

MINUTES OF PPC MEETING HELD AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES ON TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7pm.

Present: Fr. James, Deacon Derek: Geoff Laidler, Tot Charlton (St Agnes'), Bev Hallam, Margaret Jackson (OLL); Lesley Gregory, Susan Kirkland, Bob Goldie (St. Joseph's).

1. **Time of prayer** - This was led by Bob.
2. **Apologies for absence** – Christian Callan, Mike Nott, Lindsay Burkinshaw
3. **Welcomed new members.** Lesley welcomed Bev and Tot to the group.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
Liturgy Group. Fr James awaiting further information from Diana Carney. Limited interest at present but Diana taking this initiative forward
PPC Members – Fr James reminded the PPC that not everyone had supplied a pen portrait for the website
5. **Finance Meeting update – Bob Goldie**
Bob reported that the Finance Group had agreed the reinstatement of the St Agnes 200 club along existing lines. Other major items discussed are covered in point 6 below.
6. **Parish Buildings report.**
The quinquennial reports for St Agnes and Our Lady of Lourdes received from the Diocese, which looks at the condition of the buildings, both externally and internally, indicated that over the next five years, repairs to St Agnes would amount to around £8500 and for Our Lady of Lourdes £1200. No immediate repairs were highlighted and the finance group believed that these estimates could be reduced. Bernard Mannion is very heavily involved in this area, working out a time line of repair.
The stone cross on the window above the entrance to St Agnes' has been repaired.
Bernard has received quotes for the painting and electrical wiring/lighting for St Agnes. Also for work required regarding brickwork, pointing of walls and flagstones.
Bernard is ensuring that the work is done in the most logical method to reduce costs and inconvenience (e.g. hiring of scaffolding).

In the finance meeting we discussed the process for Bernard to get approval to initiate work and the permission levels required.

Salt spreaders – These are to be purchased for Our Lady of Lourdes and St Agnes.

7. **St Agnes Sanctuary Carpet** (point raised by St Agnes parishioner)
There have been some detrimental comments on the safety tape on the carpet. – Fr James explained that this was in response to an incident that happened midweek and this was a pastoral response on health and safety grounds and an interim measure until a permanent solution was found. This was explained at Mass on the following Sunday. A solution has been reached – the alternate steps are being carpeted in a contrasting colour – and this was agreed by those concerned to be the best solution. Work to start very shortly, but unfortunately has been affected by the urgent repair on the cross/window. This was supported by the PPC who felt the correct procedures had been followed.

8. **Parish Partnership**

Fr James quickly updated the group on the progress to date. Two meetings had taken place and the development group were finding their feet.

A proposal had been received from a St Agnes parishioner suggesting that the 3 parish PPC was no longer required and that it would be better to reinstate the single parish PPC. A long discussion took place, on the merits of keeping things as they were, against reverting to how they used to be. Fr James said that several neighbouring parish priests had commented that we (3 parishes) were ahead of the game, due to the fact that we were already operating in a partnership and would be in a better position to proceed to the larger partnership of the new seven parishes. Everyone agreed that the present set-up was working well and a comment from one member “if it ain’t broke don’t fix it” was warmly welcomed by all. Fr James also reminded everyone that the PPC was not there to do everything and indeed had encouraged rather than prevented any individual or local initiatives.

9. **Update on Advent/Christmas services.**

This year several Advent services are occurring on the same day, but variety is good. E.g. three services on the first Sunday including one arranged by the new partnership at St Anne’s

On Christmas weekend, six Masses will be said, the normal three Sat/Sun Masses and the two Christmas vigils and Christmas day Mass.

- 10 Cafod – Christian Aid Advent Service**
Fr James thanked Diana for her work in organising this event.
- 11 Candles in St Joseph's**
Lesley asked if we could have our own candles for the Altar as she felt that different candles could enhance the spiritual experience of the Mass. There was agreement for this and Lesley is looking into what is available.
- 12 St Joseph's altar cloths.** A parishioner from St Barnabas has kindly offered to help make a new Altar cloth for St Joseph's, which would display our parish name on the front of the altar.
Fr James and Anne Duffy are in discussion regarding the design.
- 13 Update of Social Events**
St Agnes have organised a Friends of St Agnes night out.
The Josephite's are at the moment rehearsing for their pantomime, the proceeds of which will be split between the school and the Carers Trust.
- 14 Website –** Geoff supplied a graph displaying the hits and visits to the site. It is proving a success and we thank him for his continued work.
- 15. Date of next meeting and Prayer leader.**
Tuesday 13th February at 7pm. at St Agnes'. Prayer Leader - Lindsay Burkinshaw.
Finance Committee: 6pm at the same venue.