

Parish Consultative Group Meeting

10th January 2023 @ 7.30 pm Our Lady and St Philomena's

Minutes of the meeting

Present: Fr. John; Derek Penketh; Diana McNally; Ann Templeton; Sylvia King; Pat Dower; Maureen Wilde; Pat Makin; Linda Heyes; David Maher; Chris Sinnott; Stephen Jacobson; Richard Lavery; Sr.Kathleen; Mary Lowe

Apologies; Fran Green

Welcome and prayer - Fr. John

Matters Arising:

Safeguarding - We need to work towards Eucharistic Ministers visiting in 2's It doesn't need to be 2 ministers. Eucharistic ministers need to arrange this and keep a record of who visits with them. There is only one minister from Holy Name who visits. They are struggling to find ministers. If there are any particular people we would like Fr to approach to become ministers we should give the names to him

Sanctuary Carpet OLSP - We need to look to getting samples and prices again. Stephen suggested approaching a parishioner who does flooring - he will give his details to Fr.

Parish Walk - All in agreement to Sunday after Easter - 16TH . This will be put in the diary. Walk will be HN to OLSP (refreshment) then back to HN

Order of Service notice board - A board in each church displaying six O of S at a time and rotate. Need to keep one copy after each funeral. AT to co-ordinate at OLSP. Dave will look at positioning of boards. Idea is to encourage people to remember deceased parishioners and pray for them.

Christmas and Easter Mass times - Christmas Day 2023 falls on a Monday as things are this would mean 7 masses in total and Fr asked for opinions on this. It was felt that 7 masses was a lot in a short space of time. There was a lot of discussion and it was agreed to revisit the question later in the year and for David to diarise for the agenda in September. Easter masses will be reverse of last year so Good Friday will be in Holy Name and the largest church for the Easter Vigil.

Leak in the Presbytery - there was a leak in one of the bedrooms resulting in water coming through the ceiling. This was due to wood rotting around a sink. A leak has also

been discovered in the back toilet in OLSP. The ladies have temporarily stopped the leak but David to notify John Ledger and ask him to take a look

Announcing the creed - Fr asked if we felt he should still announce the creed in the hymn books during mass. All felt that there was no harm in continuing to do so

Eucharistic services - Fr sought clarification on whether it was ok to have Eucharistic services while the priest was away as he felt that it was better for people to gather for prayer than have nothing at all. Archbishop said that this was fine during the week and so it will continue on weekdays so long as there is someone to lead it

New fencing at Holy Name - This has been erected to separate the church and club. Reflectors have also been fitted. It was important for this to be done and the cost has been met by the parish.

Doors and draft excluders at Holy Name - doors have been re hung and draft excluders fitted to the side chapel at Holy Name. It needed doing and it is sensible to insulate. Grateful thanks are extended to Dave for doing the work! Fr also suggested that there needs to be some additional lighting onto the Altar at OLSP. Information regarding the memorial garden at Holy Name also needs chasing up

Red Box Appeal - This will take place 18th/19th February. This will be an appeal for coordinators rather than financial. The existing co ordinators are elderly and the organisation are looking for new volunteers.

Confirmations - This will be as last year. St Teresa's, Holy Name, OLSP, Blessed Sacrament and OLQM together. Animate will go into the catholic secondary schools. Pupils will be notified and have to register with animate. They will then look at preparation with those who have registered.

AOB

- Some Altar servers would like to read at mass. It was suggested that maybe they could read the bidding prayers. Fr thought that maybe it should be secondary school age children but he will give it some thought
- DP to arrange a separate meeting to discuss Fr John's Silver Jubilee which falls on Thursday 13th April. There will be a mass at HN and celebration in the club afterwards
- Request for heating to be on for mass on Fridays in OLSP. Fr is reluctant to do this in one church and not the other. He agreed that it has been cold and suggested that mass could be in the Russell room - this idea will be discussed. Heating will still be on for funerals/ communion meetings etc.,

- PD was asked to raise the question about ringing bells during mass and singing the mass. Father's intention is to sing the Doxology at Sunday mass and he is willing to play music at communion except when the mass is being recorded. Bells are now rung at the start of mass but not the consecration because he doesn't believe it to be liturgically correct to do so
CS raised the point about the bells being rung during the funeral mass for Pope Benedict
- DP gets tea lights for churches. He questioned why OLSP use far more than HN. OLSP now have candles out at the statues again whereas HN only have them available in the porch. It was therefore decided to put the candles out at the statues again

Sr K 's 80th Birthday 17th January - CONGRATULATIONS and HAPPY BIRTHDAY X

Next Meeting - Tuesday 21st February 7.30pm Holy Name