

Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2018

Present: Father Vincent, Elizabeth Hitchens, Tricia Davies, Kathleen Joyce, Helen Murphy, Teresa Quinn, (Chair),
Paul Blake (Clerk).

Apologies: Christine Martin

The meeting opened with a prayer at 7.35.p.m.

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2018:

These minutes were approved. Teresa Quinn reported that volunteers had agreed to help lead the Children's Liturgy of the Word on a rota basis and that the Sundays in Advent were now all covered. She thanked Paul Blake for the art exhibition which had recently been held in the church. She drew members' attention to the consultation being undertaken regarding the town centre redevelopment and the plans from Calne Baptist Church.

Update on Parish Projects:

An afternoon cake sale and raffle is being planned for Saturday 17th November at 2.30.p.m. in the church hall to raise funds for the charity "Emmaus".

A parish meeting will be held after the Sunday morning Mass on the First Sunday of Advent, 2nd December, to receive suggestions for, and agree, a new Parish Project charity for 2019.

First Communion Preparation 2019:

Kathleen Joyce shared details of how sacramental preparation was organised in her previous parish which involved parents, children and catechists meeting together. Discussion followed about how the 2019 programme could be organised. It was agreed that meetings could take place in the hall on Sunday mornings before the 11.00.a.m. Mass and that different catechists could lead individual sessions. Someone to act as the overall organiser and co-ordinator of the programme was now needed and a notice regarding this will be placed in the newsletter.

Diocesan Year of Prayer:

Two diocesan events are planned to launch the Year of Prayer:

a study day on Saturday 10th November 2018 at St Brendan's College, Brislington, and the celebration of Evening Prayer on Tuesday 27th November at 7.00.p.m. at Clifton Cathedral.

Elizabeth Hitchens and Tricia Davies are willing to attend the study day on 10th November and Christine Martin had indicated her availability to attend.

Father Vincent, Kathleen Joyce and Elizabeth Hitchens are willing to attend the Evening Prayer at Clifton Cathedral on 27th November.

A notice will be placed in the newsletter regarding these events, and inviting others to attend.

Plans for the joint meeting with the Parish Pastoral Council of Saint Anthony's, Melksham:

A joint meeting with members of both Parish Pastoral Councils will be held on Thursday 8th November at 7.30.p.m. at Saint Edmund's. The agenda will include the possibility of holding some reciprocal prayer services in each other's churches in Advent, perhaps on the afternoons on the Second and Third Sundays in Advent, (9th and 16th December).

Items from Father Vincent:

Father Vincent reported that the Town Mayor is planning to hold a Christmas lunch event in the Town hall on Christmas Day. The Town Mayor is also investigating further a Street Pastors scheme for the town.

Father Vincent noted that the main church signboard needs updating; it was suggested that this be referred to the Finance Committee and a new sign board be purchased.

Other items:

Discussion took place regarding the time of the Christmas Eve family Mass. It was agreed that 5.00.p.m. would be the most suitable time.

It was agreed that an evening Mass would be celebrated on the Solemnity of Saint Edmund, Friday 16th November, and refreshments provided after Mass in the church hall.

Items from Calne Partnership of Churches:

Tricia Davies reported on the last meeting of Calne Partnership of Churches. The meeting regarding the Street Pastors scheme will be held on Tuesday 27th November at 2.00.p.m. in the Town Hall. The 'Open Book' scheme is currently operating in three local primary schools: Saint Edmund's, Marden Vale and Holy Trinity. The scheme organisers hope to give a presentation at Saint Edmund's Church on a Sunday morning. Financial donations have been requested for the 'Blue Bus' scheme. A 'Celtic Service' will be held at Saint Mary's Parish Church at 3.00.p.m. this coming Sunday. The next meeting of the Calne Partnership will be held on Thursday 17th January 2019.

Date of next meeting:

The joint meeting with Melksham Parish Pastoral Council will be held on Thursday 8th November 2018 at Saint Edmund's at 7.30.p.m.

The next meeting of Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council will be held on Thursday 24th January 2019 at 7.30.p.m.

The meeting closed with a prayer at 9.00.p.m.