

Sacred Heart and St Antony's Joint Parishes Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting
Sunday 20th September 2015

Present: **Priest of the Parishes**
Mgr Bernard Massey (Acting Chair)

Sacred Heart

Dee Coleman, Christine Cronin, Jane Dyer (Minutes), David Gabriel, Fiona McDonald, Jacek Miotla, Gill Preisner, Frank Tothill.

St Antony's

Leone Hayward, Petronella Mason, Bernard Thomas.

1 Opening prayer

Mgr Bernard opened the meeting with prayers including the Our Father.

2 Apologies for absence

Chris Menzies (Chair), Fr Rupert.

3 Minutes of previous Meeting held 21st June 2015

These were accepted and signed as a true record.

4 Matters Arising

a) Reports from Parish Committees

Finance & Fabric: this group had met on 23rd July and the next meeting is scheduled for 25th September.

Newman Hall Club

- Contract between Newman Hall Club and the Parish to be finalised.
- The level of rent for the Newman Hall Club has been finalised at £1800 pa (inclusive of utilities), payable quarterly, with annual increments of £150. (Noted that the figure of £1500 previously minuted was in fact not inclusive of utilities.)

Newman Hall

- The locks on all doors to be changed – noted that 20 new sets of keys are required which includes 5 for the bar and 12 for regular users.
- It is hoped to have a budget for the Newman Hall by the next meeting.
- Following on several concerns raised by the insurers, a H&S review was undertaken by the H&S Officer appointed by the Diocese. A number of observations were made including:
 - ✓ Fire safety issues regarding storage of possessions in the Newman Hall: in future no storage facilities are to be allowed on the site with the exception of the bar/kitchen areas; Newman Hall users to be notified.
 - ✓ H&S notices to be displayed in the kitchen area to comply with regulations.

Finances

- The finances for the first six months to be compared against the budget at the next meeting

Catechetical: this group had met on 18th August and the next meeting is scheduled for 29th September.

The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and in the Contemporary World

- The *Relationships* fliers distributed in the newsletter during August have been reissued as a leaflet.

Do You Love Me? Sessions of Catholic Prayer & Spirituality

- 6 sessions of prayer and spirituality have been planned for the autumn based on the 6 chapters of the book 'Do You Love Me?'

- These will be held in the Sacred Heart and a leaflet giving relevant information will be available shortly.

CAFOD

- A discussion evening on the Pope's Encyclical '*Laudato Si'* is planned for Tuesday, 29th September.
- A CAFOD petition regarding Climate Change would be available for parishioners to sign.

Liturgy: this group had met on 10th September and the next meeting is scheduled for 29th October.

Little Church

- Consider asking Little Church children to help with Christmas decorations.

Year of Mercy commencing 8th December

- Arrangements to mark the Jubilee Year of Mercy to be discussed when further information has been received from the Diocese.

Celebration of Ministries

- This would possibly now be held on the Feast of St Joseph the Worker next year (1st May 2016).

Holy Hour

- The recent Holy Hour for 'Care of Creation' had been successful with about 50 people attending.

Parish Website

- The update will be completed soon.

Social: this group had met on 17th September and the next meeting is scheduled for 12th November.

- Due to the small number attending the Family Picnic, consideration to be given to changing the date to September next year.
- Arrangements are in hand for the Curry Evening planned for 2nd October – this event will be in aid of Syrian refugees.
- Future events include:
 - i) 20th December: Christingle Service and Get-Together
 - ii) 31st January: Children's Party
 - iii) 19th February: Social Event – possibly Barn Dance or Fish & Chip Supper
 - iv) Spring 2016: possible coach trip – ideas to be discussed
- A few dates for 2017 to be booked at Newman Hall.

b) Memorial Garden (Sacred Heart Church)

- The large boulder is now in place at the entrance to the Garden thus making the area more clearly defined.
- 4 sets of ashes have now been interred and 2 plaques erected.
- Consideration to be given to laying a path across the stones for ease of access – this would be in the same material as the boulder.

5 Ministry of Welcome

Welcome Assessment Questionnaires

- 11 questionnaires were completed and the responses have been analysed.
- A number of issues had been raised – several of which have already been addressed:
 - i) Large print hymn books were now available.
 - ii) Folder with paper copies of main notices now available in Narthex in Sacred Heart.
 - iii) Request for more welcomers at 11.15 Sunday Mass had been put in the Newsletter.
- A Welcome Pack is being considered.

- Identification of welcomers by way of sashes/lanyards is also being considered.
- It was agreed this had been a useful exercise.

Welcome Leaflet

- A draft leaflet with text and photos is being prepared.

6 St Antony's – Points/Issues

- The Church Hall needs redecorating (approximate budget £200-£300) and the curtains need replacing: H&S issues will need considering/PAT testing of electrical equipment will need checking.
- It is hoped to hire out Church Hall for birthday parties for 5-11 year olds.
- Future events:
 - ✓ 10th October: Harvest Produce Sale has been cancelled
 - ✓ 18th October: Day of Reflection with Latin Mass
 - ✓ 21st November: Christmas Fayre
 - ✓ 6th December: St Nicholas Day
 - ✓ 17th December: St Bede's Christmas Carol service
 - ✓ April/May 2016: Passion Play
- Bernard informed the meeting that he was stepping down from the PPC and thanked members for all their support: he advised that Elaine Coulthard has agreed to take his place.

7 Proclaim 15 – Building Missionary Parishes

- No further information to date.

8 Any Other Business

Help for Refugees

The question of help for refugees (such as housing/clothing) was discussed as follows (it was noted that the Bishops' Conference is asking for a co-ordinated approach from dioceses regarding aid for refugees which could then be passed on to local authorities):

Newman Hall Flat

This is at present uninhabitable due to furniture etc having been left there over the past 20/25 years (this presents a potential fire hazard). It was therefore agreed to:

- i) Arrange for the flat to be cleared out
- ii) Arrange for a H&S Inspection to see what needs to be done to bring the flat up to a minimum habitable standard
- iii) Consider cost options

Clothing/Other Aid

- i) Some charities are now overwhelmed with gifts of clothing but with little space available for storage; the current need is for volunteers to help sort out what has already been received (noted that some parishioners are already assisting in this area).
- ii) Financial assistance is required to pay for transport to convey clothing to those in need.

Curry Evening 2nd October

The proceeds from this event will go to help Syrian refugees: it will be decided after the event where these monies can best be used in the most constructive way.

CAFOD

Noted that CAFOD is currently working with refugees in a number of countries.

9 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, 22nd November 2015.

10 Closing Prayer

Mgr Bernard closed the meeting with prayers including the Hail Mary.