

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST & ST. PETER'S PARISH
MINUTES OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2008.

Present: Fr. Jim O'Hanlon. Sr. Ignatius. Pat Lee. Tony Garrett. Maria Greensmith. Colette Burns. Mark Frisby.

Opening Prayer: Sr. Ignatius led the opening prayer, Maria read the Gospel and the Reflection was read by Sr. Ignatius.

Input: Fr. Jim read from the handbook for Parish Pastoral Councils referring to channels of communication. Communication is an aspect of all ministry deserving of reflection and careful planning. The way in which we communicate gives an implicit message about the life, the concerns and the faith of the parish. An unkempt, cluttered notice board containing outdated information makes a statement about who the parish is and what the parish does. Unfortunately communication is a dimension of parish life that is often neglected or poorly attended to and one of the major services that the Parish Pastoral Council may provide for the parish is that of an *integrated communication network* that is facilitated by *effective communication*. A good question to continually keep before us is: *Who should I be sharing this information with and how best can I share it with them?*

Referring to the above Fr. Jim thought improvements should be made regarding the notice boards at the Convent and St. John's. Communication via the internet was mentioned, as was having photographs of the PPC on all three church notice boards.

Apologies: Justin Morgan.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes were passed as a true record and signed by Pat Lee.

Matters Arising:

- a) One World Festival – Melton.
Fr. Jim reported that people were very friendly and he thought the event was much better than last year. The service will be on a Sunday next year.
- b) Christmas Fayre.
This is ongoing; the date is November 29th opening at 10.00am.
- c) Welcome Back to Church.
Fr. Jim reported that the leaflets regarding this should arrive soon.
- d) PPC Members.
There are no new members as yet.

AGENDA:

Handing on the Faith:

Sr. Ignatius informed the meeting that it was hoped to start the course mid January 2009. The meetings would be every two weeks, therefore, making seven sessions, on either a Tuesday or Wednesday evening. The group is to meet in December to decide on responsibilities. A programme referring to the course should be ready by the next meeting of the PPC in December. The team will consist of St. Ignatius, Tony Garrett, Maria Greensmith and Clair Lowe. Copies of the list of parish videos available for the course were handed to members.

Home is a Holy Place:

This will possibly be linked in with the above; Sr. Ignatius, Tony and Maria to action both of the above items.

Future Parish Priorities:

- a) The meeting was shown a copy of the draft survey drawn up by Mary Barber. It was thought this was possibly too deep as a survey. Members proposed a simpler form. Colette agreed to read it over and possibly condense it, using the best elements. Colette to action for the next meeting, with help from Maria and Pat.
- b) Work has already started on the collection of email addresses. Keith Harrison to be invited to a future PPC meeting.
- c) Service of Healing – Fr. Jim hopes to have this next year, possibly around Easter time. Transport will have to be arranged.
- d) Provision for very young children at Mass – Maria to report on this after the next Liturgy meeting.
- e) Extraordinary rite of Holy Mass – Fr. Jim has written to the parishioner concerned. It is a difficult situation personally for Fr. Jim to hold a Latin Mass, but he has informed the parishioner concerned all the relevant times and places where the Latin Mass is held in the diocese.

PPC/PTA Governors Meeting:

One outcome of the above is that the Mother and Toddlers club has started. The size of future classes at school is causing concern; the school is too big for our needs at the moment.

Parishioners Request:

A request has been asked by a parishioner for the weekly bulletin not to be read out after Mass on Saturday and Sunday; was it possible for the important parts only to be read out. Fr. Jim has noted the request.

Any Other Business:

- a) Street Pastors – Fr. Jim reported that at a recent Churches Together meeting, a video was shown regarding this. A short discussion followed. There are four sessions of training for pastors. The pastors work in teams of four, with a police back-up. The scheme is going very well in Lincoln and Nottingham. The pastors have to have their wits about them and be 'street-wise'. It was noted that a 'church' presence was very well respected. Volunteers are needed for this project. It was asked was it possible to have someone speak on the subject. Mark spoke of his experiences on the 'soup run'.

- b) Parish Boundary – Bottesford parish is in the Grantham Area.

Dates of next meetings:

December 4th 7.30pm, in the meeting room at St. Peter's.

January 8th 2009 7.30pm, St. Peter's meeting room.

February 5th 2009 7.30pm, St. Peter's meeting room.

March 5th 2009 7.30pm, St. Peter's meeting room.

April 2nd 2009 7.30pm, St. Peter's meeting room.

May 7th 2009 7.30pm, St. Peter's meeting room

The concluding prayer was led by Fr. Jim.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.