



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) MEETING

Monday 10th February 2020 – Old Chapel, 7pm

Minutes of Meeting

Attendance

Those present: Fr Ignatius, Fr Joseph, Andrew Richardson, Ruth Kibirango, Eion McCusker, Sandra Batty, Rosemary McDermot, Jommy Thadathil, Manny Engage, Elspeth Casey, Cecilia Hatt

Apologies: Anthea Davies, Neil D'Aguiar

Those absent: None

Thank you to Cecilia for taking the minutes.

Matters Arising

- Finance Committee
 - No new action on the finance committee, but Sandra B. raised a question about the present energy provider(s) for the parish and whether OLI was getting the best deal. Fr.I. agreed to investigate this. IE
- Year of the Word
 - Rosemary M. and working party had received suggestions from one council member. Discussion elicited conclusion that activities to mark YOW should cater for all sections of the congregation: those who had time and interest to be very active in parish matters and attended meetings; those who could be engaged with parish affairs but had too many other calls on their attention and time to attend meetings; those who were less regular in church attendance for whatever reason but might respond to a particular initiative.
 - The title YOW should signify not just this current calendar year but a starting point from which the parish could work in time towards a greater familiarity with and understanding of the role of the Scriptures in our lives.
 - Several suggestions have been made of inviting speakers to visit the parish, but as these speakers tend to be booked up for several months it was proposed that Fr Ignatius should start by giving a series of presentations on the Gospel during Lent. IE
 - It was suggested that a hymn for the YOW and prayer should be printed and stuck inside the cover of the parish hymnbook, to familiarise people every week with the purpose of YOW. IE
 - Scriptural readings and reflections that appear daily online are an easy way for parishioners to form a prayerful habit of considering the Scriptures. Such blogs or podcasts could be accessed at home or on the way to work. A list of recommended sites will duly appear on the parish newsletter. Fr Ignatius and Fr Joseph will speak at Mass to introduce the YOW and encourage the use of these Scripture sites. RM
 - Other Scripture-related activities were suggested, notably a craft/art festival in which parishioners might pick a favourite passage, talk or write about it, or produce a visual illustration on its theme. (This activity, which is very accessible to children, might be discussed at the school?) RM
 - Other suggestions for celebrating YOW and afterwards will be gratefully considered. One such was a parish visit to Wintershall. Another was use of an audio guide prepared by the National Gallery on the life of Christ.

- Sacristy
 - Refurbishment of sacristy. The preparations for this are ongoing. Fr Ignatius has invited companies to visit and advise. IE

- Sound System
 - Ditto with regard to the sound system in the church. IE

- Contracts
 - Contract between parish and Noah's Ark. This matter is progressing after the meeting with diocesan adviser on church property and the diocesan valuer. NA are agreeable to principle of paying a commercial rent to the parish. It is hoped that matters will be resolved in the next few weeks.

- Votive candles
 - The new votive candles still encounter some problems, but as parishioners become more familiar with their proper use, it

- Maintenance committee
 - A church maintenance committee will be formed to oversee the above improvements to the church fabric.

- Parish Feast (celebration) day
 - The celebrations for last December's patronal feast were very successful and the council is considering a future (additional) event, to be held outdoors during the summer. This might take the form of a picnic in Alexandra Rec. with games or entertainments. A subcommittee is proposed of Elspeth Casey, Manny Engage, Rosemary McDermot, Sandra Batty and Andrew Richardson. Everyone is asked to give their opinion about this and to suggest ideas for it. All suggestions to be sent first to Andrew Richardson, please, by the end of the month. ALL

Agenda Items

- None

A.O.B

- There was a discussion about details of the liturgy for the Sunday 11 am Mass.

Dates of meetings for 2020 – (all meetings in Old Chapel at 7.15pm with Coffee & tea from 7pm)

- Monday 30th March
- Monday 1st June
- Monday 7th September
- Monday 9th November