

Minutes of Joint PPC Meeting of St. Anthony's Melksham and St. Edmunds Calne

Thursday 21st June 2018

Present Fr. Vincent Curtis, Mary Rooney, Sharon Pearce, Anne Doyle, Mary Harris, Christine Hartnell, Henie Dixon, Gay Harris, Anne Morgan-Jones, Elizabeth Hitchens, Paul Blake, Tricia Davies, Christine Martin, Helena Dunne, and Susan Whyte.

The meeting began with introductions, Prayer and a reflection on a bible reading.

Apologies David Coghlan, Gervase O'Donohoe and Teresa Quinn.

Minutes of Joint Meeting in Calne There was none.

Feedback from Meeting with Bishop Declan It was agreed by all present that this was a successful and positive meeting. Bishop Declan wants us all to work together in harmony. There will be two separate PPCs for the moment. Fr. Vincent will have two morning weekday Masses at St. Anthony's on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Sunday Mass will be at 9am. The next Christmas Masses and the Easter Triduum has also been sorted out by Fr. Vincent. Anne Doyle will handle the post for the Parish for the time being till an Administrator preferably a volunteer whose duties will include writing the newsletter is appointed.

Sharing of Hopes and Fears for our Parishes when we share a Parish Priest It was acknowledged that it was difficult to get the Mass time right for both Parishes. There was concern about Fr. Vincent not being able to stay long to chat to Parishioners after Mass on Sundays at St. Anthony's. However he will try and stay for as long as he can before leaving for Mass at St. Edmund's. He will also be available after weekday Masses. There was concern from St. Edmunds as well that people will not stay for refreshments after Mass as it will be lunch time.

As we are called to be a People of Hope we should look to the future positively. Everything will work out well in the end. Anne Doyle said we at St. Anthony's can look on it as a good opportunity to take up more responsibilities in the future, which can bring us closer together. There can be growth in the Parish due to this. Parishioners in St. Edmunds are very conscious of the effect on St. Anthony's.

There was a fear that Parishioners do not know exactly what is going on. Fr. Vincent said it was the duty of the St. Anthony's PPC to feedback to Parishioners. This will be done as soon as possible.

Due to the shortage of priests in the Diocese it was suggested that we encourage more people to become Deacons in our Parishes. We could invite Deacons to give talks for instance.

Practicalities re future meetings etc There will be two PPCs and we will meet twice a year unless there is a need for extra meetings. These will occur in the early part of the year and at the end of the year. The individual PPCs can meet four times a year with more fitted in if needed. Fr. Vincent will try and attend as many PPC meetings as he possibly can.

Fr. Vincent will attend two Family of Churches meetings each year in Melksham including the AGM. He will be sent agendas and Minutes of Meetings where necessary.

Fr. Richard's last Sunday Mass will be on the 23rd of September. Fr. Vincent will take over on the 26th of September with the Wednesday morning Mass.

Café courses and other events will be advertised in both Parishes. Fr. Vincent checks his emails on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and will respond accordingly.

All Saints Day Mass on the 1st of November as a Holy day of Obligation will take place at 10am at St. Anthony's and 7pm at St. Edmunds.

AOB In response to a query about when Fr. Vincent will meet Parishioners, he said he didn't think it was a good idea to meet Parishioners until he actually takes over on Wednesday the 26th of September.

There will be morning Prayers before weekday Masses at St. Anthony's.

A Deanery thanksgiving Mass will be held for Fr. Richard, and St. Anthony's can plan one of their own as well.

A Parish meeting with St. Anthony's parishioners by their PPC will be held on Wednesday the 11th of July at 7pm. This is to inform them about what will be happening in the future.

Date of the next Joint Meeting The next two meetings will be on Thursday the 8th of November in Calne at 7.30pm, and Wednesday the 3rd of April in Melksham at 7.30pm.

The meeting concluded with a Prayer.