
St Brides Parish, West Kilbride

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on Monday 14th October 2024



Present **Fr Duncan, Fr Gerry, Sr Rosemary. Betty Orr (Chairperson), Bob Adams, Laura McLean, Paul and Lorraine Corrigan, Joe McAleavy, Maureen and Neil Watson, Phyllis Howie (secretary)**

Apologies – **Liz Moran, Jo Gibson**

The meeting was opened with a prayer of St Bridget

Previous minutes were taken as read. One amendment regarding Eric Gibney's legacy was made.

FAITH FORMATION

Laura summarised notes from the meeting held to discuss this. The success of the Sycamore sessions was favoured. All agreed at tonight's meeting to do three sessions in Advent. These would be held on Wednesday 20th and 27th November and Wednesday 4th December. A notice regarding the sessions would be put in the Bulletin and announced at Mass by Fr. Duncan. Jo Gibson suggested Bible Sharing and it was suggested that this could be considered for Easter 2025 and would be discussed at the next meeting.

SYCAMORE ACTION **Joe, Laura and Betty.**

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Dates **Friday 13th December** Christmas Dinner with entertainment

Wednesday 18th December Carol Concert. Details to follow

After a lively discussion, it was agreed to keep the status quo on using the hall for the carol event and extend an invitation to all to visit the crib in the church afterwards and receive a blessing. Fr Duncan advised that he had a plan to update the crib which will include a backdrop.

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS

No Advent booklets are planned. Sycamore will be running this year.

Christmas Eve Service will be at 7.30 on Christmas Eve (to be confirmed). The 9 am Christmas Day Mass was poorly attended, and Father Duncan and Gerry will discuss for this year.

FABRIC OF CHURCH BUILDING

Front door and drain repaired. The wall inside the porch is very damp and in need of repair. The heating in the church was also discussed. Many parishioners complained about the cold on Sunday. Fr Duncan advised that the heating system was both complicated and challenging to regulate. It now has to be manually switched on. It was agreed to keep the heating switched on until 12.15 to see if that would make a difference.

Action **Fr Duncan to contact Angus Middleton who is a specialist in damp walls.**

OBITUARIES

It was agreed to include details deceased parishioners in our newsletter, subject to the agreement of their families. Action **Maureen**.

SYNOD

There was a discussion about the apparent lack of information regarding what was happening with Synod. Fr Duncan advised that it was still ongoing with 2025 dedicated to the Year of Prayer and Hope. A copy of the update will be made available a.s.a.p. to keep parishioners aware.

BISHOP'S VISIT

Our new Bishop will visit St Brides on Sunday 2nd March, 2025 when he will celebrate Mass, enjoy refreshments and meet our parishioners.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS

Laura and Lillian visited the local Primary School to ascertain if there were any Catholic Children who are eligible for confirmation and Holy Communion. A message will be sent to parents.

CAN YOU HELP

The returned sheets were discussed. The majority showed the areas already in place.

A.O.B

Joe McAleavy advised that the website software needs to be updated. There may be a cost involved as previously it had always been done as a favour.

Fr Duncan asked if we could think of anyone to replace the late Paul McNulty as the 'go-to' person for meeting suppliers, turning on the heat, opening the church, etc.

Some books have been left at the back of the church. We will keep those that we find useful, and the remainder will go to the Charity Book Shop.

Fr Duncan will speak to Siobhan McCauley about the possibility of her singing on Christmas Day.

Betty Thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting with Glory Be to the Father, a prayer favoured by Bishop Frank.

Date of next meeting will be **5th February 2025**.