

Minutes of the Pastoral Meeting Thursday 2nd June 2022

Matters Arising

Funeral and Covid Regulations

- There were no reactions from Church Congregations to the relaxation of regulations
- All positive attitudes
- Identity Jackets for Ushers/Greeters.
- Email from the Diocese suggesting the return of Collection Boxes at Sunday Masses. Canon Jimmy uncomfortable with this idea – conscious of the present cost of living crisis and financial strain. Collection is good enough, probably down by about 10%.
- Card Payment: do we need to introduce this facility? Team felt that at present it was not needed
- Return of Blessed Water to the Font. We will introduce it
- Majority of people not wearing masks at funerals, congregation all wear masks at the 10 o'clock Mass on
- Weekdays
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Parish Mission

- The first poster/sign has already been erected and people are interested and curious which is good
- Formal letters of invitation have been sent to all Guest Speakers
- A Cantor has being recruited for the duration of the Mission

Parish Fun Day 15th May 2022

- Fantastic Day – very successful
- Tremendous turn out of Parishioners and people from neighbouring parishes
- Repeat again next year

Look at

- Possibility of 2 Ice Cream Vans
- Maybe re-positioning ice cream van and Coffee Horse Box to accommodate a more orderly and faster moving queue
- Use more of the green space available
- Look at Home Bakes distribution point – again with a view to faster serving and less waiting time

Net Ministries

- The Team have now returned to their Homelands
- A new Team of 30 young people will arrive in August to begin planning and preparing for their ministry
- Parish support team will attend their commissioning Mass in Rosnowlough in late August
- The Net Team for Aghalurcher Parish will be commissioned on Cemetery Sunday. They will go into the schools immediately following the Parish Mission
- CEO and Development Officer returning in August to organise Timetable and tie down final arrangements

Review of work with John Bennett

- Review of Pastoral Team Meeting with John Bennett on Sunday 19th June from 2- 5 pm
- Essential all past and present team members attend
- Canon Jimmy will not be in attendance
- Parish benefitting from Pastoral Team work
- John Bennett to plan our vision for Team
- The afternoon will finish with a meal

Return of Ministries

- Baptismal Team, Bereavement Team and Communication Team – need them back on board
- It was agreed that the above groups should return to their designated ministries
- Reservations about the Bereavement Team visiting crowded wake houses (covid still a risk). It was decided that they could meet with bereaved family members in the Funeral Home
- Are restrictions still in place for Christenings? – People wanting to come to the event. Prior to Covid, numbers were increasing, and this was becoming a big family event
- It was agreed that restrictions on attendance at Baptisms be removed
- Aisling and Vera to inform parents when they are booking baptisms that a maximum of 40 per family can attend the ceremony
- We will continue to baptise 4 babies in Holy Cross and 2 in St Mary's on the respective Saturdays

Date of next meeting

Thursday 14th July at 7pm