

**Our Lady of Kirkstall Parish Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 7.30am**

**Present:** Father Pat, Father Emmanuel, Margaret Barnes (Chair), Alicja Dale, Teresa Todd, Michael Emly, Eddie Aitken, Marian Emly, Anne Waddington, Eric Liddell, Susie Haywood, Susan Teggart

**Apologies:** Julie Trumble, James Moreland

**Matters arising from the previous minutes:** There were no matters arising that are not covered in agenda items.

**Review of Easter services and 40 Hour Devotion**

Attendance at Easter services was similar to last year. It was requested that when mass times and services are reviewed if Assumption Church could have a mass on Holy Thursday Evening.

All of the 40 hours were covered by volunteers. The following points were raised in discussion

- safety aspects of watching during the night
- timing of 40 hrs –e.g. starting after morning mass on the Friday, does it have to be continuous?
- how to involve the young of the parish and families
- involvement of school children

**Action:**

- Margaret Barnes to contact Peter Hughes to discuss possible involvement of school children.
- Further discussion about arrangements for 2020 to take place at parish council meeting in January 2020.

**Live Simply Award**

Michael Emly confirmed that OLK parish has been awarded the Live Simply Award after the assessment visit in May 2019. Michael gave a comprehensive resume of the process that was very relaxed. The assessors commented:

- That they noted that Live Simply was organic to the life of the parish
- That they were impressed with the involvement of the children
- That the evaluation of the impact of the process via the before and after audits was commendable

**In addition**

- The written comment from the Lead Assessor in the report will be displayed in all three churches within the parish.
- The Live Simply Newsletter will continue to be produced 3 times a year.
- The Liturgies during masses on 22/23<sup>rd</sup> June will reflect the Live Simply message.
- July 21<sup>st</sup> there will be an OLK Parish family picnic at Holy Name after the 11.15 am mass to celebrate this achievement. Information will be circulated via parish newsletter.

**What comes next?**

Actions to embed the Live Simply Values into the life of the parish and provide information to help parishioners to understand the issues more fully.

Michael Emly took the opportunity to express the thanks of the Live Simply working party to Father Pat for his leadership, support and commitment to all aspects of the process leading to the award. Father Pat responded that he was most appreciative of the whole parish

community, that it had been a collaborative enterprise and that Michael's facilitation had been of paramount importance.

### **Refugee work – what next?**

Eric Liddell provided a brief update about the work currently being undertaken. Five of the seven volunteers supporting the project are from OLK

The client group has changed and is older – post school age. Publicity to primary and high schools about the Homework Club did not generate any response. The Refugee Council are moving offices so new premises are being sort.

Eric outlined some of the difficulties that the clients are facing living on £37 a week. An appeal for working radios and televisions will be made via the parish bulletin. It was agreed that an appeal for tinned food for the refugees would be made 3 times a year. The first appeal would be Sundays 7<sup>th</sup>/14th July.

**Action:** Margaret Barnes to email Amanda with notice for the bulletin.

### **Workshops on Poverty**

There were 4 workshops that involved presentations and practical work.

The sessions were well received by the participants who found them to be interesting and challenging.

There is to be discussion about how this can be taken forward with a project that is manageable and achievable.

**School updates**      There were no updates from school.

### **Thanks from Father Pat**

Father Pat thanked the parish council members for their enthusiasm, commitment and creativity. He said that this had supported and enabled the development of the OLK parish as a community and was confident that this would continue in the future. Father Pat then left the meeting.

### **Mass Time Review**

It was agreed that a questionnaire about Mass attendance for distribution to families with children in our schools should be disseminated at the beginning of the Autumn Term;

It was also agreed, after much prayer and deliberation by Fr Pat and Fr Emmanuel, that the times of Masses adopted in 2010 (after extensive consultation with the three constituent church communities of the newly established Parish of Our Lady of Kirkstall - and also determined by limits set on the number of Masses each priest is permitted to celebrate) should be kept as they are with a possible review in 6 months when Father Emmanuel, the new curate and parish council can consider the results of further consultation with various groups within the parish.

### **AOB**

Arrangements for Father Pat's retirement were discussed.

### **Next Meeting**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 7.30 pm at the Holy Name Parish Hall,