

St Mary's and St Paul's Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting

1st of October 2025

Present: Fr O'Brien, Rita Clark (Chair), Justine Docherty, Lisa Pearson, Agnes O'Donnell (Secretary)

Apologies: Helen Giusti, Ronnie Boyd, Claire Molnar

Updates/Requests

- A reminder that the church is open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on a Wednesday has been included in the parish bulletin.
- Suggestion that the St Mary's church take part in South Lanarkshire Council Open Doors Day in September 2026. Applications go live in spring. Potentially part of the celebrations of the church's 180th anniversary.
- Details of parish stall contact (Clare, 07778804859) is now displayed in the stall with details of CBC Distributors for anyone wanting to order items directly.
- Parish Council email ppc1846@hotmail.com has been highlighted in the parish bulletin.
- We hope to have an update from Mary's Meals early in the new year about the school the parish is sponsoring as part of our Jubilee Year 2025 celebration.
- Lower Auchingramont Road and Muir Street closed 26th of November-5th of December. Reminder in parish newsletter nearer the time
- Gate now opened to allow access from the car park to the church without using the stairs.
- We are looking at improved lighting at the bottom of the stairs at the car park.
- Rita to pull together all the information she has gathered re installing a card machine in the church. This will be discussed in detail and the next meeting including a final decision on whether we should go ahead.

Developing the Wellspring Project within St Mary's and St Paul's

- St Mary's Youth Project. Claire was unable to attend the meeting but sent out a summary including: A small group willing to support young adults in the parish is now established. Initial meeting with Caritas volunteers and other young people in the parish has taken place, next meeting will look at building on the ideas discussed. Altar server training has been arranged for Saturday the 1st of November 10-11.30 am.
- Idea of Caritas group attending PPC meetings raised. Claire is a permanent member of the group and with her role leading the Youth Project she is a conduit between the group and the PPC. If there are any specific issues the Caritas group or other young people in the parish would like to raise with the PPC they are welcome to come along
- Befriending Group. Initial meeting has taken place with the next meeting planned for the 4th of November. Next key stage is to identify those who would want a visit from the

group. The reinstating of the parish Christmas Event at Carrigans has been tasked to the group by Father O'Brien. A date has still to be identified. Anyone interested in being part of the group to contact Justine on 0795139 7616.

- Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) will begin on October the 23rd 7-8.30pm, meeting weekly through to being received in to the church at the Easter Vigil 2026.

Jubilee Year 2025

- Suggestion that this year's donations made through the November lists are donated to the Friends of the Holy Land

Diary Dates

- Defibrillator Training arranged for Saturday 4th of October from 10-11am in the parish hall. All welcome
- 9th of November Fair Trade coffee morning (tbc)
- 7th of December Santa's Sausage Sunday(tbc)

(Due to safety issues with the roof in the kitchen all events in the hall requiring access to the kitchen have been postponed or will be confirmed nearer the time)

Parish Council Box

- At the back of the church for comments/suggestions. Alternatively email ppc1846@hotmail.com

Date of Next Meeting

- Wednesday 19th of November at 7pm.

St Mary's and St Paul's Mission Statement

Our parish of St Mary's and St Paul's Hamilton is a community of faith where priest and people seek to work together to build up a life-giving Christian community that is characterised by prayer, hospitality and mission.

In the spirit of Wellspring we seek to be a welcoming, nurturing, inclusive and caring parish that gathers together at the Eucharist to celebrate Christ's presence among us and, with his help and strength, to continue in loving and compassionate service to others, especially those most in need.