

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST & ST. PETER'S PARISH
MINUTES OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 28TH AUGUST 2008.

Present: Fr. Jim O'Hanlon. Pat Lee. Tony Garrett. Maria Greensmith.

Opening Prayer: Fr. Jim read the Gospel.

Input by Fr. Jim regarding evaluation for a Parish Pastoral Council. Evaluation is crucial to the life and development of any working group; it is a reflection upon action that identifies strengths and weaknesses and it provides an opportunity to deal with underlying tensions and uncomfortable issues which, left unresolved, can fester and cause difficulties in the future. Evaluation can take place as a formal exercise with an outside facilitator or an informal chat among members. The exercise will enable the group to learn from their experience and grow in effectiveness. There are four areas of evaluation that a PPC may engage in: Each meeting; Council initiatives and overall service to the parish; the parish as a whole; Councillor's self-assessment. (Notes on the above were given out to the members of the PPC.)

Apologies: Sr. Ignatius and Colette Burns.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

With one slight alteration as regards the Welcome Back to Church – Churches Together item, the minutes were passed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

- a) Handing on the Faith – Café.
In view of the fact that Sr. Ignatius was absent, this matter was left until her return.
- b) Home is a Holy Place.
Maria Greensmith informed the committee that after reading the relevant literature, this is a very good initiative. She would speak to Sr. Ignatius regarding this, to see if it could be incorporated with the CaFe group.
- c) One World Festival – Melton.
To take place in Melton on the 25th and 26th October 2008. **Pat Lee** would be speaking to Sr. Ignatius regarding this event.
- d) Christmas Fayre.
Fr. Jim said there is to be a meeting next Tuesday 2nd September. Two young mothers who are parishioners came to the last meeting; Fr. Jim to see if he can get anyone else to help out.
- e) Parish Gift Day.
Pat informed the committee that he had been approached by a parishioner regarding the fact that there was no Mass at St. John's at 9.00am on this particular Sunday, but there was a Saturday evening mass at the Convent. The parishioner pointed out that as there had previously been a ballot regarding cancellation of masses, where it was agreed that the Convent evening mass would be cancelled, and the evening mass would be at St.

John's due to its easy location for any elderly parishioners, she felt very angry and let down. **Fr. Jim** said that the ballot was for the long term (evening mass at St. John's) and that what had happened was a "one off" occasion. Next year it can be different.

- f) Welcome Back to Church – Churches Together.
Fr. Jim informed the committee that the parish would try to be involved in this with the other churches.

AGENDA.

Parish Meeting.

Pat has a draft Agenda. Before finalising this he is to see Helen Chadwick regarding two items; he hopes to finalise the Agenda within the next few days. The question of new PPC members was brought to the committee's attention. The criteria were for a strong faith and to be willing and constructive on the council. **Maria** proposed that each PPC member ask one person regarding serving on the committee.

Maria would look into organising tea/coffee/refreshments for this meeting. **Pat** would speak to Colette re possible invitations to the parishioners. A notice would be put in the newsletter regarding date etc. as would a notice be displayed in each church.

Loughborough Deanery Celebrations 2009.

Pat informed the committee he would have something to report within the next day or two. **Fr. Jim** said he would like to know what the other parish responses were.

Parish Boundaries.

Fr. Jim reported that Hoby is not in the Parish, although it is in the schools catchment area. Otherwise the Parish Boundary is correct; this matter to be finalised at the Priest Deanery Meeting.

S.V.P.

Pat informed the committee that he thinks there is a need for this Society in the Parish, especially in light of today's economic climate. Literature has been received by Pat regarding the coming campaign starting the 30th August. He suggested an appeal in the Newsletter to see if anyone is interested in supporting S.V.P. again in the Parish. It is a well respected Society, open to non-catholic and catholic members.

Fr. Jim said that Gwen Mamos is thinking of starting a youth S.V.P. There is to be a meeting on September 4th in the Meeting Room at St. Peter's Church at 7.30p.m. Pat said he would try to attend.

Pat asked Fr. Jim whether someone could come to give a talk on the S.V.P. at all the churches during September.

Date of Next Meeting.

16th October. 7.30p.m. Meeting Room.

20th November. 7.30p.m. Meeting Room.

Any Other Business.

- a) St. John's Church colour scheme.
Pat has received a proposed colour scheme and accompanying letter from Angela Walker regarding this. She has proposed three options. **Fr. Jim** said that the proposed schemes would have to be cleared by the Diocese first. After receiving clearance from the Diocese and Fr. Jim, it would be opened to the Parish and the colour scheme with the majority vote would be accepted.
- b) **Fr. Jim** informed the committee that the Mayor would like to visit the Parish. Fr. Jim is hoping to have a mass on the evening of the 4th October 2008 the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.
- c) **Fr. Jim** informed the committee that £2000 in respect of car parking space for council workers has been received from the Borough Council. This is for one year, possibly two, whilst building work is carried out for the replacement Council Offices. The Diocese is finalising the legalities of this matter.

Fr. Jim led the concluding prayer.

The meeting closed at 9.05p.m.

4th PARISH OPEN MEETING.
MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2008.
AT ST. PETER'S PARISH CENTRE – 7.30pm.

AGENDA

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| 1. | Opening Prayer. | Fr. Jim |
| 2. | Welcome/Introduction. | P.J. Lee |
| 3. | Review of the past year. | P.J. Lee |
| 4. | Passing on the Faith (CaFe) | Mary Barson |

BREAK (10 mins)

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| 5. | New Parish Priorities. | P.J. Lee |
| 6. | Parish Plan. | Helen Chadwick |
| 7. | Financial Report (5 mins). | George Szymanski |
| 8. | Conclusion. | Chairman |
| 9. | Concluding Prayer. | Fr. Jim |