

**St Columbkille's Rutherglen
Parish Mission and Action Group
Monday 6th August 2018**

Present: Fr Mournian, Michael McGrath, Miriam McKernan
Apologies: Fr Hennessey, Deacon Bill, Owen McAulay, Katy McMillan

- 1 **Arrangements for October Devotions** were discussed. Fr Bernard wishes to see these take the form of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during the praying of the Rosary, followed by Benediction. Various parish groups would be asked to lead the Rosary; these would include pupils from St Columbkille's Primary and from Trinity High.

Action: Miriam will contact Kathy Thomson about the sheet used by those leading the Rosary.

Action: Fr Bernard will arrange the schedule of groups leading the Rosary.

- 2 It was reported that the new Parish History group has been making good progress with forming themselves and planning various projects. These include:

- an updated Parish History booklet and DVD in time for the 80th Anniversary of the Church's opening (2020)
- a community dance in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the ending of WWI.

- 3 A number of initiatives are being planned with the purpose of encouraging children and young people to be more active in the life of the parish community. These include:

- the re-launch of Parish Cubs & Scouts pack meeting in the Parish Hall from the end of August
- the publication of a booklet providing contact details for all Parish Ministries and Groups, mainly intended to enable Caritas Award pupils to become involved, but also of general use in the parish
- the provision of training for any new recruits to Ministries
- the provision of Catechesis for young adults, using Bishop Robert Barron's 'Catholicism: the Pivotal Players', starting in September.

Action: Michael will proof-read booklet before printing.

Action: Michael will post a 'trailer' of 'Catholicism - the Pivotal Players' on the Facebook page.

- 4 Plans for the following forthcoming **Parish Events** were discussed:

- 11th August Parish Outing for Family and friends to Largs. Transport has been arranged. Tea in Benedictine Convent; Games for children will be arranged by parents.
- 18th August Family Fun Day was being organised by SVDP
- 22-26 October: Parish trip to Galway is fully booked
- September 2019: Deacon Bill is taking expressions of interest for Holy Land Pilgrimage.

5 **Ordination 2019** There was further discussion of the preparations required for the Ordination of Rev. Charles Coyle, expected to take place in late June 2019. It was noted that some fundraising activities were already being planned. It was agreed that it would be wise to estimate the budget required to cover the costs of catering, printing etc.

Action: Fr Bernard to discuss with Fr Pat the forming of a group of parishioners after the school holidays to form a Presentation Committee.

Action: Miriam to speak to Evelyn Kearney about plans for the selling of Parish calendars.

6 Jean Urquhart from St Charles' Parish in Paisley briefed the group on her experience of forming a **Bereavement Support group** in her own parish. She highlighted the following points:

- Volunteers interested in this work should be given an initial day's training on 'Understanding Bereavement'. She would be prepared to assist with this in St Columbkille's.
- It would be best to offer this training to volunteers from a number of local parishes.
- Volunteers were required to respect confidentiality and to apply for PVG clearance. They would need to be trained in Safeguarding protocols.
- Each parish group would need to take time to form its own understanding of Bereavement and its own working relationships.
- The Parish Group, some 4-6 weeks after a bereavement in the parish would write to the bereaved family, sending a leaflet about the support they can offer and offering to visit. Two volunteers would visit the family home, taking a sympathy card and spending some time to chat, if this is welcomed by the family.
- Normally this only involved one visit, unless the family asked to meet again.
- If, after some time, the bereaved person(s) appeared to be stalled on their journey of recovering from bereavement, Counselling support might be suggested but the line of referral for this (NHS?) would need to be established ahead of time.
- The group would take responsibility for sending out invitations to the annual November Mass for families who were bereaved in the previous year.

Action: Fr Bernard will prepare a Parish Bulletin notice to provide more information about this project..

7 **Date of next meeting** to be arranged, once availability of all group members is established.