

PPC Meeting 10 September 2018 – Summary

The Parish Pastoral Council held a meeting on Monday 10th September and the following items were discussed:

- Parishioner Items:

There was a suggestion via the PPC Suggestion box that there should be more vegetarian options at the Summer Garden Party:

The PPC were grateful for this feedback and will bear this in mind for future parish events.

By email to the PPC mailbox:

Week of Accompanied Prayer:

Following the success of the last week of Accompanied Prayer could another one be held in 2019?

The PPC are in full support of this suggestion and are looking at possible dates during Lent 2019

Health & Safety in the Church Hall – children often play on the stage near fragile electrical equipment and could get hurt.

A notice is to be displayed on or near the stage area asking people to keep off of the stage.

Health & Safety in Our Lady's Chapel – People lighting candles often use the front tiers first meaning there is a risk of burn injury or damage to loose clothing when reaching to the back tiers.

The PPC noted that the candle stands are quite elderly now and will investigate the possibility of replacing the long candles with votive lights to address this issue.

Defibrillator Training – Could this be provided for parishioners who may have missed any previous training?

This training was only provided fairly recently and there are no plans for further training at this time, however the equipment is very user friendly and provides step by step instruction on its use.

Parish Property Maintenance – A substantial amount of work needs to be carried out on repairing church property – what are we waiting for?

A number of projects are in the pipeline and some works have already been carried out:

- *The soundproofing of the community centre has been completed and has made an appreciable difference to noise levels.*
- *Soundproofing between the parish office and upstairs flat has been installed*
- *The steps leading into the church have been repaired.*

The planning of actual projects, getting the necessary expertise and competitive quotes mean that the process is inevitably slow, but these issues are being addressed.

- The format and timing of the AGM is to be looked at, changing the perception that people may have of a 'corporate' environment and making it a parish celebration of achievements in the year just gone and looking at the year ahead. It is proposed to move it to a Sunday after 11am mass with a buffet provided before the meeting starts.
- The possibility of a parish mission is being investigated in time for Advent 2019 with the Sion Catholic Community
- The Churches Together structure is changing with a proposal that there is more involvement from lay people. If anyone is interested in assisting with this project please contact the Parish Office.
- The Parish website development is moving along with the homepage designed and sub-pages being designed – not yet live
- Plans to get the film night for the young people up and running are in the pipeline
- Training and supervision for the Pastoral Care Team is almost complete and this service will soon be available to the parish community.
- The Memory Café links with the school are to continue as this has been very successful
- The Christmas Fayre and New Year's Eve party are in the planning stage.
- Plans have been drawn up for the redesign of the foyer area and under the organ loft.
- St James' School have a prayer day for Christian Unity planned for November 1st and a prayer day on the Eucharist on 19th June 2019
- The next stage for the live streaming of Masses project is to hold a meeting so that parishioners can find out more and ask any questions – 16th October at 8pm in the Community Centre