

## Report of the Fundraising Committee for the PPC-AGM

In the autumn of 2009, a committee constituted itself to oversee and support fundraising efforts in connection with the new parish centre. The initial remit was primarily one of co-ordinating activities which were to be organised by the various parish groups, a fact that was reflected by the committee's membership. It comprised of representatives of these parish groups.

In an interim report in January 2010 I already reported that various fundraising initiatives had raised the following amounts:

• Square Metres	£3,840
• Hog Roast	£1,853
• 100 Club	£1,100
• CWL Donation	£ 500
• Church Musical*	£447
• Private Donations	£49
• Mums' lunch	£ 202
• Garden Tea Party	£ 210
• Craft Table	£225
• Bridge Afternoon	£330
• Wine Tasting	£805
• Knight's Raffle	£135

The events were all successful in several ways; firstly, as was evident from the positive feedback received that they were all enjoyed by those who took part;. It was gratifying to see that many of the events attracted parishioners and friends of the parish from very diverse backgrounds and that participation spanned a wide age-profile, too. As such, the 'social' aspect of these 'social fundraisers' was a huge success. Secondly, as the above figures show, significant amounts of money were raised in aid of the New Parish Centre.

However, it became evident throughout last autumn that the fund-raising target (in the region of around £100,000 over two years) was too large a sum to be raised without a designated fund-raising campaign. For that reason a smaller group (fundraising core committee – FRC) took on the planning of such a fundraising appeal which was launched in the spring of 2010.

This fundraising effort is designed as a two-year campaign initially, during which we hope to get as close as possible to our £100.000 target. An 8-page brochure was produced with the help of Concept Digital, who not only gave us a very competitive price for the production but also were most helpful in their advice throughout. Canon Eddie launched the appeal at all masses over three consecutive weekends in February/March 2010. He explained the two-step approach; parishioners were asked to complete a pledge form in which they committed themselves to support the campaign, either by a one-off donation, the sponsorship of an item for the New Parish Centre, regular giving in the form of a standing order or through envelope collection, support through prayer or giving of practical support, or any combination of the above. Once received, in a second step these pledges were followed up by correspondence resulting in the setting up of standing orders, distribution of appropriate envelopes and collection of donations etc.

By the end of May, the figures for donations received and projections for future income on the basis of commitments received are as follows:

Donations received for items for the Parish Centre:	£840
One-off donations:	£7,140
Monthly donations via envelope: <i>(with total over 24 month period estimated to be £7,680)</i>	£320
Monthly donations via standing order: <i>(with total over 24 month period estimated to be £13,816)</i>	£590.66

Of the above amounts, ten per cent will be donated St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, to contribute to the cost of the imminent rebuilding the two reception classrooms.

On the basis of the donations received to date and income projected from standing orders and envelopes pledged, the appeal will have raised **£29,476** by the end of the two-year period (or £26,584 if the 10% donation is subtracted)

It was decided that only money raised from February 2010 (the time of the appeal launch) would be taken into account with view to achieving the target sum of £100,000.

Since February 2010, several more fundraising events have been organised including

• Sponsored Swim	£575
• CWL Cake Sale	£125
• Valentine's Night	£320
• Quiz Night	£1410
• St. Mary's School Fundraising Event	£1898.78

and various other donations have been received. The amount raised between February and May 2010 totals £5514.78.

None of the above figures take into account additional income from gift aid which we expect to receive.

Taking this information into account, an amount of £67,901.22 remains to be raised to achieve our target sum of £100,000.

For the fundraising committee

Sabine Lee

June 2010