

**Minutes for St Michael's Church Sonning Common held
on Monday January 21st 2019**

For attendees see minutes on church noticeboard

Minutes of previous meeting accepted

Matters arising:

Columbian Fathers are coming in February for an appeal.

Photos of new PPC members to be added to noticeboard at back of church;

A new noticeboard is also to be fixed.

Review of Advent and Christmas 2018:

Pre Christmas events went down well and were generally enjoyed - particular thanks again to KS for the Christmas pudding evening (delicious puddings!). The craft event for children was also popular.

Also thanks to those who ran the flower workshop - well attended and fun!

Numbers at all Christmas Masses were lower than last year - the numbers attending the early evening Mass may reflect the number on roll at St Martin's.

Attendance at Holy Hour was low - there may be a need to highlight what can be gained from attending even only 15 minutes of the special time spent in the presence of the Holy Sacrament.

Parish register:

Quite a few people, who still attend services at St Michael's, have not re-registered.

Christmas card (detailing services) distribution was, therefore, not as wide as in previous years - some even mentioned that they did not get a card...

It may be worthwhile when distributing the Easter services cards, to call on those no longer on the register with a new registration card and ask, if they would like to re-register.

Curry and Quiz night:

Volunteers needed to help set up in the Hall. BT to contact KS to advise that ML and BW are prepared to help on Saturday morning, and email other members of PPC to request support.

Lent and Easter 2019:

Holy Week and Easter Masses to be held at same time as last year.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - see review above.

Lenten Talks - try to liaise with other parishes, to avoid clash of events - but Weds seems to be the only evening when the church hall is available during the week. Suggested theme: "Why I am still a Catholic" - requiring witness from parishioners.

Passover supper - D Hallé is willing to lead the evening - perhaps a flier or link to learn more about this celebration should be highlighted before the event.

Lenten Charity - preference is for a local charity : Readifood and/or the Drop in Centre - M O'D is prepared to contact the Drop in Centre (CIRDIC) to see if there is a particular need or if someone is prepared to talk at a Mass.

Activities for younger parishioners - pancakes and craft event are being planned.

Unity Event:

There was good representation from St Michael's at the evening service held at Springwater on Sunday, 20/01.

World Day of Prayer to be held at Christ the King in March.

First Holy Communion 2019:

First preparation session has taken place; Fr M has had one session with parents.

Parishioners will be invited to pray for a particular First Holy Communicant as in previous years.

Parish Outing:

29th June is the likely date for a parish visit to St Michael's Abbey, Farnborough.

Special Mass:

Fr M would like to conduct a 10.30 Sunday Mass, where the sick and infirm are brought for anointing - will need to organise lifts and is likely to take place after Easter when the weather improves.

A possible special Mass to consider is for those who have lost a child in the womb (miscarriages, still births, terminations) - at the moment, tentative, sensitive enquiries to be made and discretion is to be paramount. This Mass should ideally take place during Lent.

AOB:

A parishioner who did not usually attend the 10.30am Mass wrote a note to the PPC after attending a couple of 10.30am Masses indicating that singing parts of the Mass made it difficult for people to join in and whether this caused people to be bored. A short discussion ensued and some did not go to the 10.30am Mass because they preferred not to have singing others attended because the singing was important to them. It takes time to become familiar with a Mass setting and participate fully. Our parish has a range of Mass styles over the weekend.

Washing up bowl in room next to Sacristy, please.

Sewage problem at presbytery solved - new pipes and inspection chambers have been installed

Next meetings:

18/02 at 7.30

18/03 at 7.30