

Parish Coordinating Team
Immaculate Conception, Maryhill
Thursday 23rd March 2023

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Fr Jim Lawlor, Iona Craig, Catherine McGhie, Savannah McKibbin, Stephen Towie, Clare Smith, Merlyn Soutar, Isobel Sergeant, Julie Hughes, Brian Martin, & Frances Toner

Apologies: Mark Wilson, Pauline Bradshaw

Item	Summary of Discussion
1	Minutes of previous meeting Minutes of the meeting held on 8 th November 2022 were accepted and all matters carried forward to main agenda.
2	Parish Coordinating Team – Membership Fr Jim welcomed the new team members to the meeting. Brian has agreed to chair future meetings and Clare will act as the secretary.
3	Archdiocesan Update Archbishop Nolan has published his thoughts on “Visioning the Future” and his message is “We are not preaching the catholic church; we are preaching Jesus Christ”. A pastoral letter is being issued to parishioners this weekend and a meeting of clergy is also planned. The structure of the archdiocese is being changed, with 9 deaneries reducing to 5. The Immaculate Conception parish will be part of “Deanery West”, which has 14 parishes, from Anderson to Yoker, and Fr Allan Cameron, of St Gregory’s parish, has been appointed as the Dean. The deaneries will meet this Monday, with a focus on “Looking to the future, being faithful to the past”. Each parish will appoint 1 lay person to the Deanery Council by 22/4/23. The viability of parishes is also being looked at with a view to reducing the number to 70. The archbishop has convoked the Council of Priests, which consists of 10 priests & the deans. Fr Jim has been invited onto the Council.
4	Parish Fabric & Finance Update Fr Jim and Brian gave an update on the following items: A fire assessment for the 3 buildings has been done and, following receipt of three quotes, arrangements made for the work to be carried out. The fire and security systems have been upgraded, utilising existing and new equipment. A need to fit fire doors between the SPRED rooms and chapel house was also identified and the total costs were between £7000 and £8000. A monitoring system is now in place. There is also a need for a smoking shelter to service the hall and a basic shelter from “Shelters for Less” has been costed for around £1000. Discussion took place on an appropriate location, taking account of aesthetics and potential fire risks and it was agreed that this should be progressed immediately and the practical issues can be addressed on an ongoing basis. Chapel house – One of the dormer window flat roofs at the en-suite needs repaired and the gutter at the back of house needs re-lined. This is expected to cost around £5000.

4 (cont'd)	The stairs at the front of the church remain a significant issue and the parish holds £40,000 in the bank renovation account for this work. The main parish account currently has around £62,000 and the archdiocese has reduced the amount we have been charged for the levy. Including a large donation, the parish total currently stands at £9500 for the Lenten SCIAF collection.
5	Together We Make Maryhill – Progress update Iona gave an update on recent activities: • The Breakfast Club has been really busy in the last 2 months and is being used by 50-60 people. Lots of really positive feedback has been gathered for the evaluation. • The Men's Breakfast meets on the last Saturday of the month and usually has around 18-24 participants. An evaluation is planned for the next breakfast. • It is planned to extend the Warm Welcome as the last 3 weeks have been really busy and the participants have really appreciated it. There has been a fabulous response from volunteers and 29 are involved from the Immaculate Conception parish. Again, it is planned to carry out an evaluation this week. • Services are planned across the Maryhill churches for every night in Holy Week. • The events during Christian Unity Week were very well attended and enjoyed by all who attended. • A report on TWMM has been prepared by Stuart and Iona and Fr Jim also plans to do this in the Immaculate Conception. • The Archbishop & Moderator have visited Maryhill in recent times and both remarked on the positive work and very unique situation. • A pop-up outreach stall is planned again at Asda for next Saturday. • Discussion took place on potential activities for Spring/Summer Joint Events, including repeating the canal boat trips or a possible bus run/boat trip to Loch Lomond. • During Volunteer Week, in the 1st week of June, it is planned to get the TWMM outreach volunteers together to thank them for their work. • The Women's Community Custodial Unit (Lilias Unit) now has 12 women, some of whom are Christian and have requested input. A group of women from Findlay Church have been visiting and Iona has also been involved in this. A team of 5 visit on an Wednesday afternoon & Sunday afternoon and they also plan to hold a Good Friday & Easter Sunday service. This will also be opened up to other volunteers to be a part of the visits/services. • A Women's Retreat Day is planned for Saturday 3rd June in the Mackintosh Halls.

6	Sacramental Update Baptism Frances updated the team on sacramental preparation and the plans for 2023. 9 children, plus 6 siblings, were baptised in preparation to receive the sacraments in January 2023. Reconciliation 41 children will receive the sacrament of reconciliation on Saturday 25th March and each has received an individual appointment. First Holy Communion The first holy communions are scheduled to take place on 20th May (St Mary's and other schools) and 3rd June (St Blane's). At the moment, 45 children are registered and each child is being allocated one pew in the church for their guests. Confirmation Archbishop Nolan will confirm all of the P7 children in the area in the immaculate Conception Church on 25th April. This includes the children from St Blane's PS, St Charles' PS, St Mary's PS, and 12 children from other schools. At the moment, it is expected that 58-60 children will be confirmed. As the church will be very busy, it has been necessary to limit each family to 6 seats, which will include the child, sponsor and parents. The church will be prepared in the afternoon and volunteers have been asked to help. It is hoped that there will be tea in the hall following the mass. Fr Jim commented that he would like to engage with these 150 young people and also with the older young people and adults in the parish. With this in mind, he is planning to invite senior pupils to the Sunday evening mass before the exams and to have hospitality in the hall afterwards. He also plans to hold an event for the P7 pupils before the end of term.
7	AOB All items have been discussed under the headings above.
8	Date of Next Meeting Thursday 25th May Agenda • Schoenstatt event • Revisit Synod response