

**ESCC Council Meeting held at Sacred Heart Minor Seminary, Victoria.**  
**Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 4:30m**

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

**Apologies:** none

The meeting began with a **prayer** and a reading from the Gospel of John.

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

**Matters Arising:**

**Courtyard Door.** Security has improved; most people are closing the courtyard door behind them.

- John will stand at the door Sunday morning to let in those wishing to enter near the font of holy water.
- Fr Loreto will remind people to close the door behind them on their way out of the courtyard.

**JRS (Jesuit Refugee Services)** No email response was received regarding ways which the community might help refugees living in Gozo. We will speak to them in person while we are at Manresa for the Advent Retreat.

**Donation** to be given to Fr Mario Cassar of Nadur to go in aid of work he is doing in Kenya. Amount of €150 unanimously approved.

- John will give funds to Fr Loreto on Sunday to pass on to Fr Cassar

**Mass** was held November 4th in St Mary's Cemetery in Xewkija.

**Correspondence:**

none

**Treasurer's Report**

**October 2015**

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Cash in Hand:	€1,510.09	
Offertory:	€566.02	
African Missions Collection:	<u>€302.42</u>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>€2,378.53</b>	
Stipends:	€180.00	
Bulletins:	€12.00	
Gifts for Sick/Recovering:	€22.40	
Flowers:	€10.00	
Honorarium:	€45.00	
Donation African Missions:	<u>€400.00</u>	
<b>Expense:</b>	<b>€669.40</b>	
<b>Balance end Oct 2015:</b>		<b><u>€1709.13</u></b>

### **Any Other Business**

#### ***Help for Refugee Families***

Nadur Parish will be hosting a refugee family.

- Fr Loreto will speak to Fr Jimmy Xerri to find out how our community can contribute.

#### ***New Member(s)***

Susanne Hall contacted Fr Loreto regarding her interest in serving on the council. One other person expressed interest in being on the council.

**Advent Retreat** to be held 28th of November.

Time of lunch at Manresa has been changed from 12 to 12:30. The extra 1/2 hour will be used for discussion following Mass.

The price of lunch has increased but will remain the same (€10) for retreat participants. Difference will be covered by excess coffee money.

New manager of Manresa is Joseph Mercieca.

- Fr Loreto will make arrangements/confirm reservations for lunch and use of the chapel.

#### ***Christmas Services***

Christmas Eve service will be held at 10pm this year. Musicians from the community will provide music for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

There will be a **blessing of the crib** (with musical offering of "Come to the Manger").

In recent years the Seminary has decorated the chapel with **polsettias**, hopefully also this year.

Kids will be asked to help with lighting the **Advent candles**.

- Veronica will get **chocolate lollipops** for the children for Christmas morning and will contact Audrey regarding **sherry glasses** and plates (we will use disposable, and glasses can be donated)
- Adele will ask Karin about using the **Advent Wreath** she provided last year.
- John will order **mince pies** for Christmas morning.
- Adele will ask Karin about the **Christmas envelopes** for the the offerings for the priests.

**Christmas collection for local people in need** (to be passed on to Father Eddie at the Good Shepherd Parish for distribution). Non-perishable food items will be collected during Sundays of Advent.

- Veronica will bring large baskets from the car boot sale to be used for collecting food items.
- Adele will ask Karin to include notice in the newsletter regarding food collection.

**Christmas Meal** will be shared after Mass on Sunday, January 17th at Valley View restaurant in Xlendi.

- John will book the reservation and get details about the set menu.

**AGM** to be held immediately after Mass on Sunday, January 24th. Last year's **survey** responses were nearly exclusively from council members and those already serving the community in some way. We need a new survey and careful follow-up in contacting volunteers.

**Date of next meeting** set for 4pm on Tuesday, January 12th.

Meeting ended at 5:45pm with a prayer.

Signed,



Chairperson