

Sacred Heart and St Antony's Joint Parishes Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting Sunday 21st June 2015

Present: **Priest of the Parishes**

Mgr Bernard Massey
Father Rupert Allen

Sacred Heart

Chris Menzies (Chair), Jane Dyer (Minutes), Christine Cronin, David Gabriel, Fiona McDonald, Jacek Miotla, Gill Preisner, Frank Tohill.

St Antony's

Leone Hayward, Petronella Mason, Bernard Thomas.

1 Opening prayer

Father Rupert opened the meeting with prayers including the Glory Be.

2 Welcome to New Members

Chris Menzies welcomed Leone Hayward and (in absentia) Dee Coleman as new members of the PPC. She also welcomed Father Rupert Allen who had joined the Parish for a year.

3 Apologies for absence

Dee Coleman (SH).

4 Appointment of Chair and Secretary

Chris Menzies was re-elected as Chair and Jane Dyer as Secretary.

5 Feedback from AGM held 31st May

- The attendance had been better than the previous year.
- The cream tea was excellent and much enjoyed.
- The reports were informative and well received.

However, it was felt that there could have been more discussion on the direction the parishes were taking and it was decided to ask parishioners to put forward ideas for discussion in advance of next year's AGM. To be noted

It was also decided that in order to give parishioners time to read the relevant information and prepare any questions:

- a) the Reports and Year End Accounts be available to parishioners at least a week before next year's AGM. To be noted
- b) the two Parish Treasurers be asked to write an overview of the Accounts which would also be available to parishioners in advance. To be noted

6 Minutes of previous Meeting held 22nd March 2015

These were accepted and signed as a true record.

7 Matters Arising

- a) Reports from Parish Committees

Finance & Fabric: this group had met on 9th April.

Newman Hall Club

- No contract has as yet been agreed between the Newman Hall Club and the Parish.
- The level of rent for the Newman Hall Club is expected to be set at £1500 pa to cover all utilities.

Newman Hall

- Chris Torpy has retired as Manager as from 15th June.
- The new Bookings Secretary is Marion Westwood who is also Treasurer of the Newman Hall Club and of BAOS.

Finances

- The budget for the coming year has been decided and will be discussed at the next meeting.

General

- It was felt that it would be good to have a representative from St Antony's on the Committee.
- Noted that the Hall at St Antony's is well used.

Catechetical:

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

- In preparation for the Autumn Synod of Bishops in Rome, two meetings were held in March to explore the relevance of Church teaching to the realities of modern family life.
- Arising from these discussions, leaflets and questionnaires are being prepared asking for parishioners' participation.

CAFOD

- CAFOD's involvement with the Pope's Encyclical on Climate Change was noted.

Liturgy: this group had met on 7th May and the next meeting is scheduled for 16th July.

First Holy Communion

- The First Holy Communion on 6th June had been a great success and very well attended.
- The First Holy Communion children had attended the 9.15 am Mass the following Sunday to receive their certificates – they had worn their special outfits again and the hymns from the service on 6th June had been sung.

Little Church

- The fish decorations made by the Little Church children for the final phase of the 75th Anniversary had been well received.

Narthex

- It was agreed that the alterations to the Narthex had made it more welcoming and that parishioners were becoming accustomed to the digital displays.

Year of Mercy

- A Jubilee Year of Mercy had been declared by Pope Francis commencing 8th December 2015 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) and ending 20th November 2016 (Feast of Christ the King): ideas on how best to mark this would be discussed in the autumn.

Celebration of Ministries

- It was noted that the Celebration of all Ministries scheduled for weekend Masses 13/14 June had not taken place. After discussion, it was decided this would now take place weekend 11/12 July which would be the same weekend as the Proclaim 15 Conference. **Subsequently deferred to a later date.**

Confirmation

- Confirmation will take place next year on Friday 17th June at 7.00 pm.

Social: this group had met on 18th June following on from the 75th Anniversary meeting and the next meeting is scheduled for 17th September.

- The next Parish event will be the Family Picnic on Sunday 9th August: this will follow the same format as the previous year with parishioners bringing their own food to share. The gazebos would be erected as before.
- The Social Event planned for 2nd October will be a curry evening.
- Possible Coach Trip next Spring – ideas to be discussed at the next meeting.

Chris Menzies thanked Gill Preisner and her team for all their work behind the scenes.

The following ideas for events were suggested after the meeting: Barn Dance; Film Event; Fish & Chip Supper.

b) Memorial Garden (Sacred Heart Church)

- 3 sets of cremated remains have been interred with a further set to be laid to rest shortly.
- It is proposed to place a large boulder at the entrance to the garden with a suitable inscription thereon: also to have an object of a commemorative nature at the far end – this to be discussed.
- The guttering and downpipes to be repainted.
- Work to be deferred to see what impact the school building works will have.

8 Sacred Heart Church 75th Anniversary: the final meeting of this group had been on 18th June.

- The end of year Parish Party preceded by Mass had been very enjoyable.
- As a summary of the events: it was felt that the 75th Anniversary had been well celebrated in a good variety of ways with, hopefully, something for everyone.
- It was noted that a significant number of parishioners had attended at least one event.

9 Ministry of Welcome

Introductory Workshop feedback

- 5 adults and 2 children had attended
- The idea of a personal invitation to people was a key point.
- All of us should welcome people and interact with each other.
- Welcomers to wear badges/sashes.

Parish Visiting

- Noted that this had been raised at a recent UCM meeting.
- Agreed that a lot of informal work is already taking place among small groups regarding looking out for each other as well as neighbours and friends and this is to be encouraged.
- Nevertheless, there seems to be a need for reaching out to people especially the lonely and vulnerable.
- The possibility of having visiting teams was discussed and it was decided to look at traditions in other churches.
- However, formal visiting team rotas sponsored by the Parish would require CRB checks.
- Noted that about 25 parishioners receive Holy Communion at home – possibly a visitor could go with the Eucharistic Minister.
- Noted that a notice goes in the newsletter regularly requesting those unable to get to Mass to advise the Parish Office – also that a list of the sick of the Parish is available from the Parish Office.

Welcome Leaflet

- This is in hand.

10 St Antony's – Points/Issues

- 2 new altar servers were in training with 2 more starting in September.
- The provisional booking for St Bede's choir to attend the Carol Service on 17th December would be confirmed shortly.
- Notice advertising St Antony's Hall for hire for functions to be put in the newsletter.
- Noted that replacements are needed to take on the role of SVP visiting.
- The proposed summer outing will now be on 12th August and will be to Hereford Cathedral – cost to be £15 per adult and £5 per child. Notice to be put in the newsletter and it was noted that names will need to be taken.
- The Christmas Fayre to be held on 21st November will also include a Jewellery Stall.
- There will be a Day of Reflection with Latin Mass – date to be arranged.
- Noted that much had been done by parishioners to help reduce the debt of £23,000.

11 Proclaim 15 – Building Missionary Parishes

- 32 representatives from the Diocese would be attending the Conference on 11th July.
- No Parish Vigil would be held on 10th July as several vigils would be taking place across the Diocese.
- Discussion to take place after the event to determine the best way forward for parish evangelisation.

12 Any Other Business

Mgr Bernard advised that the tables and chairs at present in use in the Sacred Heart Presbytery would be moved to St Antony's Church Hall. New tables and chairs will be purchased for the Sacred Heart Presbytery.

13 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, 20th September 2015.

14 Closing Prayer

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