

**MINUTES OF PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING  
DUNSFORD AND ARDGLASS**

**DATE: 1 May 2024**

**PRESENT:**

**Fr McCloskey (FrMcC) – President**

**Sean McAlea (SMcA) – Prayer leader**

**Meave Gilchrist (MG) – (Downpatrick Pastoral Community Forum {DPCF} Rep) – Chairperson**

**Carmel Doherty (CD) – Secretary**

**Jeannette Hunter (JH) and Barbara McConvey (BMcC)**

AGENDA POINT	DETAILS:	ACTION BY:																																																		
1	Opening Prayer:  The opening prayer was led by FrMcC																																																			
2	Apologies: Bernie Wilkinson (BW)																																																			
3	Mission Statement:  MG read the mission statement for reflection by the Council.																																																			
4	Adoption of Minutes:  The minutes of the previous meeting on 13 March 2024 have been unavoidably delayed. They will be produced and considered at the next meeting.																																																			
5	Matters Arising:																																																			
5.1	Census results for attendance at all weekend Masses in the Parish, taken 27 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup> April 2024  <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Ages</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Vigil</th> <th style="text-align: center;">10.00 am</th> <th style="text-align: center;">11.30 am</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Totals</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> <td style="text-align: center;">43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12-18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19-29</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30-39</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>40-49</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td style="text-align: center;">44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>50-59</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60-69</td> <td style="text-align: center;">37</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">34</td> <td style="text-align: center;">89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>70-79</td> <td style="text-align: center;">37</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td> <td style="text-align: center;">37</td> <td style="text-align: center;">94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80+</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">35</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Total attendance at all 419	Ages	Vigil	10.00 am	11.30 am	Totals	0-11	13	14	16	43	12-18	9	11	7	27	19-29	9	4	3	16	30-39	10	6	0	16	40-49	18	13	13	44	50-59	27	18	10	55	60-69	37	18	34	89	70-79	37	20	37	94	80+	14	12	9	35	
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5.2	<p>Easter Ceremonies: All agreed that the Easter ceremonies went very well and all services were very well received. Thanks to FrMcC</p>	
5.4	<p>Planning for the Future:</p> <p>FrMcC advised that a meeting of the Family of Parishes has been arranged for Tuesday 28th May in Patrick's Place, Downpatrick, for anyone wishing to attend. It will be led by Canon Murray who will be assisted by FrMcC.</p> <p>FrMcC advised that there are 5 clergy within the Family of Parishes and 2 Deacons. Matters such as the facilities within each Parish as well as travel times between Parishes, among other matters is to be noted.</p> <p>Between the 2014 census and the 2023 census it was noted that Mass attendance within the Family of Parishes had fallen by 59%. Initial results from the latest census might suggest some recovery.</p> <p>There are a number of priorities to be addressed within the new Family of Parishes including lay funeral ministry and catechesis.</p>	
6	<p>Visit of the Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis:</p> <p>A lot of work has gone into making arrangements over the past number of weeks including attending printers to arrange a lot of signage and preparing boards to displaying in prominent places. Thanks to SMcA for his assistance with this.</p> <p>The Council was advised that there will be a shuttle bus service, running after 5pm from St Nicholas PS to the Chapel. Attendees are asked to avail of the shuttle service or to park further away and walk to the Chapel if possible.</p> <p>There will be special arrangements for disabled people who are requested to attend with the assistance of 2 in order that the driver can drop off the disabled person with a helper and then attend to parking in the graveyard in accordance with the direction of stewards.</p> <p>Parking in the graveyard will be on the basis of a one-way system.</p> <p>Some local parishioners have volunteered use of private driveways for parking but these will need to be agreed in advance.</p> <p>FrMcC advised that there will be gazebos arranged in the car park with additional outside seating.</p>	

7	AOB:	
7.1	The Parish has welcomed its first funeral lay minister and congratulates John Murray following his commission.	
8	Date of Next Meeting:  The date for the next meeting was agreed for Monday 10 June 2024 at 7pm in the meeting room.	
9	The closing prayer was led by SMcA	