

Minutes of Parish Pastoral Council

The Precious Blood and All Souls, 7th May 2015

Present: Fr Michael Brandon, Deacon Paul Rabvukwa, Caroline Harrison (Chairman), Barbara McGowan, Jean Surplice, , John Corroon, Paul Riess, , Charlie Mullen, John Duckett, Richard Walsh

Apologies::, Maura Mulcahy, Maureen Mohan, Irene Zikpi,

Absent:: Annie Greene,

1. Welcome and opening prayer

2. Review of last meeting's minutes and review of actions Mar 2015

- still to update email list with JD's and AG's e-mail addresses
- asked if we have done second collection for Arts Festival – Father Michael will set date
- said had had donation for food bank and Father Michael had had large donation
- suggested delegating job of taking food to bank monthly –
- Charlie Mullen volunteered to assist
- still to source consecrated speaker

3. Review of our Holy week and Easter services

- very impressed by numbers received into church at Easter services and how beautiful church looked
- commented on how impressive Easter fire was
- commented was one of best attended Easter services he had seen
- commented all parts of service including recession were very impressive
- asked to thank Barbara for encouraging the young people to be baptised
- asked how we had been in contact with them – through friends and family

- commented some of new members need to be encouraged and welcomed by parish council and congregation
- commented on quality of music and singing from Keith and Annette
- commented that numbers seem to have declined in choir and that we should encourage more after the organ is finished

4. Review of the Sacramental programme (Mon evenings once a month for parents and children making first communion)

- commented Caroline Quinn looks after children separately and then Barbara does combined session. Then Father M takes parents into church for discussion group, and Barbara then works with the children
- commented room is always full, but has not translated into increased mass attendance yet
- commented that it was a good start to have them here
- commented have not had feedback and evaluation forms yet – she has reminded school to ask for evaluation forms for Mon 11th
- Final session Mon 11th May with mass
- will then adapt for next session following evaluations
- envisaged having a bit more variation for next year and improved communication – whether the teaching is for the children or the parents – acknowledged helpers with children – team of about 5
- commented that messages should be tailored to two different groups
- asked if needed support of council in future
- commented that challenge was bridging gap after course finishes and between actual first communions – date is 4pm 6th and 930 and 1115 on 7th June
- suggested tea and cakes from Parish council after masses – agreed – Sat Barb/Maura, Sun 930 Richard/Jean, Sun 1115 Caroline and Amanda

5. Confirm date and arrangements for World Night

- confirmed date for 23rd May
- will need volunteers to help on night and ensure there is a good attendance
- suggested making a poster for the weekend before and volunteered to do so and council to distribute this weekend (10th May)
- explained we will be having a vigil to prepare for Pentecost (530pm), including bidding prayers in different languages
- Barbara Mc volunteered to liaise with Deacon Paul about identifying those with prayers and collating prayers

- explained that on Sunday 24th will be flags of all nations and bidding prayers in different languages, but also made his apologies

6. CTEC updates- including review of Iqra meeting 2nd May

- attended by about 14 men and women and one Coventry Council Candidate
- commented that there was more of a faith input from catholics and muslims than political candidate
- was impressed by eloquence of female members of Iqra
- comments were made that one difference was that Government and Religion were seen as one in Islamic countries
- next meeting proposed for 12th September at All Souls, and was suggested to have separate meetings with males and females.
- suggested having pre prepared questions
- suggestion to have session on Marriage and families – agreed could be theme
- suggested having joint project to support with Iqra, eg Islamic Relief or local food banks, which the Bishop had no problem with – but not sure majority of parishioners would be keen
- CTEC Arts Festival update – extensive programme (included in March minutes) –will confirm the final dates
- updated programme in addition to these minutes
- commented we still need one representative for CTEC – AGM Wednesday 13th May
- confirmed CTEC event on Pentecost May 24th with Baptist Church after 1115 mass

7. Future planning and delegation of jobs within Parish

- commented needed help with:
 - School governors
 - Fabric maintenance of church and buildings, and liaison re finances, eg property manager

- suggested advertising jobs for newer parish members – Richard Walsh will put together document when Caroline H send list of outstanding jobs
- suggested having sub-committee on evangelisation, maybe including ex-parish councillors – Deacon Paul will facilitate
- fed back on Earlsdon Festival – were giving out rosaries and booklets on St Marks gospel – said that 80% of offers were accepted and one person asked how to pray the rosary – very impressed
- explained that the Legion of Mary are keen to come and do evangelisation project – group of legionaries will come and do parish visiting – coming on 13th June for a week – they will be looking for bed and breakfast accommodation – Father will advertise in bulletin – there will be about 12 of them

8. Promoting available places (2) on council and reminder of AGM in June

- will prepare paperwork and put notices up to advertise two vacancies

9. Pax Christi - review how we see Parish proceeding with joining

- suggested having couple of volunteers from council to compile final report on whether we should be involved
- commented that stumbling block seemed to be that it did not have charity status and political agenda supporting unilateral disarmament
- commented that the Bishops Council had spoken out in favour of abolishing Trident
- commented is a bold step for a council to take on behalf of parish
- suggested we could present to the parish via Paul Mc, as to which other parishes had affiliated, and whether there was a wish to affiliate as a parish – Caroline will talk to Paul Mc to arrange this
- commented whether that should be the council's role, and whether it should be left to the individual

10. AOB

- Childrens liturgy for June's agenda – Richard W will ask Michelle for feedback
- suggested activities to follow up for children during the week, to plan for the following week
- suggested using the leaflets that Elen orders
- said that school give out 'Wednesday World'
- has had requests for 'Hymns to Mary' for month of May - commented there will be a Procession on Sunday and will be Hymns to Mary
- commented that we have two different styles of mass, and 1115 is more traditional liturgical events linking with centuries of history

- commented on finances and fabric – now need to re decorate all rooms around church – sacristy, kitchen and toilets etc , including major work to kitchen to make it bigger and more user friendly – cost £2500 for building work – question is do we do it?
- All agreed that would be good investments for parish
- commented that finances were not as healthy as they used to be, so can we afford it? We have enough now, but in future expenditure may exceed income
- suggested – we should promote the use of the parish room more, to generate income

11 . Agreed actions

- **to update email list with JD's and AG's e-mail addresses**
- **will set date for second collection for Arts Festival**
- **liaise wrt food bank**
- **source consecrated speaker**
- **All to cover tea and cakes from Parish council after First Communion masses – agreed – Sat Barb/Maura, Sun 930 Richard/Jean, Sun 1115 Caroline and Amanda**
- **will identify those with prayers and collate prayers for 23rd May**
- **will put together document with list of outstanding jobs**
- **will facilitate sub-committee on evangelisation, maybe including ex-parish councillors**
- **will prepare paperwork for AGM and put notices up to advertise two vacancies**
- **will liaise to arrange further presentation on Pax Christi**
- **will provide feedback re children's liturgy at next PPC meeting**

12. Close and prayer

