

Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2019

Present: Father Vincent, Tricia Davies, Kathleen Joyce, Christine Martin, Anne Morgan-Jones, Helen Murphy, Teresa Quinn, (Chair)
Paul Blake (Clerk).

Apologies: Elizabeth Hitchens

The meeting opened with a prayer at 7.30.p.m.

Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2018:

These minutes were approved. Father Vincent and Elizabeth Hitchens had attended the meeting regarding the establishment of Street Pastors in Calne. A further meeting is to be held.

Election of Chairperson:

Teresa Quinn gave notice of her intention to stand down as Chairperson. With no members present at the meeting indicating a willingness to take on the role it was agreed that this item would be deferred to the next meeting.

Update on Parish Project:

To support the raising of funds for the charity Mary's Meals various events were planned. The raffle of unwanted Christmas presents takes place in early February, John Cooke had agreed to provide envelopes for the 'Lenten Challenge', and Hunger Lunches will be held on Fridays in Lent. Surplus donations of prizes for the raffle will be held over for a further event later in the year.

Photographs of the water tank provided through the Parish Project 'Living Water Myanmar' in 2018 are available in the church porch and on the parish website.

First Communion Preparation 2019:

Some eleven or twelve candidates are taking part in the preparation programme with their parents, meeting each Sunday before the morning Mass. Neil and Frances Towers are leading the programme.

Diocesan Year of Prayer:

Father Vincent distributed the diocesan resource booklets for 'The Year of Prayer'. Two prayer services were held in Advent, one in Calne and one in Melksham. The possibility of running the CaFE course 'The Joy of Hope' for four sessions at the school in Lent was discussed. Christine Martin agreed to look into this further.

Lent and Easter 2019:

In addition to the Lenten Hunger Lunches and the CaFE course it was noted that a supply priest would cover the Paschal Triduum at Melksham. On Easter Sunday morning the Mass at Calne would be at 11.00.a.m. An ecumenical 'Walk of Witness' will take place on Good Friday.

Data Protection:

Father Vincent circulated documentation regarding diocesan data protection policies. It was noted that the Diocese of Clifton is the 'Data Controller' and volunteers who process personal data within the parish do so on behalf of the diocese. Steps that such volunteers must take to ensure compliance were explained. Parish volunteers who process personal data will be asked to sign that they have received copies of the relevant diocesan policies.

Items from Father Vincent:

A diocesan day for sacristans and MCs at Stroud in March will be advertised. They may be a need to purchase new altar cloths.

Items from Calne Partnership of Churches:

Tricia Davies reported on matters arising from the January Annual General Meeting of the Calne Partnership of Churches. The service to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ending of the First World War was well attended. An application is being made for Calne to be recognised as a Fairtrade town. The 'Open Book' project continues as does the 'Blue Bus' project, although the latter is in need of additional funding. Two ecumenical walks will take place in the summer, one more rigorous and the other, gentler, from Calne to Bowood House. The Calne Food Bank still needs to secure a new storage facility.

'Thy Kingdom Come', a day of prayer, will be held at Saint Mary's Parish Church on 1st June 2019.

Kathleen Joyce and Anne Morgan-Jones agreed to organise an hour's prayer at this event.

Any other business:

It was noted that additional volunteers may be needed to help with the counting of the offertory collections. Since the plans for any future deanery organisation are likely to be discussed at the next joint meeting with the Pastoral Council of Saint Anthony's, Melksham, it was agreed that this item would be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council.

Date of next meetings:

Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council: Thursday 7th March 2019 at 7.30.p.m.

Joint meeting with Melksham: Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 7.30.p.m. at Melksham.

The meeting closed with a prayer at 8.50.p.m.