

# St George and the English Martyrs



## Parish Pastoral Council Annual General Meeting – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 6pm

### Council Report

#### **Membership of PPC**

Father Brett Adams	- Parish Priest
Graham Alcock	- Parish Treasurer
Charlotte Alexander	- Elected
Dianne Alexander*	- Elected
David Andrew*	- PP appointed
Adrienne Davison	- PP appointed
Malcolm Duncan*	- Elected
Suzanne Halvey	- Co-opted
Catherine Harrold*	- Elected
Brian Lish*	- Elected
Frank McEvoy	- PP appointed
Chris McPhillips	- Elected
Kelvin Ncube	- PP appointed
Paul Schofield	- Chair of Finance Committee
Annabelle Smith	- HT St George's School
Val McEvoy	- Secretary

There have been 4 PPC meetings since November 2014.

Changes to the membership of the Council since the last AGM are indicated with an asterisk. We welcome the newly elected members of the PPC. Our sincere thanks to Chris Wallen, Bernard Chalk and Jill Bryan for their service and support during their time in office.

Thank you to everyone for taking the time to vote for your representatives.

Since our last AGM Fr Graham has moved to St Helen's in Ongar and has recently been appointed 'Vocations Director' for the Diocese. We will miss him and wish him well. We continue to remember him fondly as he starts his new role.

We also take this opportunity to warmly welcome Fr Brett to our parish and his first PPC AGM! We hope he will continue to feel both supported and appreciated and congratulate him again on his first appointment as a parish priest.

A variety of topics, events and discussions have taken place since the AGM last year. A brief summary is listed below:

Following last year's AGM the following topics were included in discussions at PPC meetings:

- The purchase of a new permanent noticeboard to be erected by the main entrance of St Georges is now complete. Our grateful thanks to the donor for covering the cost of this expenditure.
- Fr Brett is setting up a befriending group.
- The maintenance and repairs of our church buildings (and the considerable cost) continues to be discussed – also see finance report.
- A new welcome pack has been introduced, to be issued to new parishioners as they register and join our community.
- The provision of school newsletters at both churches continues and has received positive comments from parishioners, who appreciate the school sharing its news and many achievements.
- The mural of 'The baptism of Christ' has been completed. Many thanks to the artist, Mick McGurk for his excellent work.
- Both the loop and sound system at St Georges has been checked and all is satisfactory.
- A full Health and Safety check was carried out by the Diocese. A full report has been received by the parish. Any recommendations or suggestions raised are being carefully considered, led by our H&S representative Bernard Chalk. Our Fire Exit plans have been amended.
- Sensor lights by the sacristy door have been replaced.
- Fr Brett is considering a 'refresher' training session for readers during the coming year.
- A comprehensive financial report has been presented to the PPC and discussed. A summary publication has been circulated to all parishioners. It clearly shows an ongoing shortfall of income. It is hoped that an appeal for parishioners to consider increasing their weekly offerings. An increase in those taking part in 'Gift Aid' would also improve the situation. Our treasurer, Graham, will report in more detail.
- Our First Holy Communion programme continues to be well supported. Our thanks to Annabelle and her team for all their hard work.
- Candidates for Confirmation have just begun their programme of instruction.
  
- Our parish website continues to grow and extend, new this year:
  - An online hall booking enquiry form
  - Register for FHC forms
  - Register for our Confirmation programme
  - Order a 'parish newsletter' delivered to you weekly by email
  - Read Fr Bretts 'Thought for the Week'
  - Daily bible / mass readings online
  - Parish online registration forms
  - Daily prayer and personal meditation online
  
- Our social calendar continues and has included this year:
  - Annual Christmas Fayre
  - Murder Mystery Evening
  - Weekly Coffee Mornings
  - Irish Night
  - Various charity fund raising meals
  - Annual Summer Fair
  - Italian Evening (supporting 'ACROSS')

## **Parish Safeguarding**

Free online training for any parishioner. This is especially suitable for those thinking of helping vulnerable adults or assisting those running courses involving young people. A registration link is on our parish website – click the 'safeguarding' banner on the front page.

## **Births, Marriages, Deaths and Mass Attendance (during the past year).**

Mass Attendance	<b>481</b> (weekly average)
Baptisms	<b>28</b>
Marriages	<b>1</b>
Deaths	<b>13 + 2</b> (non-parishioners)

Also:

Confirmations	<b>3 adults</b>
RCIA	<b>7</b>
First Holy Communion	<b>38</b>

## **Thank you**

May I take this opportunity to thank sincerely our Parish Priest Fr Brett for his guidance and support and secondly your representatives on the Parish Council both past and present, for their ideas and hard work over the last year and the years to come.

Finally may I also thank the large band of dedicated parishioners who organise and run many activities and events and those who support the running of the parish and maintenance of the parish building and grounds through their voluntary work. Our continuing development lies in us all continuing to give generously of our time and talents to help build our community.

Please note that all of the minutes of the meetings and finance reports are available for download on the parish website and paper copies are displayed for a short period of time at the back of both the churches (following approval at the PPC meeting).

**Frank McEvoy**  
**Chairman**

**AGENDA FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2015 – 6.00pm in the Parish Hall**

1. Opening Prayer – Father Brett
2. Apologies for absence
3. Welcome and Report by Chair of Parish Council
4. Report by Father Brett
5. Financial Report – Parish Treasurer
6. Open Forum

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