

Minutes Pastoral Parish Council meeting Thursday July 1st. 2021.

Present: Father Walsh; Russell Brynes (chair); Catherine Evans; Kathleen Baster; Theresa Rice; Peter Twomey; Columba Timmins (minutes). **Apologies:** Dominic Rice; Peter Delamere.

The meeting opened with a prayer.

No issues from previous minutes.

Opening for Mass: Present arrangements continue until 19th July . The rota for stewards is more of a challenge with increased Masses and people going away for summer visiting. Another volunteer has come forward. If restrictions stop after 19th July, (including the necessity to book and retain people's details for contact tracing) teenage parishioners will be approached for help with greeting and welcoming. The current national Covid infection rate makes it unclear what restrictions might remain. It has been acknowledged before and continues to be an issue, that the complete removal of restrictions will make some parishioners wary of attending a potentially crowded Mass. Father has no plans for restarting Communion on the tongue, and has not been asked to do so.

Formation:

First Holy Communion: Mass at 12pm Sunday 11th July. A seating plan is being arranged.

Participation of children in the liturgy and provision of music discussed.

Children's liturgy will commence when restrictions ease.

Confirmation: There are 18 candidates, all but 2 of whom have followed the programme in groups online. A final session in person took place on June 27th after evening Mass. It was very beneficial for the young people to be together, and it is hoped to manage a monthly meeting over the summer. There will be a mini retreat for the candidates at the Chaplaincy Centre later in the year. 3 dates are under consideration for the Confirmation Mass.

Evangelisation and rebuilding communities. Parish pilgrimage to Padley remains on the agenda. (See also Parish Sing under AOB.)

Covenant with the Poor. There has been some discussion within the Finance Committee. Russell proposes attending one of their meetings to explore the idea further.

Living Simply. A sample Parish Environmental Policy produced by Laudato Si Animators UK* had been circulated prior to the meeting . It is attached with the minutes. It is **not** a proposal that an environmental policy be adopted by the parish. It is shared for information, because the ideas therein provide some suggestions which tally well with an aim to Live Simply as a community. Father Walsh has shared two articles on the parish whatsapp group, explaining Climate Change Scepticism and Consumerism and Climate Change, and has posted his reading of them on St Vincent's website. He has also started a Green Issues area on the website which young people are encouraged to engage with.

A suggestion was made of having a two pronged approach to helping us all reduce our consumer habits: developing a monthly goal and providing a weekly tip eg in the bulletin.

*A UK network of Catholics working under the auspices of the Global Catholic Climate Movement to spread the Pope's messages on Care for Creation.

AOB. A suggestion was made for a **Parish Sing** outside in the car park on August 15th with hymns appropriate to the Feast of the Assumption. It could be socially distanced, if restrictions still require, in the manner of the Christmas Carols in the Carpark. Catherine will discuss provision of music with a member of the music group provision.

Hallam Diocese's plan to provide **Community Sponsorship for a refugee family** is progressing steadily, worked on by representatives from several parishes in the Diocese. A project manager has been appointed, and different groups have been formed to address specific areas of support.

The potential complete removal of restrictions after July 19th was noted as possibly problematic. There may be those who would want as much return to normal as is permitted, and those who would feel vulnerable without some safety measures in place. It was agreed that this cannot be resolved at present while it remains unclear what if any restrictions are going to remain. It is hoped we will get guidance from the Diocese.

Next meeting Thursday July 29th 7.45pm