

Sacred Heart and St Antony's Joint Parishes Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting

Sunday 30th November 2014

Present: Priest of the Parishes
Mgr Bernard Massey

Sacred Heart

Chris Menzies (Chair), Jane Dyer (Minutes), Christine Cronin, Frank Tohill.

St Antony's

Petronella Mason, Bernard Thomas.

1 Opening prayer

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

2 Apologies for absence

Sue King (St A's), David Gabriel, Fiona McDonald, Jacek Miotla, Gill Preisner (SH).

3 Minutes of previous Meeting held 21st September 2014

These were accepted and signed as a true record.

4 Matters arising

a) From Minutes of previous Meeting

- Booklet with guidelines for Eucharistic Ministers regarding taking Communion to the sick has been issued.
- The standard and quality of reading at Mass has improved over the last 12 months.

b) Reports from Parish Committees

Finance & Fabric:

Repairs

- Work to replace the guttering on the car park side of the Sacred Heart Church has been completed.

Flat above Newman Hall

- No further progress – discussions are ongoing: a feasibility study has been proposed and is to be commissioned.

Dividing Wall – Sacred Heart Church/St Ursula's

- There is a problem on the St Ursula's part of the wall which is being looked at by Bristol City Council.
- Noted this will not impact on the Memorial Garden.

St Antony's

- Decoration work (especially in the narthex) has been done: some problems with damp have been noticed which will be looked at.

Catechetical: this group had met on 25th November – the next meeting is scheduled for 6th January 2015.

The Joy of the Gospel

- This programme had been a great success – agreed that live presentation is much more effective than DVD.

Catechists' Symposium

- Unfortunately no member of the group had been able to attend this event.

CAFOD

- Harvest Fast Day was very successful, raising £2009.

- Noted that there has been a change of Diocesan Manager – also that CAFOD is undergoing a major retrenchment in order to save £3.1m.
- Preparing for Lent will be next task.

Post Confirmation

- Nearly all members of the group are active in Church activities.

First Communion

- First Communion will be on 6th June 2015 – noted the course will commence on 10th January 2015.

Little Church

- The children are making candle decorations for the Sacred Heart Church to replace the heart decorations.

Lent (falls early in 2015 – Ash Wednesday 18th February)

- Decided to hold discussions on topics from the report issued by the Synod of Bishops: '*Pastoral Challenges to the Family in the Context of Evangelisation*' – this will follow on well from the recent programme '*The Joy of the Gospel*'.
- Each topic will be led by a different person.

Liturgy: this group had met on 5th November – the next meeting is scheduled for 28th January.

Confirmation

- Noted that there will be no Confirmation programme in 2015 as this runs every two years.

Ministry of Welcome

- Mgr Bernard outlined his proposals:
 - i) to replace the wooden panels in the doors at the back of the Sacred Heart Church with glass panels – thus giving a more welcoming effect.
 - ii) to replace the notice board in the Sacred Heart narthex with a screen.
- In order to raise people's awareness of our need to be a 'welcoming community', Mgr Bernard would develop this subject by means of his reflection in the newsletter.

Remembrance Sunday

- Flags displayed as well as a wreath – Union Jack, Belgium, French and German – to emphasise the sense of reconciliation during this WW1 anniversary year.
- Mgr Bernard to attend the Memorial Service at Westbury-on-Trym.
- Mgr Bernard had purchased six of the ceramic poppies on display at the Tower of London.

Advent/Christmas

Services arranged as follows:

Christingle Service: Sunday 14th December at 4.00 pm at Sacred Heart

Reconciliation Services: Wednesday 17th December at 2.00 pm at St Antony's
Saturday 20th December at 10.00 am at Sacred Heart

Christmas Eve: 4.30 pm at St Antony's

6.30 pm at Sacred Heart

Christmas Night: 11.00 pm at Sacred Heart

Christmas Morning: 9.15 am at Sacred Heart

11.15 am at St Antony's

- 'Buy a Plant' plan – about 30 envelopes received to date: poinsettias to be put out after last Sunday in Advent.

Social: this group had not met.

c) Memorial Garden (Sacred Heart Church)

- Work scheduled to be finished by end of the coming week.
- Trees, shrubs and hedging had been purchased.

5 Sacred Heart Church 75th Anniversary

15th October – Vigil of Memorial of St Margaret Mary Alacoque: Exposition and Holy Hour followed by a Curry Supper

- The Holy Hour using the Order of Service 'Jesus, the Bread of Life' had gone well and the Curry Supper afterwards had been a great success.

23rd November – Mass for Deceased of the Parish followed by American Lunch

- The American Lunch had been a wonderful event and well attended.

30th January 2015 – Giuseppe Fricelli Concert followed by Wine and Cheese

1st February 2015 – Mass celebrating Baptism followed by Children's Party

6 Diocesan Pastoral Council gathering Saturday 18th October

Several parishioners had attended this gathering for a day's conversation, reflection and input. Following the opening liturgy, Fr James Hanvey SJ spoke on 'Deepening our Prayer for Mission'. To summarise his lecture: *to work towards fulfilling our mission, we need to be a community centred on the Spirit, nourished by prayer and a willingness to trust God. We must fix our sight on the poor and vulnerable, look on the world with God's mercy and compassion, and practise loving attentively.*

Workshops attended were:

- *Mothers' Prayers*: groups set up for mothers who wish to pray together for their children and grandchildren.
- *Christian Meditation*: describing a way of meditation as a prayer practice.
- *Home is a Holy Place*: how we can live our daily life in the awareness of God's presence.
- *Praying the Prayer of the Church*: prayer enabling us to consecrate our day to the Lord.
- *Healing Prayer*: how 'prayer that heals' can become integrated into our own and our parish's prayer life.

7 Any Other Business

Diocesan Events: ensuring information about these is available to parishioners

- Noted that posters for nearly all Diocesan events are received and displayed in the narthex – also that information regarding these is put in the newsletter if space available.
- Information about Diocesan events can be found in the Clifton Diocesan newsletter on the website and it is possible to sign up to receive this weekly by email if parishioners so wish – notice to this effect to be put in the parish newsletter.

Action: Jane

National Congress of Young Catholics

- CYMFed Flame 2 Congress for Year 10 to Young Adult to be held at Wembley on Saturday March 7th – £40 per ticket – information on Clifton Diocese website: notice about this event to be put in the parish newsletter early 2015.

Action: Jane

Notice Boards

- Noted that the 2 notice boards at back of Sacred Heart church need upgrading – also those in the narthex.

Christmas Cards

- In response to a request from a parishioner, it was agreed that Christmas Cards be sent to housebound parishioners: a notice to be put in the newsletter asking for information about any housebound parishioners who would appreciate a card.

Action: Jane/Frank

Annual General Meeting 2015

- Dates were discussed for the AGM 2015 and 17th May was proposed – Jo to be asked to check availability of Newman Hall. **Action: Jane**

NOTE: The date of the AGM 2015 has now been fixed for 31st May.

Advent

- Mgr Bernard advised that Advent Calendars and Liturgical Calendars were available.
- Chris drew members' attention to CAFOD's interactive Advent calendar on the website.

7 Date of Next Meetings

Sunday 1st February and Sunday 22nd March at 7.30 pm in the Sacred Heart Presbytery.

8 Closing Prayer

Mgr Bernard closed the meeting with prayers including the Glory Be.