

Parish Pastoral Council meeting (Thursday 26 March 2026 7:30-9:00pm)

The meeting was attended by:

Father Deo (President)

Danny Jeyasingam (Chair)

Ged Perkins

Maria Newey

Val Newey

John Lee

Dominique Fregiste

Fergal Keane

The meeting began with an opening prayer.

The committee then discussed **updates from the previous meeting** in January 2026 noting that during Fr Deo's absence due to ill health several meetings had taken place to discuss the parish finances. The committee noted that Fr Deo had written to parishioners to update on his recovery, and the challenges facing the parish.

The committee then discussed the key themes arising from the **Finance Committee** meeting which had taken place earlier in the week, noting that detailed consideration had been given to ways to maximise parish income from all sources alongside measures to reduce any unnecessary costs. Relevant actions would be taken over the next three months, with regular updates provided to the PPC each month.

The committee agreed that to aid transparency and ensure parishioners were aware of the financial context, in future the weekly parish newsletter would include basket and standing order donation totals, with the total income and expenditure from all sources included on a monthly basis. The committee also agreed to hold an AGM in the autumn to engage with parishioners and update them on progress.

The committee then discussed the **Planned Giving Drive** including communications materials, guidance documents and task lists and agreed to hold the event over the three consecutive weekends of 26th April, 3rd May and 10th May 2026.

The committee then discussed **any other business**, noting there had been a reported **safeguarding incident** where someone had acted in a disconcerting manner during church services. The committee noted that the diocese safeguarding team had advised that if someone is causing a disturbance the parish priest should be alerted and if the situation is serious and there is a safety concern the police should be called. The committee agreed that communications/guidance would be provided to parishioners.

The committee also noted that plans were being developed to hold an '**open door/summer event**' to invite the local community to visit St Bart's to learn more about our faith, including hearing a talk and taking a tour of the church.

The PPC will next meet on Thursday 30th April 2026.