

PPC meeting Thursday, 24th April, 2023

Apologies from BT, TM

Attending FrM, BW, MOD, KS, ML, SB

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING MATTERS ARISING

The Parish Whats App group – there has been good response with the current sign up at 31 people.

MOD was able to cover with the help of BW and KS the 5.30 Mass and the 9.00 am and asked if anyone could ask at the 10.30am Mass – ML said she will do that.

MOD who is the administrator has not seen any unnecessary chat.

KS was asked to write in the newsletter and Whats App group that you can get the newsletter by subscription.

RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS AT CHURCH

At the last PPC meeting it was agreed that there was a need to recruit new readers and welcomers for all the Masses and more volunteers at Church to help in all aspects of Parish life.

Since the last meeting KS has liaised with BT and has produced a flyer about “contribution to parish life” It was agreed that KS would liaise with FrM and BT to find the best time to present this flyer to parishioners to coincide with a display that KS is working on to display details of the Parish groups that parishioners might like to get involved with.

THE THOUGHTFUL LIVING GROUP

The screening of the Letter will take place on 28th April, next week – ML PL BW SB and KS to set up at 11am.

The TLG are thinking of doing a Harvest craft fair in September and a plant sale and seed swap next year. They are also proposing a food collection for Readifood during Harvest festival.

The Season of Creation and the International world day of Peace occur in September – 21st September.

The recycling bins are up and being used by parishioners which is very positive. The TLG will arrange a rota of their volunteers to empty the bins.

The Thoughtful Living group are proposing having a Second Collection for CIRDIC over Easter and FrM confirmed that Palm Sunday would be a suitable date for this second collection.

MOD has said that the TLG would like to have collections for CIRDIC at Harvest Festival Time and Christmas and it was agreed that dates would be explored for these collections to fit in with the current calendar for second collections.

ECUMENICAL EVENTS

The Safari Supper, is an ecumenical event organized by the Churches of the area and which all parishioners are invited to – the date for the event has changed and KS will confirm which date has been agreed and will liaise with the other Churches re. planning.

Springwater Church in Blount Court Road have also invited parishioners from St Michael's to a BBQ on 26th August, 2023

ANNOINTING CEREMONY

Anointing ceremony – BT is currently away so FrM will liaise with him when he is back. Those parishioners that would like to be anointed can be anointed either at Church or at home. The conditions for anointing are if a person is dangerously ill or requires dangerous surgery and those that have grown frail under the burden of age.

YOUNG WIVES GROUP

Fr M is hoping to get a Young wives group started at the school. This is still pending bereavement group are still pending

NEW KITCHEN

The documents giving details of the plan and the costs are with the diocese – and are being considered.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

It was agreed that this would be discussed further when KS has had a chance to talk with the group at St Anne's to discuss their working model.

ITEMS FROM THE AGENDA

LENT AND EASTER

Mass attendance over the Easter weekend was 267 which was very encouraging.

It was noted that the services were short of altar servers.

Numbers suggested that the Zoom Sycamore course on the Wednesday was not as popular as the in person course. It was noted that the Monday meeting was really for those that did not work.

ML suggested it might be better to have an evening meeting – if we want to encourage more people to come.

Easter cards were given to the school this year, so that all children had a card to take home and this seemed to work well and encourage more families to attend the Easter Masses.

We were not required to provide Easter eggs for the vulnerable children's unit this year as the usual charity donating the eggs now have the funds to provide them again following increased fundraising after the pandemic.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S PASTORAL LETTER

FrM considers the diocese should declare one Sunday over the Summer – an open day – this is a big subject – It was agreed that we would need to work through the questionnaire – and to involve more people than in this committee including young people in order to get a range of views. It was agreed that this would be considered at the next meeting – PPC members have a copy of the questionnaire – It was suggested that like the synod we would need to have an event for parishioners in order to discuss the Archbishops thoughts– It was proposed that this might take place somewhere between Easter and Summer Holidays – mid July

PARISH LIFE AFTER EASTER

SR has offered to do a quiz – could we do this in Summer. KS to liaise with Sue and we will discuss some dates at the next meeting.

AOB

May procession - Goring have a plinth – So a day for the procession needs to be chosen – The procession should include the First Communion children.

Father Michael thought it would be nice to have the children wear sashes and there is a haberdashers in Henley – He suggested that volunteers might like to make sashes and veils for the children to wear in the procession –FrM suggested that the children might like to bring flowers.

FrM asked if we run the procession after the 10.30am Mass – and have refreshments in the hall afterwards followed by the Games afternoon

The Games afternoon has been proposed for 21st May

BT and FrM to confirm the date

Mary's Meals – Fundraising – It has been suggested that on Sunday 7th May a collection for Mary's Meals be taken – KS to email Mary's Meals lady when she has found out who she is.

Monday 5th June and Monday 10th July, in the Presbytery

Closing prayer FrM

Sycamore appealed to those that want to more about their faith and perhaps we want something for people who are enquiring about their faith – Sycamore there are 40 or so episodes that are available on line.

Perhaps we need to tell people how it can be accessed on line.

Could we have some help in how to talk to a non-believer

FrM suggested we have an Open Day during Advent – to be discussed in Agenda in July

SB suggested that it would be good to have some volunteers to be there to talk to people who come.

Archbishop's letter – response

The letter – the questions were very challenging – ML suggested that what can we do –

Children's liturgy

Food Bank

Thoughtful Living Group

Open Day

We should not be overwhelmed by the content of the letter – we feel that we are going on the right lines

RCIA – the drop off rate was large after a year.

Can we be prepared/educated to speak to people

Promoting the things we do in a Church

How are we moving forward on this – shall we discuss this when DB is back.

Pastoral council – need to have a special session and invite anyone else who would like to be involved or be interested. MOD to liaise with BT to pick a date to discuss.

May procession

FrM suggests we will have this the 14th May – Carry the statue round – have a shrine made and

FrM can get the platform

Flowers round it – young parents from the school to do it

Music provision

FrM will discuss with parents at the meeting on Thursday and if there is enough interest it will take place on the 14th May.

There is to be a May procession in school to be confirmed – it will be at the end of the day.

Could parishioners be invited to the school procession – once the date is finalized for the children's procession at school it can be advertised in the newsletter.

Parish Social Events

21st May – advertising already started – nice to get the young people involved – Open to anyone

We have posters and flyers and sign up sheet already in place.

Light refreshments – juice and sweets

Safari Supper postponed until September due to personal reasons and illness of several of the organisers.

Should we ask the parishioners what they would like?

ML suggested that the Ceilidh was a great success.

Can we put it in the newsletter – who knows how to call a barn dance or a Ceilidh

KS to speak with SR about quiz

Nobody came back about Pilgrimage

FrM suggested we might advertise the pilgrimage to Lourdes – via the Westminster or Portsmouth diocese

First Communion and Confirmation services – not as many candidates for either – because of the proportion of Catholics at St Martins – the economics of the area and the

Social choice is a factor?

Mary's meals – collection on Sunday

MOD said Cirdic was very happy

Next meetings 5th June and 10th July

