
St Brides Parish, West Kilbride

Minutes of Parish Pastoral Council Meeting on 22nd February 2022



Present: Fr. Duncan; Laura McLean; Joe McAleavy, James Montgomery; Paul McNulty; Peter McCluskie

Apologies: from Betty Orr; Phyllis Howie

Fr. Duncan led members in a short opening prayer.

Sycamore

The current series has again been well received and group members stated that there is a notable increased ease, confidence and trust in sharing on matters of faith.

The course materials are excellent and would appeal to youth but the problem of attracting younger parishioners remains.

Fr. Duncan suggested that further sessions might be considered for May or September. Those in attendance on Monday 28th would be asked for their thoughts on further meetings.

Synod

A copy of the questions to be discussed at the forthcoming parish Synod meeting on Monday 7th March at 730pm, will be distributed at Mass this Sunday 27th February.

Fr. Duncan said that he hoped that Ellen Milne might say a few words about it on Sunday, March 6th. He stated that individuals could complete the questionnaire on line but collective participation was preferred since it would inform the “listening process” which is central to the process.

At the parish meeting, comments would be recorded on Post-its; and sent to the diocesan team for collation.

Peter asked if our responses could be captured with a view to actioning any suggestions. It was agreed that we would photograph responses and consider them at a later meeting.

Children’s Sacramental Preparation/ Children’s Liturgy

Further to a discussion exploring the identification of potential child participation; a parental support group and the availability of resources affording preparation for confession and confirmation, it was agreed that:

Fr. Duncan would look into having a presence at West Kilbride Primary.

Dates would be set for First Confessions/ Confirmations.

At least one meeting would be arranged prior to that date to afford parents the opportunity to become acquainted with the materials.

Some PPC members would meet in an attempt to consolidate parish information with particular emphasis on the identification of families with children.

Liturgies The Holy Week and Easter

Fr Duncan took us through last year's programme with a view to its being repeated this year. It was approved with the addition of Night Prayer following The Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday.

Stations of the Cross, lay-led, will also take place before Mass each Friday during Lent, replacing Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

Other matters referred to included:

The obligation to attend Sunday mass recurs from Sunday 6th March.

The homilies across the five Sundays of Lent will focus on the importance of, and the reasons for Sunday as our principal day of worship and to address the seeming lack of understanding of the significance of the Holy Eucharist.

These issues will also be publicised in the Bulletin and Bridie's Blethers.

Peter and Laura are going to have a look at the idea of a Refreshers' course for adult Catholics. Organising an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

Church heating system

Further to substantive discussion around the costs associated with: fixing the existing heating system; installing a new gas powered system or updating the electrical system and installing 6 convector radiators, it was agreed that the latter option be looked into as soon as possible, since it seemed to offer both the best cost effective and efficient long term option.
