

Minutes of Parish Pastoral Council

The Precious Blood and All Souls, 5th May 2016

Present: Fr Michael Brandon, Deacon Paul Rabvukwa Caroline Harrison (Chairman), Barbara McGowan, Jean Surplice, Maura Mulcahy, Richard Walsh, Michael Tourville

Apologies: Paul Riess, John Coroon, John Duckett

Absent: Annie Greene , Irene Zikpi, Charlie Mullen , Tony Thompson,

1. Welcome and Prayer

2. Apologies and Review of minutes from March's meeting (agreed) and follow up actions

- Parish room tables still outstanding
- bereavement plans - lot of work still to do
- Bereavement training is very rigorous, but nothing specifically proposed yet
- is also a need for rest of CTEC members wrt bereavement training – all agreed that it would be a good idea to collaborate with CTEC
- 'Bereavement board' received very well by parish
- Congregation numbers not collated yet –figures for 2014 are in directory, but not for 2015. Official count takes place every Sunday in October
- we needed to count numbers every Sunday for finance regulations – did not have to be exact
- we need a new 'sheet' to record numbers over the two masses – Father will action
- we also need more of congregation to help out with collections etc. at every mass, and suggested having a rota for Sunday mass jobs, and extraordinary Saturday masses (count, collection bags, hymn books and news sheets and tidying up at the end)
- Father M will action
- Michael T has agreed to cover Club 200
- speakers about recruitment for Repository still outstanding
- Weight Watchers are now in situ in parish room
- Will approach other users of parish room re room hire fee

3. Confirm council members who can assist with refreshments for 9.30 and 11.15 masses this weekend - 7th and 8th May

- Arrive little bit early and come out of mass early to tidy up and open up doors if weather good enough for photographs
- Cover agreed

4. CTEC prayer breakfast at All souls on Sat 7th May– cover agreed

5. July Iqra meeting- discuss arrangements/topic

- To be held at All Souls – suggested 16th July
- Theme of Pilgrimage was suggested last time
- suggested asking if a man and a woman could talk about their experiences of pilgrimage
- Needs to be after 6th July for Ramadan and Eid
- Discussion as to how we feel about meetings – generally positive
- had feedback from Iqra women who really enjoyed it – maybe as they do not worship with the men at Iqra – suggested might be good idea to get a woman from Iqra to lead the session –will contact

6. CTEC- meeting next week- opportunity to discuss any issues at that meeting??

- will raise the suggestion of a combined bereavement group
- will also raise subject of Youth worker (see AOB)
- the CTEC film night on 8th October still going ahead - showing 'Of Gods and Men' at ?St Barbara's

7. Confirm date for Eucharistic Ministers retreat later in year.

- Definitely 17th Sept – venue Mater Ecclesiae – speaker approached but not confirmed yet
- Catechistic team suggested including adult readers

8. PPC Elections- confirm numbers and how to advertise.

- Looking to elect 4 to 6 new members
- By submitting slips with name and contact details –will produce by weekend

- suggested that those who are stepping down could approach replacements – agreed
- suggested parish retreat for current and past members
- suggested we may consider changing the constitution to re-elect members sooner
- Both to be considered

9. Year of Mercy

- Feedback – 15 attended most recent event– agreed that should continue with one in July and one in Autumn
- discussed passing through the ‘Door of Mercy’, and that all should do it – Coventry’s door is St Mary’s, Raglan Street. Suggested walking a pilgrimage from All Souls (1015 for morning prayer) and having a station at St Osburgs and a station in the Priory Gardens (leaving 1130), with devotions at St Mary’s after passing through door (at 1200)– suggested 11th June – to be confirmed
- will put list up for those who would like to attend, once confirmed

10. AGM Sunday June 12th - preparing and presenting report to Parish.

- asked for volunteer to prepare and present report due to work commitments – ask for volunteer from other PPC members – ppc members please let Caroline know
- will present finance report at AGM

11. AOB

- suggested having a ‘Rule of Life’ (as per the Newsletter from 1st-7th May)
- suggested having a ‘commitment wall’ for parishioners to commit to smaller or larger actions
- suggested having a ‘Guided Retreat’ through the week, and questioned how to harness parishioners energy
- commented we need to identify areas where we could commit space to parishioners, and we should also communicate what we do to the rest of the parish, via notice boards with photographs and website, e.g., the rosary group could feedback

- commented that 'Retreat in Life' for a week (like Holy week) might be a good launch event, and include an outside speaker – we will set a week sometime during the next year
- suggested we should have more opportunities for Adoration – also suggested could do smaller regular groups on side altar for example
- suggested we possibly could have mass on side altars during the week, but not necessarily practical – good discussion as to how to create a more intimate space in the church – all to think about it and maybe make suggestions – for example to turn benches around in the lady chapel
- suggested buying new table as an altar for this
- commented that Sat 25th June is 'our day' for praying for vocations, after 1000am mass
- asked if we could get any of our seminarians back to either present or send quote or picture – will contact and invite to preach at 10am mass on 25th June and lead devotions
- Christian Aid week – all to encourage people to volunteer
- Discussion around Abercorn Road Parish House, How much should we invest in this house? Back part of house needs restructuring. Have not had quotes yet. Is option for loft conversion, but question is what are the future plans for house.
- plans for house are it should be used by clergy or others who can contribute to parish life
- suggested the parish may have a youth worker to live in the house, but we would have to pay the salary and ? we can afford it – maybe on a joint project with the Parish and Bishop Ullathorne or the Deanery. This has happened in the past and worked very well – would fulfill the constitution of the PPC – we may be able to afford a part time youth worker
- questioned who would actually employ the youth worker – would be the Archdiocese and cross charge us – it is a possibility
- suggested discussing ecumenically and at deanery level – will raise at CTEC meeting
- Roof of church needs mending – have had one estimate and need two or three more to compare –to be followed up – we need a 'Clerk of Works' to liaise with builders etc.

12. Agreed actions and significant dates:

- actions around 'front of house responsibilities' and meeting room hire fees, and roof repairs**
- All PPC members to approach parishioners wrt standing for election**
- All to encourage volunteers for Christian Aid week**
- 11th May – Richard to attend CTEC and raise subjects of bereavement groups and youth worker**
- 11th June – proposed date for Year of Mercy pilgrimage to St Mary's – Father M and Deacon P to take actions as above**
- 12th June – all PPC members to consider preparing and presenting report on behalf of Caroline – please get in touch ASAP if you can help**
- 25th June – Parish Day of Devotion for Vocations – parish seminarians to be approached re preaching**
- 16th July – proposed date for Iqra meeting –to contact Iqra women wrt leading session on pilgrimage (venue All Souls)**
- 17th sept – definite date for Retreat for Eucharistic Ministers and Adult Readers**

13. Close and prayer

