

**MINUTE of a MEETING of the PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL  
of ST ANDREWS PARISH, DUMFRIES  
Tuesday 5 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7.00 pm**

- 1 Trish Clyde opened the meeting with a prayer.
- 2 Present: Father Gerald Donnelly, Trish Clyde, Edwina Cummings, Shona Payne, Kate McKay, Annette Barnett, Claire Reid, Mary Frances Murray, Stuart Irvine, Kevin Jones and Gerald McGill.  
Apologies: Maire Crawford.
- 3 Matters Arising:
  - Marian Way Paintings Update – The John Cairney paintings have now been returned by Trish to Mr Cairney. The church has no further responsibility for these.
  - Tabernacle – Trish noted that at the AGM in May a number of parishioners stated their dislike of the current tabernacle. This was a tabernacle that had previously been at St Connel's in Kirkconnel until it closed and was then gifted to St Andrew's. Trish read out a history of the tabernacle that was prepared by Mary Buckley. It summarised the reasons for the relocation of the tabernacle back on to the sanctuary, although it was noted that her history did omit a significant period of the history of the church when the tabernacle had been situated on the altar itself. Father Gerald feels that having it in the sanctuary is the right place for it albeit the current tabernacle does not appear suitable. Father Gerald then raised that a parishioner has made a substantial donation to the parish and he thought it appropriate that some of these funds be used to put a proper permanent place for a new tabernacle on to the sanctuary. It would be where the current tabernacle is located but would be a new tabernacle created especially for the space, perhaps using the service of a local artist to create a much better surrounding to reflect its importance. It was agreed that ideas would be sought from the parish by an entry in the Parish Bulletin and perhaps a Tabernacle Committee could then be formed. It was also raised that the sanctuary lamp may need to move as part of the overall work.
  - Embracing Change – Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances St Andrews was not represented at the recent Deanery Meeting. At this stage there is no knowledge of what was discussed but Minutes will likely come through before too much longer which can be discussed at the next PPC Meeting.
- 4 AOCB:
  - Christmas – A meeting of the choir has already been arranged for 13 September and a Liturgy Committee Meeting will be held on 26 October to ensure that plans are in place for the Masses over the Christmas Season.
  - Songs of Praise – An ecumenical celebration will be held to celebrate an anniversary of the Crichton Church on 15 October. St Andrews has been contacted and at the forthcoming choir meeting it will be established how many can go from St Andrews.
  - Eucharistic Ministers – There is currently a shortage of Eucharistic Ministers at the Vigil Mass. Father Gerald suggested that 2 chalices rather than 4 could be used to ensure that the same people are not being asked to be ministers every single week at Mass. In addition, it was suggested that if ministers stood closer to the altar it may speed up the 'convoluted' process of the handing out of chalices.
  - Meeting Dates – Father Gerald apologised to the meeting that he had to move the meeting date and explained that as his father has been unwell he needs to spend time visiting him and his mother. In future, to ensure that if required he can get time to visit his parents during the week, it would be easiest if all PPC meetings were held on Tuesday evenings. It may be that Mass at St Columba's in Annan may have to move to Thursday evenings to allow Father Gerald time to visit his parents in the afternoon. It was also mentioned that the St Andrews Parent Council meetings can clash with the PPC meetings and it was important that this could be avoided. Trish mentioned to Father Gerald that he can appoint a representative to attend Parent Council meetings of both schools if he is unable to make the meetings.
- 5 The next meeting is to be on Tuesday 21 November 2017 at 7.00 pm in the church house.