



HOLY CROSS PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 12th December 2018

ATTENDEES:

Fr. P.C. President
C.W. Chair
V.F. Secretary
D.B.
B.F.
S.H.
M.U.
K.S.

APOLOGIES:

R.T.
M.H.

MINUTES

Opening prayer was followed by apologies and approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 26th September, 2018. It was agreed that the Minutes were a true and correct interpretation of the meeting.

Matters Arising

It was suggested that a weekly Rosary during Lent should replace the current weekly Rosary during Advent. LH was unavailable to report on whether or not she had met with C. to proceed with arrangements for a children's prayer group. M. and C. are keen to lead a gardening group, but this has not taken off yet.

The soup day is not yet on the website.

Action point: VF to organise this.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

Planning the Future of our Parish

CW tabled a proposal for the future of our parish, highlighting what needs to be done and what can be achieved. Referring to 'Encounter' and what we need to do in relation to worship. Rosary and exposition are currently being carried out. How can we interact within different ministries. We need to be aware that we may be without a resident Parish Priest in the near future, so we need to be pro-active in recruiting more support. Father P. said that within 2 or 3 years we will have between 15 and 17 fewer active priests in the diocese. There are three more Ordinations

planned within the next year and one the following year but no seminary students in training at present after these ordinations. It was suggested that this parish might be linked with Bulwell when clergy numbers decrease. Holy Cross is well off financially as a Parish thanks to the Hanlon Trust for buildings and ground repairs. Who is going to take on work within Hucknall Parish? Eucharistic Services should not compete with Mass. Current Mass attendance during the week is very poor with the exception of Wednesday lunchtime and Thursday evening with between 20 and 30 attendees, but weekday consistently has only 3 or 4. House Groups are proposed to include Bible Study. S. and G. have recommended this as they have already attended one and two PPC members showed an interest in organising this, which would be run once a month on Sunday afternoons. Catechists would benefit from this. We need to prioritise what is really important.

Who will drive these initiatives?

Aspley has now teamed with Bilborough and Wollaton and we should learn from these parishes. Three parishes are currently being run from Mansfield parish. Forest Town looks after Ollerton and Rainworth. It was suggested that R.L. of The Knights of St. Columba might be able to guide us. Once we have a definite timetable we can sit down with those who are prepared to lead. The Parish will remain, but we may not have a parish priest in residence. We can get together with Fr. J. from Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell and discuss priorities so we can begin planning. Prepare Spiritual with practical. Prayer groups to begin after Christmas. It was suggested a welcome letter should be given to all new parishioners highlighting what we do and what we would like to include them in.

Action points: Bible Study - C.W. & S.&G.
Prayer Group - P.G.
Welcome letter Fr. P. and V.F.
B.F. To contact R.L. re: example of what other parishes have done.
Social Group: A working group is to be set up.

Liturgy & Worship

Christmas: All organised. Masses are the same as last year. A lot of good things happening. Flowers have been organised by S.H. and will be put up after the last Sunday of Advent. R. & B. will organise the lanterns. Volunteer cleaners organised and A.H. will erect the crib after the concert.

Plant & Buildings

There have been no adverse comments regarding the proposed disabled/abled toilets. The architect has been requested to provide detailed specifications and Fr. P. will go ahead with this shortly. The crazy paving has been removed and replaced with grass and tarmac.

AOB

The December letter from the Bishop regarding ENCOUNTER themes taken from Pope Francis, highlights the next two themes of DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP. A day of reflection on these two themes has been organised and two representatives from each parish are invited. Father P. can attend the last two on 5th and 6th February. K.S. and C.W. both volunteered, but it was agreed that it should be offered to other members of the PPC who were unable to attend this meeting.

Action point: Fr.P. to ask if anyone else would like to attend.

It was suggested that ministries should be promoted one at a time.

Emmanuel House: Request for more items to be donated, such as warm clothing, gloves, scarves etc, to be left in the box at the back of church.

Heating in Church: Some people complained of either being too hot or too cold. Fr. pointed out that the heating is not operated automatically and must be switched on and off manually.

M.U. suggested a trip to Blessed Mary Potter Museum in Regent Street which could be organised after Christmas.

Coffee and Tea in the meeting room after Mass to be announced by Father at the end of Mass as people do not always read the newsletter.

Website: A copy of the Pastoral Plan is to be put on the website.

Action points: V.F. to ask for help with Emmanuel House requirements in the newsletter and to put Pastoral Plan on website.

M.U. to organise trip to Mary Potter Museum

The next meeting of the PPC will take place in the Meeting Room at 7.30 p.m. Wednesday 13th March 2018.

C.W. thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed.

