

Spirituality Group meeting, Sunday 28 August 2022 at 18 Prospect Road

Present : Peter Godwin, Jackie Tominey, Margaret Leahy.

Apologies : Eamon Rafferty

1. Review of 2022 activities :

2 Feb. Candlemas special evening Mass. Felt to be successful and attracted sufficient numbers. Could be repeated.

Feb. St Valentine card – first of its kind and appreciated.

25 March Walsingham Pilgrimage – organised outside the Parish but promoted by us. Attracted about a dozen from Barts.

Promotion of web prayer resources via the Newsletter : some evidence of take-up.

August Novena and prayer card for St Bartholomew : the planning for this was late and led to a lot of paper copying. In future we recommend that if a prayer card is produced this alone should be used.

2. Recommended activities for rest of 2022 and beyond

Rosary before all Masses during October. Margaret will contact CWL to help formulate a rota. Members of Spirituality group agreed to be part of this rota.

Promotion of a chosen web site once a month, Sept-Nov. e.g. Universalis. Peter will arrange this.

Advent : use of O antiphons each week - at least at 10.30 Masses

Evening Pilgrimage group visit to St Albans Cathedral : several possible dates : suggest Tues 10 Jan. 7.15-9.15. £10 per person. Peter to investigate.

Candlemas : repeat of last year's event, with social gathering in Hall (hot chocolate) afterwards and possibly with a prayer card, and preceded by a Novena for Candlemas. Margaret and Jackie to action this.

June : St Alban's day. Novena and parish group with our St Barts banner to join in the procession and celebrations at St Albans Cathedral.

Day of Recollection or Retreat : we did not think it practicable to try to do this for Advent 2022. We are very much in favour but the planning needs to be thorough so it's Advent 2023 or some other time in 2023.

3. Date of next meeting : 6 November 12.30 at 44 Cottonmill Lane. Peter to invite Father Francis to join us for this meeting which will be followed by lunch.

Building Community Update for PPC September 2022

August Cakebake:

Attendance was high. We included a colouring activity for our young children. There were again informative displays on the theme: funding support for key internal features of the St Boniface Catholic Church construction. Messaging at our masses (including masses on the day), in the newsletter, website and display in the church porch. Collections after all masses on the weekend too.

The atmosphere in the hall was lively and feedback positive. Paula's creativity in the displays is much appreciated.

Particular thanks to the stalwart supporting team on the day:

Teresa Clarke, Paula Dilger, Deidre, Christine and John Lambert, Ben and Lizzie Lizzio, Bernadette O'Shea, and Peter Goodwin.

£818 was raised over the weekend. A parishioner made a further donation of £250 making a total of £1068.

Welcome Booklet:

Together with Dawn Pace we will be working on an update of the booklet looking to issue a revised booklet by the end of October.

Next Cakebake:

We will be looking for a date in November.

Next meeting within the next three weeks to share thoughts on booklet updates and November Cakebake cause. Remap, a local area charity of skilled volunteers who create adjusted everyday items, which cannot be purchased through retailers but make an important difference will be one of the suggestions.

Youth Group:

The current focus of the group is St Adrian's lead in an Anniversary Celebration on the 16th October 2022

Martha is awaiting Aideen Porter to confirm a date to finalise details. The outline plan is suggested as:

- Families gather at school for a breakfast at 9.00
- All children to be in school uniform
- At 10.00, process to the Church (hymns to be arranged)
- Aideen will investigate getting a Mercy banner printed which the Head Boy and Head Girl could carry at the front of the procession. This will be safer than a statue.
- Need to agree what children can do during the Mass (eg readings etc)
- No return to school after the Mass. Coffee can be offered in the hall as usual if desired.

Other issues:

- Aideen would like a reminder of the budget for the event to be able to plan breakfast
- There is unlikely to be any time for liturgical artwork to be created ahead of the celebration, so not planning any form of exhibition

Updates to be received at Tuesday's meeting for Ecumenism, and Social Justice