

**Meeting:** St. Joseph's Parish Pastoral Council  
**Date:** Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021  
**Location:** St. Joseph's Church Hall

**Present:** Sr Mary Mabel Chukwu (MC) Sr Mary Rose Maduka (MRM)  
 Hugh Matthews (HM) Margaret McGrath (MM) *Vice Chair*  
 Fr Stephen McGrattan (SM) *Parish Priest* Kieran O'Neill (KO)  
 Mark O'Neill (MO) Sr Juliet Obiorah (JO)  
 Clare Power (CP) Helena Rameckers (HR) *Secretary*

**Apologies:** Anne Dorrian (AD), Lizzie Heron(LH), Paul Nicholson (PN) *Chair*, Alistair Thomson (AT)

Item	Notes	Action
1.	<p><b>Sederunt and Welcome:</b>            SM welcomed everyone to the meeting. He read from the New Testament and offered a reflection on the reading, followed by prayer.</p> <p>SM invited the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to introduce themselves. JO stated they are settling in although they have been unable to minister as they had hoped due to the pandemic. They are praying the Rosary in the parishes, visiting schools and helping at the Foodbank. They are looking forward to being able to visit the housebound and more. MRM added their thanks to parishioners for their welcome, especially as the Sisters arrived under difficult circumstances.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Minutes and Matters Arising:</b>            Minutes from Jan 2021 meeting were proposed by HM and seconded by MM; the date on the minutes was incorrect and should be amended to 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021.</p> <p>There were no Matters Arising.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Relaxation of Restrictions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Once we are in Level 1, there may be a relaxation of physical distancing from 2m to 1m. In Level 1, there will continue to be no holy water and no sign of peace, and Communion will continue to be in the form of the host only; however with face coverings and physical distancing, everything else can resume as before;</li> <li>b) More people are returning each week, but slowly;</li> <li>c) SM wished to record formal thanks to the stewards, without whom the church would be unable to open.</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>Returning to Mass and Re-evangelisation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Support may need to be offered with building confidence to return to Mass;</li> <li>b) It is important to communicate that we are open;</li> <li>c) Unvaccinated younger people may be anxious about returning;</li> <li>d) Bishop Nolan has called the diocesan community to reach out and evangelise, specifically using the Sycamore Project.</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b>Sycamore Project:</b>            A taster video of the project was shown, followed by a discussion about how to launch it in the parish. SM advised a core team of leaders will be required, who will establish a wider team. A diocesan meeting for leaders is taking place on 21<sup>st</sup> June at 7pm (online). HM and MM volunteered to attend. SIHM will advise SM whether they are free to attend. The project will require 6 sessions, probably in Oct/Nov. Planning will need to start straightaway.</p>	<p><i>Sisters to let Fr Stephen know if they can attend leader meeting.</i></p> <p><i>SM to send link to HM and MM.</i></p>

6.	<p><b>LifeTeen:</b> The launch of LifeTeen in the parish was delayed due to lockdown; however RCAG Youth have provided training to potential leaders, and invited parish teens to attend their LifeTeen sessions. HR will arrange a meeting with the previously identified leaders and SM, with a view to starting after the school summer holidays.</p>	<p><i>HR to arrange meeting with Core Group leaders.</i></p>
7.	<p><b>Junior Parish Pastoral Council:</b> SM will invite young parishioners—P7 and up—to establish a junior PPC via a bulletin notice and an initial meeting.</p>	<p><i>SM to advertise junior PPC in bulletin.</i></p>
8.	<p><b>175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:</b> This will be on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022. It will be an opportunity to renew and rebuild the community post-Covid. Martin Baker will perform a recital for the occasion; he and Sir James MacMillan are patrons for the organ restoration. Ideas for events to celebrate the anniversary were discussed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Anniversary Mass;</li> <li>b) Social Event;</li> <li>c) HM suggested a dramatic presentation of “how it all began”. MM will approach someone who may be able to help with this;</li> <li>d) Photographic exhibition.</li> </ul> <p>The celebrations will be a standing item on the agenda and will require a core team to plan.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Fabric:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <u>Porch:</u> The glass partition should be fitted imminently and will provide some sound proofing and draught excluding. The new doors are being made;</li> <li>b) <u>Organ:</u> The recital series will begin on 24<sup>th</sup> September, with approximately monthly recitals thereafter. Fundraising is required as only around half the funds have been secured;</li> <li>c) <u>Lighting and painting:</u> Ideally, this will take place while the organ is away. Painting of the side walls is going ahead in July. The sanctuary painting is currently too expensive due to the need for scaffolding etc.</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>PPC Renewal of Membership:</b> In August, proposals for the next membership term will be made and election of new office bearers will take place.</p>	
11.	<p><b>AOCB:</b> CP advised that there are approximately 50 people with whom the parish has no contact, and it is not known what family involvement they have. A suggestion was made to send each a handwritten card, perhaps with photos of the new porch and stall. SM suggested a visit would be better, and requested the list of names from CP.</p>	<p><i>CP to provide list of names to SM.</i></p>
10.	<p><b>Date and time of next meeting:</b> Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 7:00 pm in St. Joseph’s Hall.</p>	