

ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR RC CHURCH

Pastoral Group meeting Tuesday 20th March 2018 7.30-9.00

Minutes of the meeting

Apologies: Susan Johnston, Tony Wilson

Present: Lorraine Clapham (Chair), Joanna Azavedo-Parker, Paul Carmody, Trish and Tony Cassidy, Clare Lasker, Helen Matteucci, Moira Moriarty, Paul & Anne Owen, Jessie Woolgar, John Williams, Fr. John Nelson

Matters arising:

Welcome cards

Anne will produce a draft of a simple card to fill in as an introductory contact for new parishioners.

Minister for Altar Servers

It would be beneficial to have an adult to coordinate with the senior servers and provide continuity within this ministry.

Support for separated & divorced parishioners

It was felt that it is more inclusive to welcome those in this situation, rather than have a support group.

Father John & Deacon Paul are happy to talk to and advise individuals.

Agenda Items

1. Pastoral Group table feedback

Two people took Parish Directories.

One parishioner suggested the projection of hymns onto the sanctuary wall; it was felt that hymn books were adequate at the moment.

One parishioner was directed to the folder which holds Minutes of Pastoral group meetings.

One parishioner felt that the sound system was not adequate and this is being investigated.

One parishioner would like to see a crucifix in church. Anne pointed out the position of 3 crucifixes. One is within the stained glass window, the crucifer is positioned on the sanctuary and there is one on the tabernacle.

It was agreed to circulate an email a couple of weeks before the event, inviting available members to man the table.

We agreed that the table is a positive statement that there is a facility to share ideas, ask questions or make suggestions.

2. Prayer Group

The prayer group at the O'Neill home is running successfully.

Anne suggested having a poster displaying the future dates, as a reminder.

Action: Lorraine will contact Sheila and Pauline and ask if they will create a small poster with the dates of their next meeting to be displayed in the Cloisters.

3 Welcomers' Day

The St. Edward's Welcomers' Day will be arranged and planned after Easter; it will be for current welcomers and those who are interested in joining this

ministry. It was suggested that this might be a ministry that would appeal to the youth.

The quality of welcome/support is particularly important for those who do not attend church regularly.

4 Paul Carmody/Christian Aid

St Edward's are withdrawing from house to house collection for Christian Aid. Churches Together will keep us up to date on other ways that we might support the charity.

5 Social Committee

The parish group has now been disbanded, as events were not widely attended.

Social activities will continue but will be linked to individual churches.

6 Diocese/Parish priorities update:

- **Youth of the Parish**

Lorraine read out a report from Cath Szymanski, outlining the success of the Soup Kitchen. Young volunteers from the Confirmation group are working with adult support, to provide a soup lunch on Saturdays during Lent. There has been a mix of visitors and a few individuals have received further support.

There has been positive interaction between all of those involved.

Future projects may include an afternoon tea; Lorraine suggested St.

Edward's as a possible venue. More adult volunteers would be welcomed.

Action: Lorraine will speak with Cath about future events.

- **Four Priorities:**

Mission & evangelisation

Converting Catholics

Complete trust in the Holy Spirit

Outward looking

Jessie spoke about the ladies' group Oasis and how it fulfils these priorities.

This also applies to many other parish groups e.g. SWAG, Toddlers group, Knights of St. Columba etc.

There will be further discussion on the priorities once we have received the impending leaflets from the Diocese, relating to the September 2017 Pastoral letter.

6 Membership of Pastoral group

Lorraine has been Chairperson for over 2 years, having originally agreed to a term of one year. Membership has been fairly static although there has been free flow of visitors to our meetings, some of whom have remained as welcomed members!

Links with St Swithun Wells School through parent members would be a positive step towards uniting school & parish.

Joanna will speak to Ursula re inviting Year 6 children to join SWAG.

The parish can actively support existing school events, such as Easter Passion, Summer Fair, Afternoon tea.

Action: Lorraine will contact Neil Hendricks about future events at the school

There will be a Pastoral group recruitment campaign featured in the newsletter, between now and July.

Next joint meeting with Holy Cross group: Tuesday May 22nd 2018 at St Edward the Confessor

Lorraine is away; the meeting will be chaired by Paul Carmody.
Agenda will be based round the content of the Diocesan leaflet.

AOB:

Clare Lasker informed the group about next Friday's Lenten Supper 22nd March, which is being filmed for the CAFOD website.
In addition, there is a Caritas/Cafod conference on 12th May to which all are invited.

John Williams appealed for more and preferably younger counters!
There will be an appeal in the newsletter, highlighted by Father John, after Easter.

Future dates:

Tuesday May 22nd 7:30 pm St Edwards JOINT MEETING WITH HOLY CROSS

Tuesday July 17th 7:30 pm St. Edward's

Tuesday September 18th 7:30 pm St. Edward's

Tuesday November 20th 7:30pm Joint meeting at Holy Cross