

Synopsis of St Joseph's Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Tuesday, 22nd January 2019

PPC AGM – 9.12.18 - The overview prepared by Fr Peter had provided a very useful snapshot of provision and scope and had been made available at the back of church for those unable to attend.

Other topics covered included updates on Youth Provision, a parish census, 2nd collections, PPC membership, J&P Group planning and appreciation for the Social Committee in providing the recent Parish Lunch for older parishioners and Quiz Night in aid of Across.

Parish Centre Matters - Fr Peter advised that maintenance issues continue with the boiler requiring replacement and the flooring lifting towards the big glass wall in the WCC.

Church Building Update - Fr Peter advised that work was ongoing at St Joseph's with the plasterwork above the side chapel arches being tackled, the side chapels would be painted and the choir screen cleaned. The remaining stonework previously painted will be washed with an appropriate solution as the cost of stripping was prohibitively expensive. In due course the whole sanctuary floor will be polished but new steps will be needed as when the altar rails were removed unsightly concrete infills were created. Improved storage for vestments, candlesticks etc will be created in the sacristy while storage for music related items will be made available at the back of the church providing easier access.

Work at SBW has been delayed as damp has been found in the gable and the remedy involves a tile hung replacement but in due course central heating will be installed.

Much Hadham has recently been redecorated funded totally by a large bequest left to the church.

Judicious budgeting and careful management of funds following planned giving appeals means that all works outlined can be funded from current income rather than capital reserves. The expertise and time dedicated by Mike Carroll and Martin Curran (Finance Committee) have been key to this current healthy financial position. Fr Peter noted the Diocesan Assessment for the current year resulted in a payment of £66.5k to central funds but that this is anticipated to rise to £80k in the forthcoming year.

AOB

Welcoming: the positive impact of welcomers was emphasised, as key to our community dynamic is how we ensure all worshippers feel included and able to become involved should they wish.

Golf Day: will be held on Friday, 26th April and proceeds to the Addenbrookes fund for Dementia Research. As we have parishioners who struggle with the effects of dementia either directly or via family and friends this was considered a most worthwhile cause, benefitting both our own community and those beyond it.