

PPC Meeting Monday 30th October 2023

Attending FrM, DBT,MOD,KS,SB

MINUTES

Patronal Weekend Very positive feedback. The talk from Fr Paul Fitzpatrick was informative and there was a chance to ask questions. The turnout for the Parish Lunch was encouraging and it was an advantage that it coincided with the Family Mass. Some families attended who would not otherwise have come. Over £500 was raised for CIRDIC and there was a good level of parish participation with a range of items on offer including preserves, crafts and plants. The ceilidh was not as successful as the previous year – maybe there were too many activities during the weekend. It might be an advantage to combine some of the future events with the school. There is also a need to spread the load of organisation of events.

Anointing Mass Fewer parishioners who are not able to attend Mass regularly were present at the Anointing Mass than previously. It was thought that the Mass was worth persevering with in order to raise awareness within the parish.

Couples retreat attendees found the experience uplifting, linking the experience with their faith. Couples from St Annes and Henley attended. The time afforded for reflection is valuable and the parish retreat which did not take place this year should be reinstated next year perhaps during Lent.

Advent The live nativity has been tabled for this year and will be reconsidered for next year. The format could be a series of tableaux with no speaking parts rather than a peripatetic production.

Services will be as usual with a Reconciliation Service on the last Monday of Advent, two masses on Christmas Eve and a 10.30 Mass on Christmas Day. Liaison between the Choir and the Flower Arrangers is important regarding adorning the church for the Christmas Eve carols service and Mass. Marlina offered to effect this.

Thoughtful Living Group The produce/craft sale during the Patronal weekend raised enough money to provide materials for the CIRDIC Christmas dinner and presents. The Whats App group is going to appeal for towels and razors and some have already been purchased. There will be a raffle in February to raise money for a different local charity. Feedback on the success of the Autumn fundraising effort for CIRDIC to the parish is important. Using the newsletter coupled with a display in church would reach members of the parish (input from CIRDIC is to be sought). A display is also planned to encourage parishioners to reduce the environmental impact of Christmas e.g using recycled materials, scarves from charity shops for wrapping.

The parish Christmas tree is a traditional way for parishioners to give gifts to deserving people. There might be a need to target homeless people so additional labels should be available e.g. basic items for personal care rather than sweets etc.

Future Events Xmas Pudding evening spaces still available. 10th February possible date for a Quiz evening with a takeaway. A games afternoon during January/February is planned.

Engagement with Youth in the Parish

There is an ongoing commitment to engagement with youth in the parish. The diocesan Youth service is available. A group is being started at St Anne's and young members of the parish could attend.

AOB PPC numbers are small and there is no representation from the school. It might be an advantage to recruit a parishioner who is involved with the school onto the PPC. Parishioners could be encouraged to attend meetings with a view to joining the Council. Fr Michael and Brian will speak to parishioners who may be good candidates to join the PPC.