

Saint Edmund's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2019

Present: Father Vincent, Tricia Davies, Elizabeth Hitchens, Kathleen Joyce, Christine Martin, Helen Murphy, Tony Matthews, Teresa Quinn, Derek Quinn, Maria Teale.
Paul Blake (Clerk).

The meeting opened with a prayer at 7.30.p.m. with Elizabeth Hitchens taking the Chair. Maria Teale was welcomed as a new member of the Pastoral Council.

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May 2019:

These minutes were approved. The success of the celebrations to mark Father Vincent's 30th anniversary of Ordination was noted.

Update on the Parish Project 'Mary's Meals':

To date just over £1,000 has been raised for, and forwarded to, this charity. It was agreed that a raffle would be held to support the Parish Project at the parish barbeque to be held on Sunday 8th September 2019.

Update on the programme of preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism:

Christine Martin reported that three parishioners had been trained to run and lead this course. It is hoped that another person will soon be able to help with this.

To date three parents had taken part in the preparation course, and one child has now been baptised. The programme is meant to take place after Mass, but on Sundays has to be organised before the Mass.

It was noted that it might be desirable to include the names of any who are baptised in the church newsletter.

Update on possible future deanery and parish structures:

Following the open meeting for all parishioners in the deanery which was held on 1st June a follow up meeting is to be held on Wednesday 25th September. Few other details were known and it was agreed that Christine Martin would email Father Tom at Trowbridge and the Dean requesting further details and an agenda for the meeting.

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

Teresa Quinn had met with Sarah Adams, the Diocesan Director of Adult Formation, to discuss training for future leaders of the Children's Liturgy of the Word. It was agreed that a training session open to the Deanery would be held at the school on a Wednesday evening in October from 7.30.p.m. to 9.00.p.m. The diocese will publicise this event and bear the cost.

Items from Calne Partnership of Churches:

An ecumenical walk by Calne Partnership of Churches and the Evangelical Church in Oxford Road will take place on Sunday 11th August to Bremhill, starting at The Green at 2.30.p.m.

The walk planned for 9th June had been cancelled.

The success of the 24 hours of prayer on 1st June at the Parish Church, ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ was noted.

Any other business:

Father Vincent explained that he was having some difficulty in securing a supply priest to cover the Christmas services at Saint Anthony’s, Melksham.

Teresa Quinn asked about the plaque for the stained glass windows. Father Vincent explained that the Finance Committee has this in hand.

Helen Murphy reported that a visitor to the church on Sunday morning from London had commented very favourably about the welcome, liturgy and furnishings of the church.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held on Thursday 3rd October 2019 at 7.30.p.m. Kathleen Joyce will take the Chair.

A joint meeting the Parish Pastoral Council of Saint Anthony’s, Melksham is scheduled to take place at Saint Edmund’s on Thursday 17th October 2019 at 7.30.p.m.

The meeting closed with a prayer at 8.25.p.m.