

Blessington Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of P.P.C. Meeting – Thursday 16th April 2015

Venue: Meeting Room, Parish Centre

Present: Sally Joyce, Fr. Tim Murphy, Carmel O Donovan, Noel Nolan, Declan Naughton, Eileen Gallagher, Mary Young, Ann Creighton, Liam Fay, Gerry Staines.

Apologies: Betty Murphy

Chairperson: Carmel

Secretary: Sally

Matters discussed / Decisions

Review minutes of meeting held Thursday 12th March 2015 & Matters arising:

Carmel in the chair welcomed Declan back to the meeting after his absence last month under worrying circumstance of family illness.

Anything on Matters Arising will be discussed in agenda.

Coimín Centre and Church upgrades :

Daycare furniture has arrived, also coffee dock tables. Just awaiting chairs. There is as yet no formal agreement in place with the HSE and so the Daycare move date into the Coimín Centre remains uncertain. The proper paperwork must be in place before proceeding.

Lenten Talks Review:

Successful well-attended events. Came together easily in the end. The talk given by Fr Dunphy and his team was particularly relevant regarding idea generation for our new centre. It may be useful to follow up with a visit to Graiguecullen to see some of their programmes in action.

Put Sunday School formation on future agendas.

Easter Ceremonies Review:

Congratulations to Folk Group for fine performance on Holy Thursday. 8pm ceremony time worked well but 7.30 on Wednesday as dictated by previous week's talk caused confusion. Next year schedule all Holy Week at 8pm.

The organ music on the Thursday and Saturday ceremonies was very successful. Hopefully the new organist will continue to be available for future dates.

Pamphlet from the Irish College of Bishops' Conference 'The Meaning of Marriage' –
Make available in Church porches to inform interested parishioners.

BYP Update:

Halo service available in St Joseph's Hall one afternoon a week. The funding for education support by youth reach tutor is being worked on. Members of BYP steering group meeting new Garda Superintendant tomorrow 17/4. Fr Tim commended the work Eddie Darcy is doing particularly in establishing contact with vulnerable young people in the town, and the headway made with establishing some services for them.

Sacramental Preparation Programmes:

Archbishop Martin attended for Confirmation on 26/3/15.

The scrapbooks are due back at the Confirmation Programme Mass on 9th May. We meet the following week – so plan then to review scrapbooks.

Topic:

Luke 24:35-48 *'Look at my hands and my feet; yes it is I indeed'*

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Correspondence:

- Acknowledgement received from Office for Evangelisation and Ecumenism on receipt of P.P.C. response to Relatio Synodi document.
- World Youth Day 2016 to be held in Krakow, Poland. Promotion literature. Plan – display poster in church porch.

A.O.B.

- Philip Brennan has compiled a very comprehensive and interesting historical account of the Blessington Committee who in 1924 led a campaign to build a church in the town of Blessington. Fr Tim has referred to the significance of the work of this group which has paved the way for where we are as a parish today. He recommends that this information be preserved in some way for wider audience, perhaps a publication plus a visual display in the new centre. With the PPC approval he will encourage Philip to consolidate his information and refer back to us for any support. Ann will email the document so far prepared to the P.P.C.
- The neighbourhood collection annual meeting takes place on Monday 25th May. It is proposed that Marcin attend and take photographs of the various committees and parish groups who have served during the Coimín Centre development. This will form a framed display in the new centre. All P.P.C. members asked to attend.
- Big C concert taking place on Friday 24th April. Ticket sales slow and need to be promoted. The choir have requested that a member of the P.P.C. read a selected passage as part of the performance. Liam volunteered.
- Efforts underway to sell the prefab buildings which housed the previous Parish office. This hopefully will raise some revenue for the new centre.
- The local first responders wish to donate a defibrillator to the Coimín Centre and will facilitate full training to staff and volunteers in its use. They have been the recipients of a community award and have requested a display area for it. It was suggested that the plaque could be housed beside the chosen spot for the defibrillator.

Next meeting: Thursday 14th May
Chairperson: Declan