

**Minutes for St Michael's Church Sonning Common held
on Monday 3rd June, 2019**

Present: Fr M, DB, KS, TM, ML
Apologies: SB, BW MOD;

Minutes of previous meeting accepted

Matters arising:

Thank you to MOD who has updated the PPC photo poster in the church with up to date photos of all the members

The Ecumenical Safari supper – took place on the 17th May with 89 people attending - KS did the desserts again in the hall and the event was a great success. This year All Saints Church in Peppard also joined in serving Canapé starters. The ecumenical team will have a debrief next week and it is hoped to do the event again next year – Springfield Church have offered to do the desserts next year so St Michaels will be doing the main course for half of the group.

Special Masses

A special service for the anointing of the sick are being held this weekend 9th June, Pentecost Sunday at all Masses,

FrM has invited Fr Anthony Wilcox to assist at the 10.30am Mass so that there will be two priests anointing – There are a number of people who cannot make it to the Mass so Fr Michael will visit them separately. KS will have a cheque drawn up for Fr Wilcox.

First Holy Communion

10 children will receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion this year – whilst the group being prepared for the Sacrament is much larger, many of the children are receiving the Sacrament at other Churches

The Parish outing to Farnborough Abbey- This has now been confirmed by the Abbey for the 29th June and a sign up sheet at the back of Church has 19 names on it. It is intended the day will include a tour of the Abbey, the opportunity to take part in one of the offices of the day then lunch and a time for recollection. This is to be confirmed by the Abbey. It is proposed that the day starts at 10.30am and BT has offered to take responsibility for linking people who have offered lifts to the Abbey with those who require lifts.

Fr M has asked that Saturday morning confessions are cancelled that weekend so that he can take part in the day. KS will put a notice in the newsletter the weekend of the 22nd.

St Michaels Weekend and AGM – Following a discussion about the AGM at last month's meeting it was agreed that the AGM take place on the Sunday of the weekend of the Patronal feast in September. It was further agreed that the Italian night would now take place as a lunch and replace the annual shared lunch on the Sunday of the Patronal Weekend. A discussion was had about the format of the weekend and a poster will be produced by TM

displayed at masses starting this weekend to highlight the event and encourage parishioners to put the date in the diary. FrM proposed that the speaker for the Saturday session perhaps be a prison and hospital chaplain to highlight their work. BT and FrM will discuss this further. The fish and chip supper and Mass on the Friday will remain unchanged with the Italian meal replacing the shared Sunday lunch as highlighted earlier.

KS will put a note in the newsletter this weekend highlighting the change of timing for the AGM and the dates and events for the Parish weekend.

Volunteers – the Church is still in great need of more volunteers including money counters and helpers for the Children’s liturgy. We have found one new couple for the money counting. A discussion was had about how to encourage and appeal for volunteers. It was suggested that we organise a display during the patronal weekend showing the different aspects of the parish life and encourage people to sign up to help.

KS and TM will also meet to liaise about producing the annual parish review and a more permanent handbook highlighting parish life.

Children’s Liturgy

No new children seem to be attending the children’s liturgy. A discussion was had as to how to engage with the families at St Martin’s school, with many valuable suggestions being put forward as to how to make the faith accessible to parents - such as stations of the cross or rosary sessions before pick up at 3pm and starting a mother’s prayer group . KS will liaise with Fiona at St Martin’s about always highlighting the monthly family mass in the school newsletter and FrM and BT will further discuss ways of engaging the parents of children from the school. Further discussion included explaining the RE curriculum to the parents and the production of a similar booklet such as the Walk with Me brochure or the Advent and Lenten calendars to engage the parents.

AOB

Someone requested at last month’s meeting that FrM ask for a quiet time before weekend masses. This has now been communicated via the newsletter over the last two weekends Taizé music is also being played before masses to encourage quiet prayer. It was pointed out that the setting up of the teas and coffees and the choir rehearsal prior to mass can be distracting but is essential. However, after a discussion it was agreed that at the 10.30am mass the communion hymn would be delayed until after everyone has received communion to allow an opportunity for uninterrupted quiet prayer.

Volunteers for events

KS asked how to engage people to help set up and clear away after the parish events, following the Safari Supper last month. It was proposed that a what’s app group be set up so that a message could be sent out simply and quickly asking for help prior to the event. This would save a lot of time spent on sending out emails and following up. KS and TM agreed to set this up.

The meeting was closed with a prayer

Next meetings:

8/07/19 at 7.30pm

16/09/19 at 7.30pm