit to a rota for the word of God and for the prayers of the people. This is such an important part of Mass. We encourage more members to take part in this ministry, and hope to develop and expand during our ministries workshops.

#### **Eucharist**

From Donald Anderson

Many thanks to Bob McNamara for his years of work with Eucharistic Ministers.

There are 56 ministers, serving at Mass, or home visiting, or both. 90-100 people receive the Eucharist at home weekly. We are most grateful to the ministers who make all this possible for people who cannot attend Mass. More ministers will be a blessing, especially for 12 midday and 4pm. Fewer ministers make it difficult to offer Eucharist under both species. We hope this can be developed at our Liturgies workshops.

#### **Passkeepers**

From Fr Pat

Passkeepers welcome all who come to our church, assist those in difficulty, maintain security at the entrance to the church, and take up the collection of the people of God. You are all invited to

participate in this work, and we hope to develop it at our Ministries retreat.

### **Altar servers**

From Claire and Frances

### **Childrens liturgy**

From Irene Lochrin

After reading the Children's version of the Sunday Gospel , we learn about the message of the Gospel with role play, art work, and discussion.

There are four groups of leaders., working one week in four. The children are exposed to a variety of people and talents to make their visit interesting.

We have regular Children's Masses to encourage the young people to do readings and bidding prayers. They are keen and it really builds their confidence and introduces them to parish life and work. Their families are encouraged to help with preparation of the readings.

All helpers are PVG checked and we ask the parents to give written permission for them to be with us or to permit photographs.

### **Colum**

From Aileen Dunne

Colum provides music at 1030 Mass. A variety of Mass settings are used, presently Glendalough and Santa Fe. The annual concert in March 2017 raised £1000.00 for Nordoff Robins Music Therapy. New musicians and singers are welcome.

### **Choir**

From Kathleen Connor

New members are welcome. Organists are welcome. There are some issues with indistinct elocution on the sacristy, with delays between choir and altar, and with microphones in use in choir loft. These issues can be taken forward within Liturgies work planned.

## **UCM**

From Evelyn Kearney

UCM meets second Wednesday of the month in the board room. They had a retreat with Fr John Clark of the Comboni Fathers. They shall host the World Day of Prayer 2/3/18 in St Columbkille's 1400-1600. Vocations Mass is celebrated last Monday of the month at Little Sisters of the Poor, Robroyston.

## **Craft**

From Evelyn Kearney

The craft group meets every Tuesday during term time, 11am - 1pm upstairs in the hall. We knit, crochet, sew, chat and enjoy a cup of tea. We regularly go out for lunch and fund raise for different projects. One of our members, with the support of others in the group, started and runs the First Tuesday Club. This year we were involved in knitting little hats for the commercial enterprise between Smoothie drinks and Age Scotland. We sent in 800 hats with the help of Rutherglen Seniors Forum. We are hoping to create a knitted life of Columba for the 80th anniversary of our beautiful church in 2019.

## **Stall**

From Mairead Brown

Parish stall is running very successfully , including taking sums for CTS. We have a comprehensive range of goods. More workers are welcome, especially for 1pm Mass Monday and Wednesday and as reserves. Thanks to all who do help so willingly

## **Legion of Mary**

From Marie Tedeschi

The Legion of Mary continues to work in our Parish under the guidance of Father Hennessy our Spiritual Director. Our work includes visits to Nursing Homes, Hospitals, the elderly and infirm who live alone and are unable to go to Mass. At visits to the Primary School, we pray the Rosary in May and October, and the Stations of the Cross during Lent. We take part in Parish life assisting in the events which take place during the Church's

Calendar.

## **SSVP**

From Jim Gallagher

Ten members are active. We meet every Monday in the Parish House with Fr Pat.

We work in the Foodbank to offer our donations to those who have no referral to Foodbank, and to those who turn up at Parish House.

Furniture is stored in containers. A bus has been donated, for use both in furniture delivery and transport to Mass with a wheel chair accessible lift.

The Christmas gift tree gave 180 gifts around the Deanery. The Christmas lunch for 150 people was supported by Bookers, Marinis, Campbells the Butchers, and Weightwatchers. A special thanks to McDonalds in Dalmarnock Road who supplied 80 Happy Meals .

We have six weeks in our caravans at Seton Sands for holidays for families.

Our Mass in the Church for Sick was on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon and was very well attended. Lunch afterwards in the hall was provided by the hall staff and was much appreciated.

Schools are visited to explain the work of the society. Primary school had a food collection for SSVP. We also have a separate deanery fund for uniforms and trips.

A Mini Vinnies group has been set up in St. Columbkilles Primary school and is being run by two of the parents.

We run the bus to 12 noon mass for an average 15-20 people.

We plan to provide lunch in the hall on two days of the October school holidays so that particularly free meals recipients do not go the whole week without.

Other suggestions for parish groups activities will be tabled at next ordinary meeting (JG)

1. Pensioner Lunch and entertainment once a month. ( e.g. Tea Dance )

2. Evening Social once a month, Fri or Sat with good entertainers and raffle or bingo.  
£5.00 entry and profits to SCIAF or some other charity.
3. Top bar turned into a games room once a month, with the adjoining small room with a screen for a film night. More frequently if popular.
4. Use of church grounds once a month for kids to play on bouncy castles etc.

## **Cleaners**

From Patsy Beveridge

Every Thursday after 10.00 Mass, on average four volunteers work through a comprehensive roster of tasks. More volunteers male and female are welcome. There is a fellowship among the cleaners which is very sociable. We request a hand held vacuum for kneelers, and notices to request don't bring in chewing gum. Fire extinguishers require to be fixed and have signs.

## **Hall from Donald Campbell**

The Hall is functioning well with the daily cafe, lets from Foodbank, AA, GA, Slimming World, Keep fit and Dancing.

Evening licensed and unlicensed lets are supported by several volunteer staff. We have four personal licence holders trained. We aim to have corporate hospitality at Christmas with food provided by The Bistro and entertainment by professional performers.

## **RCIA from Patsy Beveridge**

The RCIA comprises Chris Hughes (Leader), Michael Dunne, Patsy Beveridge, Santana Myles

We remember with affection and gratitude **Tom Armstrong** who has gone to God. Tom was a stalwart of the RCIA of the Team for over two decades.

**Kathleen Butler** was received into the Church during the Easter Vigil Service on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Kathleen travelled from Hamilton by train every Tuesday evening throughout the winter for the meetings. She is a parishioner of St Mary's Hamilton and was directed to our parish for our RCIA support

The **Enquiry Evening** for 2017/18 is **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017** at 6.30pm, in the Parish House.

Charismatic Prayer Group

From Kathy Thompson

Our plan for the year is to continue to meet every Wednesday to praise God, listen to his Word, share the Word of God. We have an intercessory prayer book for people to insert prayer requests. We say the Rosary every day for them.

On Ash Wednesday we start the Life in the Spirit seminars for seven weeks. We have Scripture talks most weeks.

### **Constitution (Miriam McKernan)**

The "Draft" Constitution from 2011 requires to be revised and adopted. Amendments must be tabled two weeks before AGM. Work will be done on Constitution during 2017-8, informed by Mission.

### **Election of Office Bearers**

No nominations were received. Donald Campbell proposed status quo, accepted. Miriam McKernan advised consideration to nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. It is not possible to operate a parish council without office bearers.

### **AOCB**

Fr Bernard proposed an evening of Christmas music with Motherwell Diocesan Choir in the church, followed by a gathering in the hall.

Action Fr Bernard/ Donald Campbell

Restoration of statues

Concerns were expressed about the removal of statues of our Lady of Lourdes and of crib figures following the renovation.

A second collection to fund statues for a crib was proposed. This has been rejected by the parish finance committee due to the size of our current debt which we have a duty to repay (30/08/2017).



These statues were beyond repair. The beauty of the side altars was emphasised, and people encouraged to pray here.

A beautiful new crib was donated last Christmas. It is proposed to build a cave or stable surround.

Action Katie McMillan to explore