

MEETING OF PARISH TEAM, 17TH MARCH 2009

PRESENT: Father John Joe, Patrick Cusack, Amy Woolley, Karen Scott, Linda McBean, Elizabeth Sebastian, Berni Ambler, Heather Carney, Laurence Fenton, John Cawley, Susan Moore.

APOLOGIES: Kate O'Callaghan, Santino Alessandro

MINUTES: The Notes of the meeting held on 6th January were agreed to be correct.

PARISH PASTORAL PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

1. Video Library of Readings: Further information was given on the idea to have all the Sunday readings over the three-year cycle video recorded and put onto the Parish Website. It was agreed to pilot the scheme for three months beginning on Easter Sunday. Readers would be approached to ask if they would be prepared to read in front of a video camera.
2. Photographs of Team Members had not yet been added to the website. This would be done
3. Minutes of Team Meeting on Website: The abridged minutes of the last meeting were circulated and it was agreed that they could go onto the website in this form, which included action points.
4. The parish website was receiving 900 'hits' each month.
5. It was agreed to send information to the LFE magazine that came out quarterly. Submissions should be checked with Fr John Joe first.

PLANNING AND STRUCTURES:

1. Cleanliness of Parish Hall: During a recent inspection several areas had been shown to need attention. These had been attended to. It was agreed to form a small sub-group to look into ways of making sure the Hall was clean and conforming to Health and Safety standards. This could include a 'tick-list' of daily, weekly, monthly and annual tasks, and more people doing food hygiene courses. The sub-group would comprise two Parish Team Members and someone from the Friday Pop-In.
2. Following a successful presentation at all the Masses on Parish Giving there had been 24 new boxes taken and 19 Gift Aid forms completed. The presentation would be done once a year
3. Information on legacies would be produced in the form of a flyer.
4. Porch Area: At a time of economic instability there would not be any new building work undertaken and so we would continue to look into ways of improving the church porch area.

EDUCATION AND FORMATION;

1. Reader Training Days: We had a pack available to help in training readers. Two dates were suggested for this: 6th June or 20th June, or perhaps two half-days.
2. Careers Advice Sessions: Further information was given about these sessions for young people close to leaving school. Over a six session period in September or October topics would include talks by parishioners in different occupations, by the Careers Service, Colleges and Universities; how to prepare a CV, how to prepare for interviews and so on.
3. Confirmation would take place in the Parish on 8th May in the evening and this would be followed by a finger buffet. The Catechists would be asked to find numbers coming; this was expected to be approximately 150.
4. First Holy Communion would be on 14th June at 12 noon. Afterwards there would be a barbecue in the garden. Commercial barbecues would be hired. There would be a special cake. Numbers would be confirmed by the catechists.
5. Teaching of the Church: It was agreed that there was sufficient interest to run sessions on various aspects of Church Teaching, including Prayers and Processes. It was decided that three or six weekly sessions would be better than monthly sessions.

SPIRITUALITY:

1. Details of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham had been included in the Bulletin and put up in the porch. So far no names had been put on the list. Details would be repeated in the Bulletin.
2. The possibility of a Parish Retreat at the Rosiminian Centre on the A46 would be investigated.

LITURGY AND WORSHIP:

1. There would be more cultural diversity in the celebration of the Mass with the inclusion of music from Zimbabwe once a month at the 10.30am Mass and also from the Filipino group two or three times during the year.

2. In place of the usual Service of Reconciliation there would be an evening for Confessions on Palm Sunday from 6pm to 8pm. After the initial welcome and prayers there would be priests available to hear confessions for the whole evening. Every 15 minutes there would be a short reflection and readers would be needed to do this, as confessions would be continuing. There would be no obligation for anyone to stay any longer than they wanted to.
3. Following another successful Christmas Appeal we had received a letter from CAFOD asking us to say how we raised the money and what was attractive about the World Gifts idea. We would be replying to them explaining how we organised this in our parish. There was also a question raised as to whether people could buy these gifts through our Parish Website. This would be looked into.

EVANGELISATION AND MISSION:

1. The Women's World Day of Prayer Service had been held in Kirby Muxloe and also at the United Reformed Church, Gooding Avenue.
2. In endeavouring to promote the Parish and Parish activities it was decided not to go ahead with printed shopping bags.
3. We would use the suggestion of giving out bottles of water to people and asking them to return them filled with coins. The water would be supplied by a local company. The bottles would be distributed in July and collected at the Harvest Masses. Counting would be organised separately from the normal collection. Reminders would go in the Bulletin from time to time.

SOCIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:

1. New Year Meal for Older Parishioners: Following this year's meal a resume of the preparations had been produced. This could be helpful to future groups doing the meal.
2. There would be an outing for older parishioners in mid-July, the date and destination to be decided after consultation.
3. The Christmas Bazaar would be on Saturday, 5th December. Hall to be booked.
4. At the next meeting the Parish Team would consider social events for the parish. A suggestion of a function for the whole parish was discussed and venues would be investigated. Father John Joe would ask the two local parishes if they would like to join in.

FINANCE:

We were close to the end of the Financial Year and the final figures for the Parish would be prepared in readiness for the Diocese and for the AGM.

DATE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: This was fixed for Monday, 8th June at 8pm.

DATE OF NEXT TEAM MEETING: To be confirmed