

Building Community

Support to the Youth Group-

Since our June meeting the main focus of the group has been to support the work of the Youth Group, in delivering the Parish Family Focused Mass on 25.06.23 (including contributing cake and biscuits for afterwards), in continuing to embed engagement with St Adrian's by the children's' attendance at our morning mass on the feast of St Peter and Paul the Holyday of Obligation through Lent and through continuing involvement of our young children by active support to the Sunday children's' liturgy sessions.

We will also contribute to and support the monthly Sunday 10.30 mass where our past and present First Holy Communion parents receive personal invitations to encourage the practise of our First Holy Communion children the obligation to attend Sunday mass.

August and November 2023 Parish Cakebake's

Fr. Francis has been advised that raising the £15000 (£5000 per annum) to replenish the Parish Reserves estimated to be spent on the current replacement heating and insulation project, must be a priority. To make our contribution to this responsibility the Building Community Group look to the full amount of sums raised at the August and November to go to this project. Past cakebakes have raised between £350 to £450 so the total contribution to the project should be between £700 to £900. We had concern that if the funds were split that a significant contribution would not be able to made to either cause. Having our parishioners and visitors comfortable to make full engagement in our masses and services is very important.

Ecumenism

Greenwood Park picnic – The Masorti synagogue organised a picnic for our asylum seekers on 29 May. The women and children particularly enjoyed the event.

Tree planting ceremony in Chiswell Green Community Garden – The tree was blessed by Fr Francis, Rev Becky from St Stephens and John Hardaker from the United Reformed Church.

Ooberfuse Music Workshop – This event on 8 June was run by Ooberfuse, a folk group from London. Rosa Lewis from Jesuit Refugee Service put us in touch with the group, and they came to our asylum seeker conversation group. Our asylum seekers composed lyrics and music to describe how they were feeling. Some of the lyrics were used on the JRS Refugee Week poster.

St Albans Community Showcase – this was in the Cathedral on 10 June, and was an opportunity to network among local charities and other organisations working to support the vulnerable in St Albans.

Alban Pilgrimage – South St Albans Churches gathered by St Stephens to walk in procession to St Peters, where the Alban Pilgrimage started. The procession went through St Albans to the Cathedral.

Future events – South St Albans churches are planning a retreat, a “bring and share” picnic in the grounds of St Stephens, joining the Herts Day of Prayer in July, and a visit to a quiet garden.

Spirituality

We meet on Sunday 9 July and will share an update summary with all afterwards.
Parish Retreat for start of Advent led by Fr Peter will be the main agenda item.

Social Justice

Update to be given at meeting.

Youth

Since our last meeting the Youth Group has:

- St Adrian's school continue to regularly attending Holy days of Obligation (Holy Obligation Days Ascension and Ss Peter and Paul)
- Continuing our connection of our St Barts food pantry to our St Adrian's community.
- Continuing to support the involvement of the Children's Liturgy.
- Youth Family Focused Mass on 25th June. We again encouraged all of our youth ranging from Children's' Liturgy, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.
- Will support the monthly personalised First Holy Communion masses.