

A Meeting of Dungannon Parish Pastoral Council was held on Tuesday 3 February 2015 at 8:00pm.

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

Dean Curry on behalf of all members of the PPC expressed sincere sympathy to Paddy following the recent death of his mother.

Matters Arising

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The PPC discussed of the importance of respect and reverence in receiving the communion. The importance of the role of the Eucharistic Minister was acknowledged and there would be an opportunity to impart this to new Eucharistic Ministers in upcoming training. The needs of all parishioners including those with special needs was recognised. Parishioners would be encouraged to reflect on their own practice, a notice could be in the bulletin, reminders before communion and perhaps posters in the church.

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It was noted that the Ecumenical Service was not particularly well attended. Unfortunately the notice was not included in the bulletin and also Friday evening may hindered attendance. . Margaret had contacted the Rector of St Anne's Church of Ireland, to offer the assistance of the Liturgy group in the preparation of the service. St Patrick's Church will host the Ecumenical service next year.

It was noted that the recent changes to collating and reading of The List of The Dead in St Patrick's Church, Dungannon have been well received. The format in Edendork, Clonmore and Killyman will remain unchanged due to small numbers.

First Friday visits - Reminder message will be placed in the bulletin to encourage any parishioner who wishes to be included in the priests' monthly visits list or indeed to request a home visit if appropriate / required to contact the parish office.

Correspondence

Spiritfest 'Disciples together', Drumcree Pastoral Centre, Garvaghy Road, Portadown

Saturday, 21st March, 2015

Bible in a Day conference 21st February

Synod On Marriage And The Family- Thurs 19 Feb at 7.30pm in the Family

Learning Centre, St Patrick's PS, Dungannon.

Archbishop Eamon Martin has asked for a series of Reflection Evenings on some of the key questions that will be under consideration at the forthcoming Synod.

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Parish Mission – Sarah Smith will liaise the PPC before the Redemptorists assign a team for the mission. Fr. O'Callaghan was eager for this to happen sooner rather than later. It was agreed for a representative group of the PPC to meet Sarah. The core group is as follows: Dean Curry, Father White, Paddy, Mary, Margaret, Una, Geraldine and Paul (youth). Members of the PPC will pass on any thoughts re the mission to the core group.

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Interest Groups

Outreach

The Parish Visitation

Following the continued success of the Galilee Project, members of the Outreach group will visit homes in the Drumcoo Estste. The Pastoral Visitation Team will be in the Altmore Drive, Oaks Road, Carland Road, Knockmore Drive area on week commencing 16 Feb. Visitation teams of two including a lay person and cleric hope to visit each home in the area.

The Liturgy Group

The Liturgy group are currently waiting for Access NI checks to come through for volunteers before beginning the Children's Liturgy.

Following the success of the Mass for readers in early December, the group hope to organise a mass for the Eucharistic Ministers / Baptism team.

The group received very positive feedback following the Mass on St Brigid's day. The Halo group handed out crosses at the beginning of Mass and Margaret read a reflection on the life of St Brigid.

The group will begin to prepare for Lent and Holy Week.

Adult Faith Formation

Sean, a parishioner ,will attend a one day Bible Study class, The Great Adventure, hosted by Tony Hannah. Sean may run a course in Dungannon in the future .

The cell evangelisation group continue to meet.

Robert Barron, catechism , DVD and discussion may be a possible resource for Lenten talk.

Youth

Members of the youth group attended - Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh on Sunday 1 February to mark the launch of the Rise of Roses (Volunteers at the Michaela Girls Summer Camps and the Poor Clares at Faughart, Co.Louth.. These initiatives were inspired by Pope Francis' call for Religious Congregations to 'wake up the world', the Rise of The Roses promotes and celebrates the upcoming 'Year for Consecrated Life ' (Nov 2014-Nov 2015).

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The Halo group made and distributed St Brigid's crosses. Parishioners were asked to make a small donation and the extra crosses were given to the sick on the First Friday visits.

The Halo group have been asked to prepare an opening liturgy for Spiritfest.

The group are currently preparing for the summer pilgrimage to Rome by participating in team building exercises in the Youth club and they intend to begin their spiritual preparation after Pentecost. The pilgrimage to Taize is open to all young people who wish to attend.

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Fund raising efforts continue with a quiz.

Some of the John Paul II participants are gaining experience through St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society.

Fr Ryan along with Bosco, ADYC will run FAITH ON TAP, a Faith based discussion during Lent starting In McAleer's Bar, Dungannon Thurs 26 Feb at 8pm for 18 – 35 year olds.

Communication

Mary will continue to publish a summary of the minutes of the most recent PPC on the Parish website. It is intended that previous minutes will still be accessible in archives.

Parish Matters

PPC discussed the matter of reintroducing pre Confirmation talks for parents of all P7 children in the parish. While the schools prepare children very well for this sacrament an evening would provide an opportunity for parents to reflect on their role in developing their child's faith, an opportunity for adult faith formation.

Nuala would investigate available resources.

Requests for the 'Rotas for readers', to be published in the bulletin was noted. All readers have a copy of the rota for the year but having the rota published on a monthly basis

serves as a timely reminder. It is not always possible to publish the rota at the beginning of the month. Mary will publish the rota on the website.

A lady in the church forum has approached the PPC, she would like to arrange to meet with some members of the PPC.

PPC discussed opportunities for extended and quiet prayer. A Mindfulness and Meditation evening will be arranged for all those interested.

The need to promote the Parish Mission was discussed.

The Parish Area Resource Team had a very productive meeting.

PPC members are encouraged to attend the discussion on Marriage And The Family- Thurs 19 Feb in preparation for the synod in October. Documents are available online.

Next meeting of the PPC will take place on Tuesday 3rd of March at 8:00 p.m.

Youth Group will prepare opening prayer.

Meeting ended at 10:20pm