

Action Minutes-Parish Pastoral Council Meeting-11 October 2021

Present:

Deacon Justin Cross	Mark James	Martha Moroney-Lewis
Deacon Paul O Connor	Maureen Kelly, Secretary	Jackie Tominey
Teresa Clarke	Elizabeth Lizzio, Vice-Chair (Meeting chair today)	

Apologies

Fr Francis Antwi-Darkwah	Christine Lambert, Chair	John Lambert
Peter Godwin	Eamon Rafferty	Natalie Carolan
Emma Smith		

1	<p>Actions from Minutes of 14 September (15 mins)</p> <p>1.1 Update on Children's Liturgy: Deacon Justin will be speaking with Fr Francis to take forward.</p> <p>1.2 Update on Parish Diamond Jubilee: The Bishop has confirmed availability and is booked to attend for this Parish celebration on the 29/05/2022.</p> <p>1.3 Update on Michelle's Departure: Michelle will be departing from her Parish Administrator role at the end of October. A successor is in progress and is being led at Diocesan level.</p>
2	<p>Update on the Synodal Pathway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teresa had prior shared a clear and helpful introductory briefing which was welcomed. • To encourage engagement of parishioners to the Synodal pathway discussion it was suggested to link discussions with another activity or liturgy which parishioners would be attending. • The initial parish return needs to be filed by 18/12 and then the final full parish return by 19/01/22. • It was felt that gathering of responses was not appropriate within the mass but could be wrapped around the mass. The Clergy and the PPC want to encourage responses of as many parishioners as possible including those who may not feel fully engaged currently. • The question was asked if we should be asking for contacts within the local area and involving different groups of the St Albans community which could include delivering a briefing in writing or orally or both. These would be channelled through Teresa and Paul who are leading for the Parish. • It was thought that invitations to join for synodal pathway discussion would inform how long the session would and give a clear outline of the purpose of the session would be need. • The intention is to capture a wide range of responses.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was thought important for a variety of modes for sharing and of filing ideas to be offered including an anonymous posting box idea at entrance to the church , after Mass session combined with coffee and nibbles, zoom session, online views welcomed. • It was suggested that night/s in the week of the 15/11/21 would be good timing for zoom session, including using break out rooms. • The Diocesan Mass this Saturday, 16/10/21, will launch the Synodal pathway which Deacon Paul and Teresa Clarke will attend on behalf of our parish. (Post Meeting: Deacon Paul was unable to attend) • It was suggested that the Parish newsletter messaging and messaging from the altar by our clergy will inform of discussion sessions following each mass of a specified weekend. Weekends of 6/7 or 13/14 November were proposed to join for coffee and refreshments for 30 minutes. Fr Francis will decide the dates. • The posting box for posting of ideas suggestion by Lizzie was thought a good idea which would also allow for anonymous suggestions to be easily put forward. The post box could be available at our weekday masses, at 11.30 Sunday drinks in the hall and at the 12/12 cakebake. • Teresa and Paul will compile a detailed proposal to inform Fr Francis and assist his determination on the approaches to be taken forward.
3	<p>Reinstating the Welcomers Rota</p> <p>Our Welcomers are now much missed and need to be restored. It was agreed that at least 2 people should be assigned for each mass. Since March 2020, the Welcomer rota had been replaced by our COVID stewards role. The COVID stewards’ role has now ended. The warm greeting by our Welcomers, ensuring parishioners attending the mass are given all the information they need and being a contact who information can be asked of is a valued function.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>Justin will e mail the COVID stewards to ask if they are willing now to be moved over to the Welcomers Rota and then a new Welcomer list compiled and rota issued by Michelle.</p> <p>Lizzie will draft an entry for the newsletter this weekend.</p>
4	<p>Updated Draft to PPC Planning our Calendar 2021-2022 (Appendix B) and Discussion on Parish Focus Areas</p> <p>A separate document shares information on priority groups updates.</p> <p>4.1 Items have been added to the draft calendar since our September Meeting, e.g. Harvest Festival, Christingle service, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Harvest festival takes place this weekend. Paul and Lucy are putting in place the autumnal sheet carpeting for the gifts. Teresa and Mark are providing two wheatsheafs. The altar and entrance floral decorations will reflect a harvest theme. At the 18:00 mass Lizzie and Ben will oversee the gifts being put in place. Teresa and Jackie will oversee for the 10.30 mass. Please avoid dried pasta and tinned soups. <p>Action: All harvest gifts brought to the altar from the 18.00 to 10.30 Mass will be taken by Jackie and Mark to the two designated foodbank charities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All agree with Christingle proposal as per the shared Youth update. The offer of help on the day by members of the confirmation group was welcomed. • 12/12 Cake Bake-Outline to approach was given in the Building Community Update with the chosen local Herts charity of Youth Talk agreed. <p>Actions:</p> <p>Approval by Fr Francis</p>

4.2	<p>Additional Items for 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FairTrade Lunch 31/10/2021-Mark asks for help with tagines and fairtrade ingredient desserts. Tickets will be set at £5.00 a person and £10.00 per family. Help needed with selling tickets this weekend and next following the 18:00 and 08:30 masses. 7-8 further tables to be booked making 30 to 40 people. • HCPT Carol Singing-Jackie offers to check with Phil Ahern and Barbara Bliss if previous organisational arrangements are to apply and if any help is needed. (Post meeting: indicated dates Friday 17/12 18:00 to 20:00 City Station; Sunday 19/12 14:00 to 16:00 Sainsburys; Tuesday 21/12 18:00 to 20:00 Waitrose) • A Candlelight Service is proposed for the 08/12 being the feast of the Immaculate Conception. This proposal was led by Jackie. Action: Justin will speak with Fr Francis for approval • COP 26 Zoom Chat will be organised by a member of St Albans and Stephens to lead on behalf of Churches Together in St Albans. Any support by St Albans parishioners was welcomed. <p>2022 Items. These were agreed to be discussed at the November PPC meeting.</p>
5	<p>Update on Maintenance Delivered by Mark-James-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter entry for donation of bulbs to plant in our church lawns • Jeff needs to check one of the heaters which was not working when heating was recently switched on put. Mark will contact Jeff (details from Michelle). • Next Month work will be done on the three big trees at the front.
6	<p>Any Other Business Jackie and Teresa raised a question as to support available for those particularly impacted by withdrawal of financial support under COVID measures. Action: Jackie to find out more from Caritas and SVP</p>
7	<p>Date of Next Meeting – Tues 16 November 2021 19:30 hours Zoom</p>

2021 PPC Meeting Dates: Tuesday 16/11, Weds 15/12 both at 19:30 hours