

**ESCC Council Meeting held at Sacred Heart Minor Seminary, Victoria,
Friday, May 13, 2015 at 10:40am**

Present: Karin Brayshaw, Adele Debattista, John & Veronica Grech, Mary Newman, Lucy Sultana and Fr Loreto Tabone, who chaired the meeting.

Apologies: Canon Borg

The minutes of the last meeting were read, corrected, approved and signed.

Matters Arising

Services

Penitential Service, led by Fr Loreto, went well. It included Penitential Service, Stations of the Cross, and then Mass. The 9:00am start time may have contributed to better attendance.

Series of 4 **Lenten Talks** were led by Fr Chris and Fr Loreto.

Lenten Retreat was well-attended; more than 20 were present.

Feedback regarding retreat and Lenten talks included suggestions to have a longer retreat (a full day, rather than a 1/2 day), to have a silent retreat, and opportunity for discussion in small groups.

Easter Week Services. There were some hiccups and improvements could be made for next year by meeting to co-ordinate roles and clarify who is doing what for the services. All co-ordinating with the Rector and the Seminary went very well with the candle being provided well ahead of time.

- Fr Loreto will speak to Rector regarding payment for Easter Candle

Holy Week Services were published in the Times of Malta.

Our Lady of Sorrows on the 27th included Stations of the Cross on the Friday Mass.

The Bishop has confirmed his attendance for celebration of **Feast of Saint Thomas More** on June 23rd, with Mass beginning at 6pm.

- Fr Loreto will remind the Bishop of the date during the week of the 23rd and give him the order of service for the Mass.

Signatory. Fr Loreto spoke to the Curia and there is no need for *signatory* on the account; he was assured "as long as we know who you are" that there would be no problems with the account if a transaction needs to be made.

Visiting priests. Fr Joseph Portelli celebrated Mass in on Sunday while Fr Loreto was away in Scotland and last Friday's Mass with Fr Chris included three visiting priests from Rome and Columbia.

- Fr Loreto will contact Fr Cutajar, serving in Albania, to see if he could celebrate Mass with us when he is next in Gozo.

Newsletter.

- Fr Loreto will remind people to take newsletters with them to share or hang on to for reference.

Community gathering. Informal gathering was hosted in community member's home.

Additional mass cards have arrived; the English-speaking community meeting on Saturday evenings at St Lourdes were asked but did not require any more cards.

Donation for Guatemala Mission (Fr Anton Grech), usually sent in February, will be sent. Amount of 400 euro was unanimously approved.

- John will send 400 euro
- Karin will take care of distributing stipends to the priests in John's absence, as well as any other expenses and take custody of Sunday collections.

Treasurer's Report

March 2015

Cash in Hand:	€757.64
Offertory:	€643.15
Over from Retreat:	<u>€60.00</u>
	€1,460.79

Stipends:	€210.00
Bulletins:	€15.00
Flowers:	€20.00
Stationery:	€49.00
Candles:	€6.00
Spiritual Exercises:	€40.00
Donation Manresa:	€120.00
Half-Day Retreat:	€50.00
Honorarium:	€45.00
Hosts & Wine:	<u>€11.50</u>
	€566.50

Balance end March 2015

€894.29

April 2015

Cash in Hand:	€894.29
Offertory:	€721.79
Donation (envelopes) March:	€105.00
Donation (envelopes) April:	€319.00
Easter Sunday Collection:	€393.92
Late Donation:	<u>€25.00</u>
	€2,459.00

Stipends:	€210.00
Bulletins:	€12.00
Hosts & Altar Wine:	€11.50
Stationery:	€20.00

April 2015

Present (birthday cake):	€19.00	
Donation Seminary:	€250.00	
Easter Gifts (x 4):	€830.00	
Honorarium:	€45.00	
	€1,397.50	
Balance End April 2015:		€1,061.50

New Business

Music. Response to music during Mass has been positive. Lionel is co-ordinating musicians on spreadsheet (currently there are seven musicians involved) for Sundays.

Feast of St Thomas More. Karin has contacted Fr Alfred (Fr Cini is now back in Malta) at Manresa regarding booking the evening of June 23rd, using the upper conference room (with use of vessels and altar garments for 3-4 priests) and to be self-catered using the garden room and the garden for approximately 30 people (with use of fridge, cutlery, chairs and table).

- Adele will handle sign-up sheet for potluck- savory dishes and salads. Desert (ice cream) and drinks will be purchased by John & Veronica.
- Karin will put notice regarding sign-up sheet and Feast details (cost?) closer to date.
- Karin will give order of service for the Mass to Fr Loreto to pass on to the Bishop.

Children's Books.

- Karin will look for replacements for missing books and purchase approximately 10.

Altar Missal Repair. Mr Cauchi at Office Club kindly repaired binding, free of charge, and did the repair quickly.

'Parish' Record cards to be held by Secretary.

Any Other Business

Donation amount of 50 euro was agreed and approved for the Order of Malta Volunteers in Gozo, Chris Galea, to assist effort to provide transport to events at Ta' Pinu for those needing services of van with a lift.

Special Collection for Nepal. The collection for Sunday May 24th will go towards relief efforts in Nepal. An announcement will be made Sunday (the 17th) and it will also be put in the newsletter.

- Fr Loreto will find out if donation should go through Curia or Caritas Malta.

Sweets & Savouries/Produce/Flower Stall will be held Sunday the 5th of July. Proceeds will go towards project in Guatemala being done by the Vassallos.

A request was made that committee members would be notified before any donations from Samaritan Fund were allocated. In a situation requiring a quick response or in between meetings where there is communication required council members can be contacted via email or phone- all present agreed.

Suggestion was made to hang a sign on the courtyard door on Sundays asking people to please close the door as there is no one is at the reception desk and the door is still being left open sometimes. Carried forward as no decision was made.

Date for next meeting: Wednesday, October 14th at 10:30am at the Seminary.

Meeting ended at 12:15pm with a prayer.

Signed,



Chairperson