

St Clare's Catholic Church

Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the meeting 7-4-14

Present: Jonathan Day, Brigit Chesworth, Jean Hampson, Anne Gardiner, Emma Gardiner, Janet Metcalf, Fr. Loughran, Fr. Darren.

Apologies: Stephen Connolly, Angela Waddingham

1. The meeting opened with a prayer lead by Fr. Loughran.
2. Review of minutes. a) Item 5 Clarification of Pancake Day-The youth group had pancakes at the meeting held on Pancake Tuesday. b) Any other issues to be sent to Jonathan.
3. Matters arising not on the Agenda.
Mrs. Brenda Scales has agreed to become the second Safeguarding Officer for the Parish.

4. Parish Priest's items:

Since the last meeting:-

- 09/03 Confirmation Enrolment Mass
- 12/03 Series of Class Masses KS2*
- 13/03 RCIA every Thursday
- 15/03 Day of Renewal
- 17/03 Preparation for Holy Week/Easter Music
Social Committee (Minutes available on the Noticeboard)
- 18/03 Deanery Conference
- 20/03 Mass at Corpus Christi
- 21/03 Presentation at Browndedge High school
- 22/03 Readers Lenten Recollection (DC)
- 23/03 First Holy Communion Presentation Mass
- 24/03 School Governors*
- 25/03 Cenacolo Day of Recollection at Ladyyewell28/03 Parish Quiz
- 29/03 Fabric & Finance meeting
Eucharistic Ministers Recollection
- 01/04 Confessions at Corpus Christi
- 04/04 Confessions at Corpus Christi
Holy Hour
- 06/04 Cenacolo Trustees

On-going activities include the Sacramental Programmes and the Journey in Faith. Fr. Darren continues his activities at: RPH, Corpus Christi. Newman College, Deanery Youth Coordination. Fr. Loughran continues his extra parochial duties with: The Cenacolo Community, The Christian Unity Commission, Ecumenical Officer for Lancashire, Editorial Board Catholic Voice, The Cenacolo Trustees..

The Youth Groups continue to meet. A series of Deanery Youth initiatives have taken place in the Parish Hall under the auspices of Fr. Darren.

Funerals: Stephen Ambler, Alice Barker, Roseanne Dorning.

Fr. Loughran had received a letter from the Diocesan Trustees re the Porch project. They gave permission for the parish to go ahead and raise funds for the new porch. However they did express concern about the amount of money, which had already been spent over the last few years and wanted a reduction in the spending in the parish. Some discussion took place and it was agreed that the remedial work, which has been done in the Church, House and Parish Hall, were necessary and there is still work needed. Money has also been spent on Youth activities. Fr. Loughran is to speak to the Diocesan Financial Administrator. He will also take the matter to the Fabric and Finance Committee.

5. NeoCatechumenal Way. One, or possibly two, families are moving into the parish. They have offered themselves to the Pope to go where they are needed and they have been sent to our parish. The first family will be arriving after Easter. They will join our NeoCatechumenal Group. The second family, have yet to find accommodation in the area.

6. Bishop's visit. This will take place on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of June. The Bishop may tell Fr. Loughran what he wants to do that weekend. There is a Youth gathering on the Saturday, which he hopefully will attend. He will be at all the Masses over the weekend and go into school on the Monday. Confirmations will take place at the 6pm Mass on the Sunday. He may want to meet with various parish groups and visit the sick.

Sacramental Objectives. We have met these objectives in regards to the Baptism Programme and Marriage preparation, which is done at Deanery level and also supported by the Priests.

Catechetical Objectives. The Journey of Faith/RCIA and the NeoCatechumenal Way cover these.

Outreach objectives: Donations to the Food Bank , Cenacolo Community, Hodovo, Cafod, and Mission Boxes. Messy Church.

Fr. Loughran suggested the use of Café material. This could be presented once a week possibly in the afternoon. This would need a group of people to organize it. It was felt that an explanation as to the use of the Sacrament of the Sick was needed for people in the Parish

The provision for the youth is good.

Emma suggested a possible fundraising event could be a Ceilidh.. Emma and Anne were asked to explore this matter and get a group of people together to help organize it.

7. Youth Update.

There are 44 registered for Seekers but on average only 20 attend meetings.

There are 17 registered for GFF but on average only 11 attend meetings. There has been one new member of the GFF.

Fr. Darren pointed out that as the groups met on alternate weeks it meant that if a child missed a meeting it was a month for them between meetings and some got out of the habit of attending regularly. Consequently both groups would be meeting each week. There are no Year 6 pupils currently attending. He also felt that the sessions were over planned and that he was hoping that there would be a more relaxed approach with 50% games and 50% Faith building activities.

Youth activities since the last meeting:

Deanery Youth Day – Held on the Saturday the 5th April. The day was led by the young people, who carried out different activities throughout the day. This included a treasure hunt using scripture, reconciliation and prayer stations. This day was for children of high school age and above and 30 children attended.

Seekers – The theme for the seekers group this term has been focusing on St Mark's gospel and the mountains stories as they are climbing their own mountain in their faith. At the start of Lent they planted a seed and have watered them saying a prayer with it every day. As their plant grows every day throughout Lent and turns into a flower, it is showing them how they are growing and becoming closer to God by the prayers they say every day when they are watering their plant.

GFF – The theme for the GFF youth group is to see the world and society from the view of God's eyes and think about how they act with their friends and family. They have made a set of prayer beads each which they use at prayer time at the end of each session to pray for specific things and they all say their prayers out loud.

Future youth activities:

The Seekers youth group is going to Rascals Play Centre on Tuesday 15th April to celebrate the end of the term and all the hard work they have put into the group. The night includes the Play Centre and their dinner.

The GFF youth group is going to watch the Soldier to Saint play on the 12th April and have pizza before it.

14th June - Youth Day

4th -6th July - Away weekend.

7. Next meeting

19th May at 7.45pm

