

St Teresa's Parish Church
Minutes of Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting held on the 27th November 2017

Present: Fr Jim, Deacon Willie, Marilyn McEwen, Terry Harkness, Elizabeth Robertson, Peggy Marshall, Rosie Biggin, Pat Dickson, John Lawson, Joan Smith, Kathleen McMillan, Mary Brown, Irene Hiddleston and Madeleine Callander.

Welcome and opening Prayer said by all.

Opening Discussion; World Day of the Poor.

This will be held annually on the 33rd Sunday of the Year. This year the Deanery Churches were open 3pm to 4pm for reflection. Fr William McFadden gave a talk in Kirkcudbright on the Teachings of Pope Francis entitled "A Church of the Poor and A Church for the Poor". Here at St Teresa's Des gave a talk on the Ababa Project and there was a collection of food parcels which were distributed by the members of the SVDP. Adoration at St Teresa's was well attended. Ideas for future years :- we serve a meal for the homeless in the Hall.

Fr Jim then chaired the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held in June were read and approved by T Harkness and E Robertson.

St Teresa's Parish 1958-2018- 60th Diamond Anniversary Year.

The foundation stone was laid on the 14th February 1957.

Ideas put forward: Logo designed by the children, Ecumenical Event a songs of praise on a Sunday evening and refreshments served in the hall after, E Blount will ask the parish for their ten favourite hymns. Lisieux Pilgrimage in August, Replace carpet in Church (fundraising already started with £2200 already raised), E Blount is designing a calendar which will be on sale shortly, A rose garden on the spare ground at the left hand side of the Church. Fr Jim will inquire if community service can help with this as well as parishioners. Race night, Indian meal night, parish dance, A Parish Mission starting after the Pilgrimage, special guest preacher from the Carmelites at Sunday Masses on 2nd, 9th, 18th, and 23rd September with inviting Bishop Nolan to make his pastoral visit on Sunday 30th September and mark the Anniversary Mass celebration with BBQ/Special Tea/Bouncy Castle/Face painting etc after.

On the 3rd October itself a school mass celebration in the morning and parish mass in the evening to be followed by our Ministry evening. A Parish Social event quiz night for families could take place on the Friday evening 5th October. This could give us the opportunity to renew our parish hymn books, perhaps people would donate to the cost with the opportunity to have them dedicated in memory of a deceased family and friend with a Dedication Label. The 18th September 2018 is Fr Jim's silver anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood this special occasion could be included in the celebrations.

RCIA/Grow in Faith Sessions.

There are 4 people have shown an interest in joining the Church at Easter.

RCIC

Thanks to Fiona, Elizabeth and Marie for their continuing help. There are 15 children attending the Saturday Club. Reconciliation service for the children will be on the 11th December at 7pm.

Confirmation Day for the cluster Churches will be here at St Teresa's on the 27th February 2018.

Safeguarding/PVG.

The Pastoral Council heard from John Lawson about the Safeguarding in the Parish Catherine Lavell now assists him. John is now a trainer for the diocese. All people with PVG's need to do Level 1 training which most have completed. This training is mandatory. Catherine is now working through the PVG renewals. No one can work with children or vulnerable adults in the parish without the approval of the PP and a full implementation of the Safeguarding procedures which includes a PVG, interview and Level 1 training.

Improvements:

The front doors need re varnished.

School Reports:

The classrooms at St Teresa's School are now in what used to be the infant block. The children raised over £1000 for Mary's meals, SCIAF and Missio Scotland. They collected 17 large bags of groceries at their Harvest thanks Giving Service, which SDVP delivered to the parish. The Christmas Fayre will be held on the 7th December.

St Joseph's College Christmas Market will be held on the 28th November.

Ababa Project and TEACH Programme.

The number of Children sponsored by the Teach program is 113 this year which is up by 15 on last year. Fr. Jim, Des, Beatrice and then Derek, Paula and Rebecca visited Mullingar and met with St, Abebech. The Sisters are trying to obtain Visa so they can visit the parish. The parish sends £2260 each month for the Teach Project. Thanks to the Caritas students from St Joseph's College for planning and running the recent Quiz night.

Parish Youth:

Two students took part in the parish sponsored walk. Youth programme to be arranged in January.

SVDP:

Delivered parcels from the school and the church. Working away behind the scenes.

Dairy of Events.

8th December Senior's Dinner.

13th December St Teresa's School Concert 7pm

24th December Christmas Eve Vigil 6pm preceded by Carols at 5.30pm.

Christmas Day Mass at 11.30am.

Date of Next Meeting Thursday 25th January 2018

The meeting closed with prayer, hymn and blessing by Fr Jim.