

# **Our Lady of Kirkstall - Assumption Church Pastoral meeting**

## **Minutes**

7:30pm Thurs 15 January 2015 Assumption Social Centre

Present:- Fr Pat and 12 members of the church community

*The meeting opened with prayer*

*Meeting chaired by Peter Dowson*

Apologies:- Chris Jackson;. M Knowles, M Teggart, Tony Barber

*Previous Minutes agreed*

### **Matters arising**

[Some have been placed within topic below marked (MA)]

#### **Fr Boniface's Presentation** (Assumption Tuesday Nov 4<sup>th</sup>)

Fr Boniface had thoroughly enjoyed the celebrations and sent his thanks for the gifts he had received. Fr. Pat said that Fr Boniface would be back in the summer to provide relief during holiday absences.

#### **Large Print Hymnals** (2 each for Assumption & St. Mary's)

Teresa Todd to liaise with Su Goodyear on this.

### **Prayer Board**

The prayer Board is now up and running again, with the prayers being brought as part of the offertory each Sunday and then being transcribed into the prayer book in the Lady Chapel.

A discussion followed on how we could promote this.

There was agreement that we should also include a memorial sheet of the names of those who had died in the previous year. These names could form part of the bidding prayers each November.

### **Bible Study Group: Advent & Lent**

Chris Jackson reported that The Bible Study Group had met for six weekly sessions during November-December on Thursday mornings in the Assumption social centre. It was attended by between 6 - 10 people from the whole parish. We looked at a small part of the Pauline Epistles. The group have asked that these resume for Lent beginning on the Thursday after Ash Wednesday, February 19th after the morning mass.

We shall be looking at the 'Suffering Servant' poems in the Old Testament book of Isaiah, which relates very closely to the Easter story of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord.

## **Leeds Guild of Singers Carol Service (St Mary's, Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup>)**

The guilds' choral concert has been a long standing tradition in St. Mary's around Christmas time, and this year was again greatly enjoyed. The theme of "cribs" was an added focus and had been particularly well received, especially with the associated history of each crib being provided by the lender.

It seems that the event had clashed with a number of other events in the diocese and in the area, and it was hoped that in future years this clash could be avoided. The availability of the Guild Singers, is of course key.

### **Preparation for the Sacraments (OLK):**

*First Reconciliation & Communion* – Courses underway in SM & HN

*Confirmation* – Course underway:

Mass of Election (SM Sun Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 11.00am);

Reflection on Retreat (HN Sun March 7<sup>th</sup>, 9.00am);

Rite of Election (A – Sun March 10<sup>th</sup> 9.45am)

Confirmation (SM Fri May 15<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm)

### ***Statistical information:***

*Baptism* – 78 in 2014

*Marriage* – 23 in 2014 (11 Scheduled for 2015; 3 for 2016)

*Deaths* – 40 in 2014

### **Gospel Music Night**

We had previously held this in the period before the beginning of Lent but a number of factors influence available dates this year.

It has been suggested (and agreed) that there will be **a *Service of Readings and Song*** on Sunday 12 July 2015, during the Parish Feast celebrations.

The Gospel theme is yet to be agreed

### **Finance and Property**

The meeting was reminded that the F&P Committee now meet only 2 times each year to fit with the fiscal cycle.

F&P matters can be raised at the PCC meeting, and will be remitted to the next F&P meeting

## Church Services

(MA) It was decided that the service for the blessing of the sick and the social event following should be an annual event... date to be fixed.... Susan Teggart to liaise with other two churches

**Peace Sunday** (Jan 18<sup>th</sup>) will be marked across the diocese and in our churches with various events. A speaker will appeal in each of our churches and a retiring collection for the work of Pax Christi taken at all Masses.

This also marks the beginning of the **Octave for Christian Unity** and events are again taking place across the parish.

For the Assumption church community there is an **ACT Unity Service** in St Stephen's CE Kirkstall, on Sunday Jan 18<sup>th</sup>, at 4.00pm.

**A day of reflection for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** (open to all) will be held on Saturday 14 March at Holy Name lead by Fr Richard Taylor. More details to follow

Commissioning of new and recommissioning of existing Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will take place on the Feast of Corpus Christi (Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup>)

## Services for Lent and Easter

**Ash Wednesday Masses** (February 18<sup>th</sup> 2015)

9.00am	Holy Name and St. Mary's
<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>The Assumption</b>
7.30pm	St. Mary's
7.45pm	Holy Name

**Parish Penitential Service (Lent)** – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015

7.30pm	St. Mary's
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## Holy Week Services

### Maundy Thursday

**6.30pm** **Assumption** (with watching before the Blessed Sacrament until 9pm)

Please see Bulletin for other Maundy Thursday Services

### Good Friday

**3.00 pm** All churches

Fr. Gerald Creasey will be invited to lead the service at the Assumption. If he is not available the service will be lay lead

## **Easter Vigil**

Parishioners from The Assumption Community are again invited to share the Vigil at Holy Name when a Pascal Candle will be blessed and lit for the Assumption Church.

It was agreed that on Easter Day the Easter Light will be brought in at the 9.45am Mass by senior members of our church community.

## **Children's Liturgy group**

MA - (Inaugural) **Mass for Young Families** (St Mary's, Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup>)

This had proved to be a great success. The venue (St. Mary's school) had worked well and it was noted that it would have been difficult to accommodate the numbers at the other two church sites. Fr. Pat summarised the feedback and said that most of it had been positive, but with some learning points. A summary (yellow sheet) is available in the Narthex .

The next Mass for young families will be at St. Mary's School on a date to be agreed: march 7<sup>th</sup> or March 21st.

MA - **Children's Mass** (Assumption) Trinity Sunday 2014 had been well received and greatly enjoyed by the children. The planned (2<sup>nd</sup>) Children's Mass on All Saints had not gone ahead for a number of reasons.

In 2015 the target Sundays would be Trinity and All Saints but both dates might conflict with holidays so the children's liturgy group would liaise with Fr. Pat and firm up which Sundays.

There was discussion on the many gains that have been made since the group was formed and weekly children's' liturgy was started. These were gains that should not be lost.

There was also discussion about how the return of the children could be as seamless as possible and also focus the congregation (and celebrants) to what would become normal.

The following was subsequently agreed with Children's liturgy leaders at all 3 churches

- The collection should be completed before the children return and assemble.
- The liturgy cross would be returned, children report what they have learned and then the children invited to join in a prayer (to conclude their liturgy activity) and return to their places.

The bringing of the offertory gifts would follow.

Children's' liturgy group(s) to liaise with Fr. Pat to compose an appropriate prayer

## **Group Reports**

## **CAFOD:**

There will be a fundraiser (gift promise auction and afternoon tea) at **The Assumption on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2015**. This will support our Puentecitos link  
More details to follow.

This year the focus is on the Climate Change campaign;  
Lent fast day (February 27<sup>th</sup>) provides an opportunity to turn the tide against storms, droughts and floods.

**Visitors to the UK from Myanmar** will be in our parish during February and an opportunity to meet them on February 21<sup>st</sup> at Holy Name between 4 and 6pm.  
They will share the 9.45 Mass at the Assumption on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
It was suggested that this would be an appropriate day to hand out the CAFOD Lent Fast Day envelopes.

It was noted that there didn't appear to be as many **CAFOD bookmarks** in the hymnals and Mass books.

This suggests that people may be taking them home. It was agreed that this wasn't a bad thing but that we needed to replace them.

Marion Emly agreed to liaise with Carol Burns to see if more were available.

This may also be a point in time when a mix of bookmarks could be made to provide a prayer focus for book users.

## **FLOWER TEAM**

The flower team was working well despite some of their number being away for a variety of reasons.

Discussion followed on whether tradition of gifting Pointsettias at Christmas needed review since the plants were so short lived. It was agreed that not only does this allow us to continue traditions from our past, feedback suggests that the decoration of the church is always good, and there is an opportunity for people to dedicate their plant.

It was agreed that (unless the plants proved particularly long lived) they would be removed after 2 weeks.

There was a discussion about flower vases. In recent years we have added a number of glass vases, but these tend to attract algae growth and this looks unsightly.

Su Teggart agreed to look for either additional metal vases or some pottery ones.

## **GROUND FORCE**

Again there were complimentary remarks about the gardens and it was noted that during 2014 this had been very much the result of hard work from Donal and Sheila O’Kane, and that thanks should be recorded.

During the weeks ahead the team would be hoping for a clear day to get some winter/spring flowers in to the spaces vacated by the summer bedding plants.

Peter Dowson suggested that a day in early spring would be beneficial to getting the remainder of the grounds given a good clean and tidy. This would need to be either a Saturday or Sunday to get maximum numbers, or wait until the evenings get lighter.

## **MUSIC GROUP**

All going well.

Recent increased number of absences hadn’t lost musical accompaniment.

Keyboard players from The Holy Name are willing to step in if needed.

Joe Burns would be getting us going with some new music / responses.

## **SERVERS**

The small team continues to work well.

It was noted that the increased numbers of young families attending the Assumption opens the possibility of getting some of the young people to join the team.

In response to a question, Fr. Pat said that the only requirement was that the person was willing, had made their First Holy Communion, and would be trained.

Lyndsey Webb would be asked to appeal for servers. She would do any training.

## **SVP**

We continue to be supported by the Holy Name Conference.

The SVP harvest box has been lost, JK will provide a replacement.

The weekly gifts (of store cupboard food items) can be put into the new box.

David will then empty the box and take the contents to the food bank.

A focus appeal will be made as soon as the box is in place.

## **Sunday coffee club**

All working well

The rota now had sufficient people listed to make sure each week was covered.

## **SOCIAL CENTRE**

## **Social Club:**

A new bar person has been employed.

Some changes to the club committee have been made.

Many thanks to the folk who had previously held office and for their hard work in keeping things going.

## **Social Centre Rooms:**

New arrangements **for Social Centre bookings**, including use of the bar, will be made in the weeks ahead.

(MA) Peter Dowson was asked to Liaise with the Parish Office for an update on the **Insurance claim** for the damage to the fire-doors.

**The roller shutter** had jammed and been a problem last Sunday but had been quickly repaired during the week.

A larger than average number of people had used **the Sacristy route** that weekend.

It is important that people using this route are supported where needed so that the risk of tripping/falls is minimised.

(MA) It was noted that the **proposed kitchen improvements** would be in abeyance until the next funding year when Carol Burns could make a bid for Leeds City grant aid.

In the meantime Su Teggart would meet with Richard Cavadino to draft a work plan for what was wanted.

(MA) It is understood that work to install the **baby-changing facility** was now about to be carried out. An update from the organisers would be appreciated.

## **Volunteers rotas**

All working well, Teresa said a new rota would be coming out by the end of the week.

## **Assumption Survey**

Teresa reported that there had been 40 returns (detailing 91 individuals) and that the results had been interesting in showing the dynamics of age spread in the community.

A summary sheet would be provided.

“a welcoming church” was a lovely note to get by way of feedback.

## **Events diary**

(MA) The “**Santa at Assumption**” event had gone very well and was enjoyed by young and not so young

Future:

**Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>**

St. Patricks celebration Ceilidh 7.30  
Assumption Social Centre

**Saturday 26 March 2015**

Mass for young families St. Mary’s School

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2015.**

CAFOD gift promise auction and afternoon tea  
Assumption Social Centre

**Christmas Dinner at Easter**

Saturday 11 April 2015 (Menu to follow)  
Assumption Social Centre

**Any other business**

T. Todd - looking forward to the Assumption 60<sup>th</sup> in 2016/17.  
This to be raised as an agenda item in May

Su Goodyear (Office) – will provide offertory boxes for Lenten Alms – these will be given out on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, and would be brought up as gifts during the Mass of the Lords Supper on Maundy Thursday. It was agreed in all 3 churches of the Parish that the Lenten Alms Collection this year would be in support of the Mary-anna Fund (for Fr Boniface’s late sister’s children).

**Delegates** for the meeting of **OLK Parish Council on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January** at 7.30pm  
Assumption Social Centre

Eddie Aitken, Peter Dowson, Michael Elmly, Teresa Todd

**Next Assumption Pastoral Church Committee meeting**

Thursday 14 May 2015 at 7.30, Assumption Social Centre

**The meeting closed with prayer**