

St Philomena's Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Date: 20.08.2024

In attendance: Janice Gomez, Emenda Saliba, Peter Keogh, George Finnegan, Fr John, Margaret Russell

		Action
1	Opening Prayer led by Fr John	
2	Welcome: The PPC warmly welcomes Janice and Emenda to the meeting and to the group. Apologies: Valan, Julie, ShonaMarie, Mark	
3	Minutes of last meeting Agreed	
4	Matters Arising: The PPC warmly congratulate and thank everyone who made the Centenary Mass and Celebration lunch such a lovely event. The performance by Sinclair Academy choir was a highlight of the mass and the lunch was extremely enjoyable and well attended. It was an excellent start to the year of celebrations marking the centenary of the Church.	
5	Update on Sanctuary Deliberations We have entered into discussions with the architect Michael Laurie Architects Ltd to explore some options for upgrading the Church. They will come up with suggestions and options, with costs attached, in early 2025. These will be presented to the Parish before any decisions are made. The Archdiocese have given agreement to this, in principle, while making it clear we would have to be responsible for raising all necessary funds. It was agreed that the timescales for this work would not be limited to the centenary year.	Weekly meetings, by zoom (and some on-site) with Architects and PPC members
6	Other Updates: Sinclair Academy/Chaplaincy/Rosary Recently the Archbishop visited Sinclair Academy, said mass, and presented the rosary used by the Venerable Margaret Sinclair to the school to the school. This is a strong link to the patron of the school and will play an important role in the life of the school.	On-line training for lay minister (MR)

	<p>There is a new initiative to appoint a Lay Minister to each Catholic secondary school to support the Parish Priest, the RE department and to build links with parishes. Lay Ministers will undergo training. Margaret Russell has volunteered to be the first lay minister to Sinclair Academy.</p> <p>One of the first steps will be: An invitation will shortly go out to parishes, inviting parishioners to the school to learn more from pupils in the newly formed Chaplaincy team. Further opportunities for parishioners to engage with the school are being planned.</p>	
7	<p>Advent/ Christmas</p> <p>This year, there will be 3 Candlelit masses on Tuesdays instead of the morning masses. The dates are 3 December, 10 December, 17 December. It is hoped these will be well attended.</p>	
8	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Peter reported the following issue raised by a parishioner : The priests' graves in the cemetery are in need of some attention and remedial work. There are several priests buried in Winchburgh Cemetery.</p>	Fr John to liaise with Jacqui about how this is to be done.
9	Closing Prayer led by Fr John	
10	Date of next meeting: tbc	MR to liaise with Jacqui about the dates of PPC meetings in 2025.