

**PARISH OF SAINT HELEN
LANGSIDE
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MINUTES**

TUESDAY 12th November 2019 7.30PM ST. HELEN'S CHURCH

1. WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

2. PRESENT: Monsignor Paul, Deacon Kevin, Attracta O'Reilly, Clare Gonella, Fiona Mc Cartney, Jackie Black, Patricia Weatherall & Chiara Piacentini

APOLOGIES: Michael O' Neill, Grace Cohen,

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: (20/8/19) Read, discussed and approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

a) Pre-Sacramental Course for Parents (Baptism) Catechists are working through the document and it should be ready soon to pass on to Monsignor Paul for approval.

b) Contact with Cluster Parishes – will continue to await future directives from the Archdiocese re cluster group and respond accordingly. This item will now be removed from future Agenda action points.

c) Protocol regarding recordings during Services – Decision made to source a plastic holder into which protocol will be placed and located in the hall kitchen area to promote ease of access. Additionally, discussion took place around the wording of title of the protocol and agreement reached to remove the word "Services" and replace with "Events".

d) Summary of financial statement of the parish - Following its approval by the accountant, an overview statement of income and expenditure of the parish was made available to parishioners and feedback identified that it was positively received and found to be very informative.

e) Create/update database of groups, members and purpose in Parish- Almost all groups have completed an entry and a word document will be compiled and then used to update the parish website. It was suggested that this document could possibly be used in the future as a tool to promote recruitment.

f) Planned dates for Sacrament of Reconciliation 2020 Proposed dates will be looked at by Catechists on Sunday 17th November'19.

g) Updated list of keyholders in the Parish – List is well underway and should be completed by the next meeting

h) "Sign In" book for Hall users to be re-established – Chiara and Gerry S. (Health & Safety) will take this work forward in line with the Church's Safeguarding Policy. The Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator will be asked to link in.

5. SAFEGUARDING UPDATE - Church Safeguarding Co-ordinator gave a written update which was distributed by Monsignor Paul. Information on notice boards continues to be updated on a regular basis.

Report as follows:

PVG Updates

All forms have been issued to volunteers whose PVG's need to be updated. Only 2 have still to be returned for processing.

Level 2 training

The level 2 training on 26 October was very interesting and from the feedback very useful. There were 2 sessions and 5 PVG volunteers from St. Helen's attended – a good turnout approx 25% of current volunteers. The training information has been well publicised in the parish bulletin along with the dates of the training now on display on the notice boards at the back of the church, in the call room and also included with the update package and all new application packages.

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators Update Training

PSC training is being held on 30 November. My understanding is that we will be discussing Standard 1 "We promote the safe use of Church premises" i.e. the use of the hall with vulnerable groups and children. I will give feedback from this session with any appropriate recommendations at the next PCC.

Annual Safeguarding Statement

Every parish is required to issue the Safeguarding Statement annually. Last year, our Statement was distributed on 18th November and is therefore due to be issued soon.

6. CATECHESIS:

a) Feedback on RCIA Meeting October 2019 St. Helen's Meeting Room – two people have come forward making enquiry about RCIA. Initial meetings have taken place and further meetings to run the programme are planned and ongoing.

7. OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARISHIONERS – FEEDBACK

a) Relics of St. Therese of Lisieux (Sept. 2019)) Several parishioners of St. Helen's congregated at St. Andrew's Cathedral on Tuesday 17th September at 6.30pm to pray in the Cathedral as a parish group during Evening Prayer at 7pm and many parishioners participated individually throughout the visit of the relics to the cathedral. It was agreed by all that this proved to be a very memorable and spiritually uplifting event for us here in Glasgow and indeed all over Scotland, we certainly felt we were participating in something very special!

b) DVD "Summer in the Forest" Jean Vanier (October 2019) : On Tuesday 22nd October in the hall, there was a screening of the DVD 'Summer in the Forest', a film about the work of Jean Vanier (who died in May 2019) and his L'Arche communities. This event was well attended, moving and enjoyable. Proceeds from the evening have been donated to the L'Arche communities.

c) Memorial Mass (November 2019) Parish November Memorial Mass was held on Saturday 2nd November '19. (All Souls Day) at 10.00AM. The music, liturgy and preaching as well as the candles & prayer cards were all very much appreciated by participants. Many of those who attended mass took the opportunity for a chat over tea, coffee and home baking in the hall following mass. Further discussion took place regarding the possible re-start to writing in the names of those deceased of the parish in the "Book of Life".

8. PARISH PASTORAL PLAN (FORWARD PLANNING – November – December 2019)

a) Red Wednesday 2019 for Aid to the Church in Need (Wednesday 27th November '19) Preparations are in hand for lighting up the church in RED using our new outside display light. Items to raise awareness and funds for this cause will be available for sale in the hall on the next two Sundays following 11 o'clock mass.

b) St. Andrew's Day Dinner for Parish Volunteers – Saturday 30th November '19 Plans are well underway for the organisation of the dinner and invitations will be sent out this week. All returns are due on 18th November and will be collated electronically.

c) Robert Barron "Pivotal Players" (Advent. Dates TBC) There was suggested further use of the Robert Barron's series "Pivotal Players" in future planning. The series is now available as a download on to lap-top / computer. Suggested dates were Tuesday 3rd, 10th or 17th December. Catechists will liaise with Monsignor Paul.

d) "Sharing the Journey" Parish event – Possibly December (Advent). Decision was made to support two Refugee / Asylum Seeker charities this year during Advent in place of our usual Advent Giving Project which involved use of the Jesse tree and gift collection labels. The emphasis this year being on food item donations and small household items as specified by the two charities concerned. It was suggested that a flyer and a list of requested items be drawn up and bags made available for parishioners to collect then return with their donations chosen from the listed items. The bags will be emptied each week and the food items etc delivered to both charities. Members of SSVP will inform the recipients of gifts in previous years of this change.

e) Advent Service (Tuesday 17th December '19) There was agreement to change the previously proposed date of the Advent Service to Thursday 19th December 2019 at 7pm. The format will be a family, not solely a children's service and a flyer to publicise the service will be distributed in the two preceding weeks. Refreshments will be provided in the hall afterwards.

f) Preparations for Advent/Christmas 2019 – Timing of Christmas Masses will be unchanged from last year. The advent wreath will be set up following morning Mass on Saturday 30th November.

9. LITURGY

a) CHILDREN'S LITURGY – new leaders required. Bulletin entry will be re-instated requesting volunteers along with a continued request on the parish website.

b) MUSICIANS – Music group are happy with the response for request for new participants. This item will now be removed from future Agenda action points.

10. DECORATION OF PORCHES Update

a) Handrail – Handrail installation has now been completed in response to a parishioner's suggestion posted in the "Suggestion Box". Positive feedback regarding the new handrail has been forthcoming from several parishioners.

c) Notice Boards – Development completed on one porch and ongoing on second porch. A very good job has been done with header signs allowing for much improved organisation of material.

11. FAO PARISH COUNCIL

a) Information/matters for consideration (Parish Groups) – No new matters for consideration, apart from the 3rd World Group announcing their annual Christmas Charity Quiz night for SCIAF on Saturday 7th December at 7.30pm, tickets now on sale!

b) Suggestion Box and communications regarding input to PPC – No items for discussion in Suggestion Boxes.

12. AOCB

- a) A note of thanks was extended to Margaret J. (Eucharistic Minister) for assisting in facilitation of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday mornings to provide a short period of access for private prayer immediately after morning Mass inside the chapel area up to 11am.
- b) A year planner will be put up in the meeting room to identify events planned to take place in the church hall.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING -TUESDAY 21st JANUARY 2020. PARISH MEETING ROOM 7.30PM

14. CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING