

St. Vincent's Pastoral Parish Council 27/04/2022. 7.30pm in church meeting room.

Present: Father Walsh; Russell Brynes (chair); Kathleen Baster; Catherine Evans; Peter Twomey.

Apologies: Peter Delamere; Dominic and Theresa Rice.

(Brief discussion of mailing list for minutes and meeting invitations. To ensure Mick Howell and Christine Hopewell get paper invitations if necessary.)

Dominic R. sent an email suggesting points to be raised within agenda.

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Matters arising from previous meeting: First Holy Communion meetings to start. Several volunteers have offered to help with preparation with Jackie S overseeing. Safeguarding requirements and the timing required for DBS checking on adult volunteers established.

Holy Week meditation stations in the Hall – agreed this is an exercise worth repeating, including possibly at different times of the year such as Advent.

The timing of Holy Saturday vigil was too late for some parishioners.

Agenda proper.

Parish Environment Policy: a formal policy does not exist, but there is promotion of environmentally conscious cleaning and gardening, and reduced use of plastic.

Both financial and environmental costs of energy use in the church buildings are issues to consider.

How do we make the link between our faith and Care for God's Creation?

Laudato Si week is May 22nd-29th. Can this be marked in the liturgy?

Justice and Peace: Parish Ukrainian response - Helpful resources to share.

National: Reset organization - <https://www.homesforukraine.org.uk/>

Catholic/Orthodox - <https://www.ukrainianwelcomecentre.org/>

(contacts in Doncaster, Leeds and Huddersfield)

Sheffield: <https://sheffield.cityofsanctuary.org/>

Cafod has good links via Caritas International to Ukraine and neighbouring countries taking in refugees.

There was sustained parish support for Cafod during Lent

DePaul International charity for the homeless

<https://int.depaulcharity.org/fundraising-for-depaul-ukraine/>

Aid to the Church in Need supporting priests and religious in the region.

<https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/emergency-appeal-for-ukraine/>

Home from Home Hallam –Diocesan sponsorship of a refugee family. The scheme has now been offered and accepted a Syrian family. Some specific details will remain confidential for the moment, but they will be living in the Netherthorpe area.

Our faith urges us to 'Welcome the Stranger'. The Ukrainian emergency is highlighting the difficulties faced by migrants seeking sanctuary. What is the Catholic Church in England saying about this?

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishop-critical-of-government-plan-to-send-some-asylum-seekers-to-rwanda/>

St. Justin's event on May 8th – for fundraising and encouraging parish coming together after Mass.

Covenant with the Poor. Dominic R. has been looking at this. For agenda next meeting.

Catechist team for sacramental preparation.- (See matters arising for FHC preparation).

Father has received information about Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies and the Loyola University Certificate in Pastoral Ministry from the Diocese Formation representatives. There is a drive to increase

take up of these, including a survey of the best delivery model for prospective participants. The CCRS is considered a basic foundation for catechesis. The Loyola certificate is more academic. Funding would be covered between the diocese and the parish or deanery. Time needed to commit to study. Information will be included in the parish bulletin extra.

Parish Formation- A parish Mission is proposed, to be given by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. Likely to be from a Thursday to Sunday evening. Father will follow up to arrange a date. Special services eg for healing, may be included in this.

Rebuilding communities: Social event proposed for summer – perhaps for children and families in the afternoon plus an evening event. The parish has the wherewithal for a barbecue. Would parishioners volunteer to run it?

Other ideas for consideration -Film night?

How to rebuild the social aspect after Sunday Masses? Start offering teas and coffees after Sunday evening Masses? Increase seating outside?

St. Bernadette relics will be coming to Sheffield October 4th – 5th. They will be at the Cathedral 6pm to 6pm. Parish visit possible? Russell will look into this.

Arrangement for Mass: A welcome notice to go at entrances saying masks are no longer compulsory, but people to feel free to wear one.

Receiving communion on the tongue – (no new guidance from the Bishop) – Father is willing to administer communion on the tongue if communicant presents themselves at the end of the receiving line. If several people presenting, hand sanitizing should be done between each communicant. Father and Communion ministers to continue mask wearing and hand sanitizing before Communion.

Masks when singing required, except for music group.

Sunday evening Mass and liturgy to be considered at next meeting.

Synod feedback: Father expressed overall disappointment with the parish feedback. There was discussion of how to engage those who have left the church, with mention of efforts made by a Sacred Heart parishioner to meet people on the street. Catherine noted the pain she has heard in stories from people who have left the church.

Annual meetings for Communion ministers and readers to be arranged for reflection. Father will liaise with Dominic R.

Parish Council membership. This will go first on agenda next meeting. Terms of reference to be reviewed.

Next meeting Wednesday 8th June in meeting room.