

## **St Peters Parish Pastoral Council**

### **Annual General Meeting Report Session 2009/10**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010**

#### **First Meeting - Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September**

The new PPC handbook had been issued to all and the chair proposed that the preamble to this document could be adopted as the mission statement for St Peter's pastoral council.

Four members had attended the PPC Formation session in St Mark's on 29<sup>th</sup> August and copies of the notes were distributed for those who had been unable to attend. The session was led by Patricia Carroll, the newly appointed Episcopal Delegate for Pastoral Resources. Further sessions will be organised for RCIA co-ordinators, Children's Liturgy, Eucharistic Ministers etc.

The Archdiocesan structure chart showing the different levels of pastoral groupings was issued and discussed. St Peter's belongs to the south Edinburgh grouping which meets approximately 4 times per year in St Columba's. Communication should pass both up and down between the councils.

As a result of consultation on the document 'To love and serve the Lord' a series of action points had arisen from session 2008/09.

- Production of a Liturgical Events calendar
- Regular celebration on Sunday's of Ministries/services
- Establishment of a 'Welcoming group', especially for newcomers
- Publication of Service descriptors
- Publication of Parish Directory
- Communication of PPC membership, roles and work. [Photos & notice board.
- Suggestion box prior to PPC meeting.

It was agreed that action would be taken on all of these points.

St Peter's Parish Outreach Group had been formed: a collaboration between SCIAF, Christian Aid, SVDP, Justice and Peace and Fair Trade. Fr Chris Boles SJ would speak on J&P on 25<sup>TH</sup> September and an attractive flyer would be issued to draw attention to the range of activities supported by the parish

The first session of the Cluster Conversations took place in St Mark's on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September with 15 participants from all 3 parishes.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

**St Peter's is a Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, a charity registered in Scotland- Number SCO008540**

Fr Kerr had produced a very comprehensive list of all the events and activities planned for the coming liturgical year however this would need to be added to on a regular basis as new information was received.

It was agreed that the establishment of a Welcoming Group would be deferred until work on other action points had been completed.

Douglas Hunter was thanked for erecting the photomontage of PPC members which was now accompanied by a dedicated notice board for PPC information. Thanks were also recorded to Juliet and Angus McKellaig for the attractive new parish website.

Two further sessions of Cluster Conversations had been held and the summary document would be distributed after mass on 6<sup>th</sup> December. Parishioners would be asked to indicate their agreement /disagreement with each point and also to make suggestions as to priorities. It was proposed that a social event would be arranged for all 3 parishes – a FairTrade wine tasting on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

A 37 page document of Service Descriptors was distributed. These had been standardised by Bruce where ever possible, arranged in alphabetical order and placed into categories. These would be issued for a final check and update and then provide a permanent resource for Ministers and potential volunteers.

An initial draft of the Parish Directory was also circulated to general approval. It was agreed to try to fund the production of the Directory by local sponsorship and Bruce agreed to take on this task.

Parish Outreach Group reported that it was planned to dedicate Mass on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January to the Homeless: special prayer cards would be distributed. Sacred Heart parish intended to join in the FairTrade wine tasting event on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Details were provided of the Prayer Group weekly programme for Lent in the CaFe [Catholic Faith Exploration] style. Additionally there would be 4 special sessions for the parents of P3 children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and of P4 children preparing for their First Holy Communion.

South Edinburgh Pastoral Grouping – Margaret reported that St Gregory's and St John Vianney's had some success in founding a Youth Group. Currently between 30 - 40 people between the ages of 16 and 25 were involved and although purely social it was hoped to add a spiritual dimension over time.

Chair reported that a Youth Ministry co-ordinator had been appointed by the Diocese [Anne McEvoy] and various activities would be organised.

Josephine reported that the Catechists session 1 had been well attended and the 3 trainees from St Peter's had found it useful and interesting. Fr Kerr undertook to provide a Service Descriptor for the Catechist Ministry.

A Parent and Toddlers Group has been formed which now meets every Friday from 9.00am in the Parish room - to be known as 'St Peter's Pals' and advertised in the newsletter.

Fr Kerr announced that he would be celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February with a Mass in St Peter's followed by a reception in Gillis for both St Columba's and St Peter's parishioners and he hoped that the Cardinal would be able to attend.

### **Meeting 3 – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

Appreciation was expressed for the very good job being done by Mary Wastle in keeping the Parish calendar updated.

The response to the Cluster Conversations had been minimal in number but in broad agreement about the areas for priority development. Chair agreed to contact Patricia Carroll/Anne McEvoy to discuss support available.

Parish Handbook and Service Descriptors were now being printed and Bruce Royan was warmly thanked for his sterling work.

Parish Outreach Group were delighted that many donations of wine had been offered for the wine tasting meaning more funds for Sciaf/Christian Aid. On SCIAF Sunday 2 young parishioners will provide a dialogue on the benefits to a family in receipt of SCIAF aid.

New Facilities – it was reported that the architect had submitted a planning application to the City of Edinburgh Council on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

Catechists Session 2 – Derek Buglass reported that this session concentrated on RCIA model. Derek suggested that once the course was completed that a meeting could be held with Andrew and Ian to plan sessions on adult faith formation.

Complaints had been received re microphones and it was agreed to ask Douglas Hunter to investigate.

Discussion took place on Romanian beggar and it was agreed that whilst she is welcome to have tea, she may not beg on church premises.

### **Meeting 4 – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

Readers event – discussion took place on the possibility of holding a Readers evening offering some hands on practice in using the microphone. Chair to investigate.

Chair met with Patricia Carroll to discuss matters arising from Cluster Conversations. At present there are monthly Masses at Gillis for young people. A young adult pilgrimage to Lindisfarne has been organised and a day retreat for Youth Leaders is also planned. Joyce Cullen agreed to be nominated link with Fred McConnell [Youth Development worker]

Patricia Carroll suggested use of a resource 'Home is a Holy Place' which had been produced by the Bishops of England and Wales after extensive consultation with families. It was agreed to purchase this set of materials with a view to familiarisation by PPC before using in the Parish.

Social Care Commission at Gillis offered a 'Welcomers Course' and it was agreed to offer this course on 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September in St Columba's for both parishes. Hall has been booked.

A new Baptismal Preparation course is to be offered on 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June in Gillis by Patricia Carroll. Chair suggested that we try to recruit some parents of recently Baptised children to act as mentors. 3 of PPC agreed to attend.

Parish Outreach Meeting – Fairtrade winetasting evening had been a great success raising over £700. Other events during the year included the SCIAF Mass, FairTrade stalls and Christian Aid week. It was suggested that Ivor Clarke be approached to talk to the Children in the Liturgy group about SCIAF.

New Facilities – Mike O'Dwyer agreed to contact Fabric and Planning Committee to ask for a progress report on our planning application. **NB Building Warrant now approved.**

- AOCB
- Mike O'Dwyer reported that his daughter's ceilidh band was available for functions.
- Joyce Cullen is organising a Parish Picnic on June 20<sup>th</sup> for Children's Liturgy Group
- It was agreed to speak to Ivor Clarke re recruitment of altar servers
- Fr Kerr reported that the Cardinal had written to say that the Sisters are leaving St Raphael's. Fr Kerr stated that due to the numbers, a team of Eucharistic Ministers would be needed.

**The date of the Annual General Meeting was set for Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010 at 7.30pm**