

St Mary's Church Council meeting 1/10/23

Present: Fr. Domenico, John, Walter, Marie, Steve, Phil, Mags, Gary, Chloe, Elaine,

Opening Prayers: Fr. Dominico.

AGENDA

Fr. Said that some church members have asked for details of the Church Council. It was agreed that names of members will be put on the board at the back of the church Julie to be asked to take a group photo.

Finances: Phil reported that as at 30th September the Bank Balance was: £37,820 Gift Aid: £8,203. Last Years Gift Aid: £5,800. Many parishes are now using the Open System, and training days are available.

Children's Sacramental Formation.

Marie and Bridget are happy to organise this, and recently there have been more children attending church. Mags asked if we could make our church more inviting for children, possibly displaying their work. A children's area was suggested and perhaps an occasional Children's Mass. Discussion followed.

Sanctuary Matters:

Fr. Reported that the big microphones have been replaced with smaller ones, and a camera may be fitted in the hall. There is a crack in the outer wall of the Sacristy and the wiring may need to be looked at, He said all this work will probably be expensive

The Church Fair: 1st. Saturday in December at 10.00 am.

Marie said that helpers are needed for all the various tasks, i.e. Items collected from church and taken to St. Ninians church. Tables to be put up and filled. There will also be a table for Mary's Meals. The church office was felt to be the best place to store gifts in the meantime. Gary said that the Bottle stall was popular last year and he hoped we might get an even bigger variety of bottles this year. A list for people to sign if they can help on the day will be put at the back of the church.

A.O.C.B.

Walter said that Coatbridge Church had held a service at which Dana had performed. Also, two Nairn churches had displayed very colourful stands. He wondered if our church could do something similar. A lady from our church knows an entertainer who may be able to help and advise with this. Mags raised her concerns about the hall notice board. Discussion followed.

Fr. Domenico asked us to consider how we can make people feel more welcome in our church. He asked us to think about this and come up with any suggestions. He asked to think about how we share our faith in Jesus Christ and live out the mission of the Church. Discussion followed.

Elaine was asked to give a report on SSVP particularly re the amount of money still in the bank, for the next meeting.

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 8th. November @ 7.00 pm.

Closing Prayers.