

**St Peter's Pastoral Parish Council
Minutes, Monday 4th April 2011 at 7.30pm**

Present:

Monsignor Kerr (President), Patricia Cairns (Chair), Sister Catherine (Vice-Chair), Bruce Royan (Secretary), Mike O'Dwyer, Josephine Beech-Brandt, Derek Buglass, Margaret Addly, Joyce Cullen, Stephen Hand

Apologies:

Scott Moffat, Jo Mulvagh, Rosemary Rogerson,

1 Opening Prayer/Reflection

Msgr Kerr opened the meeting with a prayer. Michael and then Josephine read the gospel for 5th Sunday of Lent. A discussion took place about the gospel reading.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of 7th February 2011 were *approved*.

3 Matters arising not otherwise on agenda

3.1 Bruce reported he had written to the Leader of the Communication, Advertising & Public Relations Programme at Napier University, inviting students to volunteer as an editor/communications officer for the PPC. He would report back on the result. **Action: Bruce.**

3.2 Examples of the new Large Print version of the Newsletter were circulated to PPC. It seemed to have been well-received by a few visually impaired members of the congregation, and was also being taken back to some house-bound parishioners. One parishioner had commented that the print was still not large enough for his own sight, but that the layout was better suited for his reading equipment. Another had complained it was a waste of money to serve such a small minority. On the basis of costs of just £2:50 per week, continuation of this service was *approved*.

3.3 PPC accepted a very encouraging Report (see App A) from John Wastle on recent developments in the Welcome Team, Offertory Procession and Ministry of the Holy Eucharist.

3.4 The Parish Secretary had kindly produced an A5 version of the Welcome Leaflet, which was admired by PPC members. It was agreed that new parishioners should be offered a follow-up home visit.

3.5 Rosemary was thanked for her generous gift of a hand-carved wooden Welcome Display Board which had been installed first pillar in the church, holding copies of the Parish Directory and the Welcome Leaflet.

3.6 Jo would be asked to report at the next meeting on progress on the recruitment of additional parishioners to spot newcomers/make them welcome, especially at the end of Mass. **Action: Jo.**

3.7 It was *agreed* that the Lenten Reflection for those involved in Ministries (Monday 11th April at 7:30) would be an ideal occasion both to ask Eucharistic Ministers to encourage those not receiving, to come forward for a blessing, and also to ask Readers to suggest members of the congregation should introduce themselves to their neighbours on the pews. **Action: Sister Catherine.**

3.8 Mike *agreed* to arrange a swap with a scheduled Reader and do the readings with his daughter (hopefully starting an occasional tradition). **Action: Mike.**

3.9 Pat had received written confirmation that we may install a painted noticeboard, visible from the street, displaying church name and denomination, Mass times, phone and website url. It was agreed a traditional wooden one would be most appropriate, and it should be manufactured in Scotland. There would also be a larger cabinet on the external wall under cloister, for Diocesan events and activities. Arrangements would also be made with John Gill of the Roads Department to have a directional sign installed near the corner of Morningside Road. **Action: Pat.**

3.10 Sarah Clyde continues to investigate the possibilities and costs of refurbishing the Parish Room, based on the requirements document discussed at the meeting of 7th February 2011

3.11 Scott had *agreed* to become the official photographer at/collector of images from Parish events, and to maintain the news display board at the end of the church. **Action: Scott.**

4 Correspondence

The need to have the Stations of the Cross cleaned, was raised. It was pointed out that, although professional cleaning might be very expensive, amateur cleaning carried with it the risk of damaging the artworks. Nevertheless, it was *agreed* to ask the Cleaning Team to gently clean them. **Action: Msgr Kerr.**

5 Joint Celebration for Msgr Kerr

The joint celebration took the form of a Mass for Vocations in the newly-refurbished St Columba's Church on Wednesday 2nd March, followed by Fairtrade drinks and nibbles in St Columba's Halls. The St Columba's Choir had prepared some attractive pieces, and there was a printed order of service. Father Brown and Bishop Murray attended, and a letter was displayed from the Cardinal saying: "Monsignor Kerr has, indeed, been a tower of strength to Cardinal Gray and myself. He never seeks any honours or positions in the Archdiocese but simply works away in his own sound and solid way".

6 New Facilities update

Quotations for all works had been approved, and work on electrics and plumbing will go ahead over the next 6 weeks to prepare for the main contractor to start work when the stone is delivered in mid-May.

7 Baptismal Preparation Course

Josephine reported that things were going well. Enough copies of the special course booklet had been printed for the next two years. The course which had just finished had prepared for 8 baptisms, and three bookings had been taken for the May course already. The timing of courses such as this was critical: for example, the diocesan Catechesis course had been poorly attended because a 7:00 start was too early for young parents.

8 RCIA

Derek confirmed that pre-inscription and commissioning, the rite of election in the Cathedral and the reception of the Creed during the Deanery Station Mass had all taken place smoothly, and all are now looking forward to the Easter Vigil at St Peter's.

9 South East Edinburgh Pastoral Group

Margaret confirmed that a meeting had taken place on 15th February, and the group had agreed it should continue to meet four times a year. Sacred Heart had indicated they would like to coordinate RCIA with St Peter's. Pat mentioned that a speaker on the Youth Ministry Training Course (Anne McEvoy) had been invited to the next meeting of this group (7:30 on 12th May). A number of parishioners, who might potentially become active in this area, would be encouraged to attend. **Action: Pat**

10 Outreach Group Update

10.1 The SCIAF day went well. There needs to be a recruiting campaign to recruit more subscribers to the 200 Club. The parish will revert to supporting a specific Project for SCIAF: an approach which generated a lot of interest and commitment in the past. The

chosen project is St. Monica's Girls' Tailoring Centre in Gulu, northern Uganda, and a speaker will be invited.

10.2 Christian Aid Week is 15th – 21st May, and St Peter's is hosting an opening service at 7:00 on 15th. There will be a visiting speaker, and the Hospitality Team will serve drinks and nibbles.

10.3 The Open Door has received a generous legacy, and will be able to refurbish its premises. It is applying for recognition from the Care Commission.

10.4 There was a terrific response to the Fresh Start appeal for toilet rolls etc. W.T. Dunbar have again asked if they can help in any way, and are now providing socks to the clients of Jericho House. It is felt they would be keen to sponsor any future publications, in exchange for an advert.

10.5 The renewal of our obligations as a Fairtrade Parish, was much appreciated.

11 AOCB

11.1 There will be a Rosary Procession in St Andrews on 7th July, as part of the "New Dawn in Scotland" gathering, and this might be the basis of a Parish outing (the local Parish Priest, Father Andrew Kingham, used to be an altar server at St Peter's).

11.2 This year, First Communion at St Peter's would again be held on a Saturday (10.30am Saturday 11th June), since with more than 30 communicants (plus families) expected, there would not be room at the one Sunday Mass. PPC considered ways in which the joy of this occasion could be shared by the whole parish. It was *agreed* that communicants should be invited (via the Newsletter) to attend Mass on Sunday 12th June, and if possible to wear their outfits. They would all participate in the Offertory Procession, and be welcomed with a round of applause. There would be celebratory refreshments after Mass. A selection of the better readers among the communicants would be invited to do the Bidding Prayers.

Action: Stephen.

11.3 It was noted that some Parishes publish an Annual Report, including the accounts, reports of each ministry, etc. It was *agreed* to investigate adopting this approach at St Peter's. **Action: Pat.**

12 Date of Next Meeting

- Monday 6th June 2011

Appendix A

ST PETER'S RC CHURCH

REPORT TO THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC): MARCH 2011

Following the publication in January of the PPC's aspirations to develop pastoral activities, I thought it might be helpful to provide a note on the activities for which I have lead responsibility.

Passkeepers/Welcome Team

With the passing of Jim Travers last October, the Team has been extended to include Magdalen Ogilvie, who has helped with the Offertory collection for many years, and Bill Douglas who has supported the Team from time to time as required. The full complement of the regular Team on Sundays is now: Bill Douglas, Magdalen Ogilvie, Mary Wastle and John Wastle.

In addition,

- Alec Cameron takes the Offertory collection every week;
- 14-year old Louis Mulvagh helps with "welcoming"; and
- Rena Elliott is a Team reserve.

We continue to welcome everyone who arrives for 11.30 Sunday Mass - parishioners, newcomers and visitors alike. Before or after Mass, newcomers are also given copies of the welcome leaflet (newly revised) and the Parish Directory. They are encouraged to introduce themselves to Mgr Kerr and to meet parishioners over coffee after Mass. They are also encouraged to complete and return the personal information part of the welcome leaflet which is to be used in future by parish visitors as the basis for follow-up visits to newcomers.

Offertory Procession

We have gradually lost some regular participants in the Offertory Procession with the drift to other parishes. The recent newsletter appeal on consecutive Sundays did not yield any new volunteers but it gave the opportunity to make some direct approaches. As a result, three new families agreed to take part (see below).

The current arrangements for the Offertory procession are as follows:

1. Children from the Children's Liturgy, selected by the team leaders, take up the Offertory gifts on the first Sunday of the month during school term.
2. From time to time, individuals/families for whose intentions Mass is being offered are invited to take up the gifts.
3. Parish organisations participate on appropriate occasions eg on Education Sunday, Fair Trade Sunday etc.

4. Most Sundays, participants are invited from the following list:

Vijay Arulnathan and Sabita Rossvan*
 Patricia Dolan and 3 children
 Helen and Steve Hand and 2 children
 Stephen Knowles and 3 children
 Elizabeth and John McEwing and 2 children*
 Enrique Krinke, wife and 2 children*
 Peter Nicholson and 3 children
 Aidan and Pauline McCorry and 2 children

*recruited following newsletter appeal.

Ministers of the Holy Eucharist

Since I took on responsibility for the Sunday rota last year, Rosemary Rogerson has withdrawn from the list on health grounds. However, Liz Brown, Helen and Steve Hand and Michael Robinson have been commissioned – reducing the average age of Ministers by a substantial degree! The current team of 24 Ministers comprises:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Margaret Addly | Bill Douglas | Mark Mulholland |
| Liz Brown | Helen Hand | Monica Mulholland |
| Patricia Buglass | Steve Hand | Peter Nicholson |
| Ivor Clarke | Patricia Law | Anne Robinson |
| Marna Clarke | Mairi McCafferty | Michael Robinson |
| John Dames | Sheelagh McGhee | Ann Royan |
| Mary Dames | Gail MacGregor | Bruce Royan |
| Norma Daniels Emm | Caroline Moffat | Ian Shanley. |

Eileen McCamley, John Smith and Louise Smith are available as substitutes if required.

John Wastle
 29 March 2011