

## **A Meeting of Dungannon Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) was held on Tuesday 2 December 2014 at 8:00pm.**

The meeting opened with a prayer and reflection facilitated by the Adult Faith Group.

### **Matters Arising**

Prayer for the Mission – The PPC thanked Raymond and Dean Curry for preparing a prayer in preparation for the Mission ( Saturday 17 October to Sunday 25 October 2015.)

This will be used as the closing prayer for each meeting of the PPC until the mission begins.

A notice informing parishioners of the mission has been posted on Parish website.

### **Reports from Interest Groups**

#### **Outreach**

The Outreach group have been made very welcome on their current visitation of the Drumcoo area. In some cases it has been the parishioners' first contact with a priest in a while.

The group have assured those parishioners who wish to be included in the monthly first Friday visits to the sick and housebound that they are most welcome to let the priests know of their wishes by contacting the parish office. It was suggested that parishioners also be made aware of the first Friday visits through the Parish website and bulletin.

The outreach group will visit Carland Road, Oaks Road and Knockmore Drive in the new year. The pre visit leaflet drop has been completed and it was agreed that this was an important element of the visitation.

Each house is visited by a lay person and a priest. Dean Curry acknowledged the importance of the lay person in this partnership. The visitation partners are changed for each phase of the visits.

Geraldine visited the nursing homes and these visits were also very well received.

Deacon Andy visits the prisons and he reported that he is always made welcome and reminded everyone of the sadness etc which surrounds the prisoners and their families.

## Youth

The Induction mass for Altar servers was well attended on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November. Niall Morgan (Tyrone GAA) was guest speaker and Edendork Youth Choir provided musical accompaniment.

The Halo Youth Group will lead a retreat for Altar servers on the 14<sup>th</sup> December in St Patrick's Primary School. 1:30 – 4:00pm

Preparations for the Christmas Fare in the Old Convent of Mercy on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2014. are well under way. Several stall holders have agreed to attend, in addition to tea and coffee shop, raffles, Santa's Grotto. Selection boxes + Santa's Grotto have been sponsored.

The Halo youth group would appreciate any help from PPC members.

Archbishop Eamon Martin met with a group of young people from all areas of the diocese. The meeting was very successful and a follow up meeting is arranged for February.

Geraldine reported that some pupils from St. Joseph's Grammar School, Donaghmore are keen to join St Joseph's Young Priests Society.

Fr. Ryan reported that Philip Mulryne ( former Manchester United player and Northern Ireland international who joined the priesthood after retiring from football) will come to the parish to speak to Young people.

Currently 38 young people are going on the pilgrimage to Rome in the summer. This will be led by Fr Ryan .

### The Liturgy Group Report

The Liturgy group would like to enhance the liturgy for some special feast days beginning with The Feast of the Holy Family on the 28<sup>th</sup> December at the 10:30 and 12:30 masses. It is intended that children, parents and grandparents will participate in the liturgy.

The PPC viewed a copy of The Complete Children's Liturgy which could be used as a resource for the Children's Liturgy – the Liturgy group intend to introduce/develop a children's liturgy at Sunday Masses beginning with a pilot in early February - if access NI checks are through.

Some adults have expressed an interest in leading the liturgy. It is hoped to have the children's liturgy at the 10;30 or 12:30 mass. Various aspects of the Children's liturgy were discussed, adult to pupil ratio (2:8) and timing and duration. (e.g. time – from before readings until offertory?)

All Readers in the parish have been invited to attend a mass in the convent Chapel at 8:00pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, an opportunity to appreciate their role in the celebration of Mass. This will be an opportunity for readers from all churches in the parish to meet. Dean Curry will celebrate the Mass and PPC will provide refreshments. It is hoped to provide music.

The rota for readers for next year has been arranged. Due to pressures on space It was not possible to publish the rota for January in last week's bulletin but it will be published in the next few weeks.

## **Adult Faith Formation**

The Seminar in St. Patrick's Primary School, Dungannon on Thursday 20th November on "Social Media as an aid in Evangelisation" was postponed due to lack of numbers. It is hoped that it can be accommodated in the future.

The 1st Cell evangelisation group will host two sessions on the first and second Thursday nights in Advent; The meetings will use excerpts from the recently published Irish Catholic Catechism as discussion topics. The evenings are relaxed, informal with a social content as well as prayer and faith sharing. The meeting starts at 8.00pm each evening.

## Communication

Mary will meet with Fr. Ryan re updating information on the website. PPC discussed different options for publishing rota for readers and Eucharistic ministers etc.. e.g in the bulletin / website. It was agreed that a summary copy of the minutes of the PPC meetings would be available on website

Candlelight Concert is to be held in the church on Sunday 21st of December, tickets £15. All profits will be donated to charity. to charity.

**Archbishop Eamon Martin has requested that each Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) in the diocese of Armagh reflect on their role in the development of Catechesis, Faith Development, Liturgy and Outreach in their parish.**

The Parish Pastoral Council discussed same under the following headings.

**What are PPC doing to promote Catechesis ?**

**Possibilities to further develop**

**How might diocese offer further assistance?**

**What are PPC doing to promote Mission / Outreach ?**

**How might the diocese offer further assistance?**

**What are PPC doing to promote Spirit filled worship / Liturgy ?**

**How might the diocese offer further assistance?**

A summary report of the discussion and agreed responses will be forwarded to the Archbishop .It is hoped that the Archbishop will collate all responses and hopefully will provide a summary copy .If and when it is issued we will be happy to provide a copy on the PPC page.

Next meeting of the PPC will take place on Thursday 8th of January at 8:00 p.m.

Communication Group to prepare opening prayer.

Meeting ended at 10:40pm

### **Mass for Readers 9 December 2014**

On Tuesday 9th December at 8.00pm Dean Curry, assisted by Fr White, Fr Mc Aler and Deacon Andy Hegarty celebrated a very special Mass to acknowledge the important role of the Readers - Ministers of the Word in the celebration of the Mass . A large crowd , representing all areas of the parish and all age groups attended . The beautiful setting of the Convent Chapel made the occasion even more special. Paul Mallon from Edendork gave a short presentation on what it

means to him personally to be a reader. Kelly Loughran enhanced the celebration with her beautiful singing and music.

Afterwards everyone had the opportunity to chat over a very welcome cup of tea .

Dean Curry hopes to acknowledge the work of other parish groups in a similar manner in the New Year.