

27 February 2015

# **MINUTES OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING 25 February 2015**

These are the minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council meeting held on 25 February 2015.

The following members of the Council were present:

- Father Michael McGreevy
  - Joe Colairo
  - Robin Landon
  - Patrice Murphy
  - Rudi Pittrof
  - Dina Raouf
  - Michele Reilly
  - Will Thompson
  - Bertrand Cliquet
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- Father Joseph Musendami, Bella Caridade-Ferreira, Lizzie Sinclair and Mary-Maye Lorrinan were unable to attend.

## **1. Opening prayer**

Father Michael concluded his prayer asking God to guide the reflection of the PPC and prayed to God to help the committee in its mission. Father Michael reminded the PPC of the mission statement of the Parish.

## **2/ review of minutes**

Agreed by everyone.

## **3/ Comprehensive update on Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee has undertaken a comprehensive assessment of the financial situation of the Parish. It will seek to communicate to the parishioners about their findings in due course. The Finance Committee aims at increasing the transparency of the financial situation of the parish. It deems it to be fair to parishioners. Besides, it has conviction that this is a critical step towards planning initiatives such as the Spire renovation, church

restoration, or other projects that the parish may want to undertake for the benefit of our community.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Finance Committee will meet to overview key protocol and resources such as computer systems, location of financial records. The separation of the finances between the parish and the Redemptorist will be explored.

#### **4/ Lighting and Church maintenance**

The PPC will be requesting that lights be maintained. Indeed, many floodlights are out. We have asked the maintenance team. But the height of some of the light sources requires more than one person attending, for health and safety reasons.

Moreover, access to a lot of them is challenging. We are contemplating hiring a tower to make it safe to restore appropriate lighting in the church.

The parish and the Redemptorist community employ the services of a maintenance professional. We will assess what his requirements would be to get those lights changed.

We have set our next meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> as our deadline. If this is not completed then, PPC members have volunteered to see if they can help solve the problem.

#### **5/ Church etiquette (communion, health and safety issues such as buggies, children and candles, and finally dogs in church).**

Last week, an incident took place, involving a child and candles. Fortunately, it did not result in lasting injuries to the child. However, the PPC will be installing fire blankets on both sides of the church. The priest celebrating mass will give a reminder of the dangers asking, parents to be particularly careful.

Father Michael offered to see where the incident took place and offer remediation measures such as barring access, moving candle holders etc...

This will be added to the bulletin.

The PPC members rejoiced that Communion etiquette improved over the last few weeks, enabling fervour and seamless movement during communion. The priests will remind parishioners of this so that we keep improving in the lead up to Easter.

#### **6/ Dates for upcoming events / Social committee**

The PPC discussed dates for future events:

Events can still be held in the Hall or in the Monastery.

- Summer fair Saturday 13th of June. (school fair is on July 4th). We will find out if there are other conflicting events.
- Quiz night: October 3rd. This may be jointly organised with the school. Parents could bring food and drinks, and collect donations. The dining hall of the monastery was identified as ideal venue for this event. It can host c.70 people. September 26<sup>th</sup> was identified as back up date.
- Christmas fair: December Saturday 5th.
- Pancake Day: Sunday before lent: Sunday Feb 7th 2016
- Music event, such as recital to be penciled in the calendar.
- Playstation tournament This was proposed to attract a younger audience.
- St Mary's choir. Ms Haynes and the school choir are happy to sing in the church. We will be planning an event in May.

- Senior citizen luncheon: May 1st is fixed for the special First Friday Lunch which will be a special celebratory occasion.
- Father Joseph farewell is after 12.00 mass on Sunday March 1st with a glass of wine.
- Post 10am Sunday mass tea and coffee is expected to restart before Easter.

**7/AOB**

- Social committee meeting to be planned
- All PPC members to go through the Disclosure and Barring Scheme.

**8/ dates for next meetings.**

The next meetings of the PPC will be March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm and April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7.30 pm.