

## **St Bernardine's and St Martin's Pastoral Council**

### **Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 11th June 2015**

**Present:** Father Dan, Deacon John, Ailsa Flynn, Peter Van Cauwelaert, Peter Gannaway (chair), Sue Farrington-Smith, David Pugh, Nancy Zulu, Diana Grant

**Apologies:** Walter Butterfield, David Connolly, Vincent Calloway, Kate Harper

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May were accepted and any points arising were discussed in the course of the meeting.

**Father Dan's points:** The points will be made at appropriate times during the meeting.

#### **Reports.**

**Catechists:** The preparation for Holy Communion continued with a Children Mass on Ascension Sunday a practice for Holy Communion Mass in June. Another Catechist is also moving on September in addition to those mentioned last month and we will need to recruit more Catechists if we are to run the Three Catechist Groups next year. The Catechists planning to meet up before the end of Term to see how we can try to resolve the issue and the low numbers of Children in the Jesus Group this year.

As mentioned last month the Communion Group has recruited another person to assist with Classes next year, so they will be in a stronger position than the other 2 groups.

On a more positive note we are looking forward to the First Holy Communion on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June and the Children's Party at the end of the year.

**Post Meeting Note:** Sue's made an appeal for catechists at mass on Sunday Vincent thinks we should follow up with a few posters and flyers to set up a registration day for the children's classes. This will give a good idea of class sizes and provide a more targeted sense of how many catechists needed.

Vincent proposes that Sunday 12th July is a registration day. Given that a few parents in children's liturgy have been inquiring about the classes he thinks a display emphasizing that we have "Something for Every Age Group", from 3 to 16 would be really useful.

What he'd like to do is take over one of the display areas at the back of the church for the next few weeks. I think it would be nice to have something to describe each class that we do. He is happy to make some posters, would it be possible to get some photos of the current classes in action? Sue could you help with that? I think it would require catechists getting parents permission as well. Nothing to go online and no names. Tony is happy to provide a short description of what each class is for (age ranges would be really useful too).

On the registration day (12th July) he thinks it would be useful to have one catechist from each group at the back of church to answer any questions the parents may have.

**Youth Group:** Emma gave her apologies for this meeting and offered to come and speak at the next meeting.

**Children's Liturgy:** Always full. No report.

**Churches Together:** No meetings held recently. No report.

**Pastoral Area:** Peter agreed to send a note regarding this to be included in the Minutes.

**CAFOD:** There has been a huge response from the Parish both to Emma's Marathon and the Lent collection, together these raised over £5000. Congratulations to Emma. With match funding this will increase to over £10,000.

**Churches Together:** No report.

**Finance:** It was agreed to go ahead with the purchase of the Music System, which John had circulated a report for. Further major expenditures would be put on hold until a review of finances had taken place. David Pugh kindly offered to assist with the production of accounts, Peter Van Cauwelaert agreed to speak to Edward about this offer.

**Maintenance:** Ailsa reported no issues at St Martins. Peter G agreed to obtain a further quote for the work to repair the leaking roof at St Bernardines. A quote for the new vents was still awaited. (Afternote Bromley and Gaines and one other company from Northampton had been asked to quote for the work)

**Music System:** Approval was given for John to go ahead with the purchase of the Music System at a cost of around £920.

**Social Events:** The BBQ will be held on 5th July. The BBQ has been requested. Ray McGowan will cook the food at the BBQ. Kate will order the food and Peter G and Peter V-C will arrange a person to do the bar.

**BEMA** Deacon John said the deadline for the next edition is the end of June. Peter MacDonald is now editing the Website. Peter V-C will send him a copy of the last Minutes with a copy to Peter G. Fr. Dan provides him with the newsletter weekly.

**New Parishioners:** Sue reported that there had been two new couples since April. It was agreed that the current practice of leaving the New Parishioners book in the church porch was against the Data Protection Act. Sue proposed producing packs which newcomers would give to new Parishioners. The pack would include a welcome letter inviting the new parishioners to e-mail their details to Sue. She planned to include latest copies of BEMA in the welcome pack amongst other information. She plans to produce 10 at a time, and keep them up to date. All agreed this was a good idea.

**AOB:** Garden Bin, Peter V-C has ordered this.  
The Garden launch has now gone in the local newspaper.

The PC moved into the Garden to show appreciation to PVC for all he and his family had done for the Parish over the past 35 years. Although a rose bush doesn't begin to express the gratitude of all at St Bernardines, we hoped whenever he sees the Celestial Rose in bloom at his new home he will remember his friends at St Bernardines.

The meeting closed with a prayer.

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July at 8pm in St Martin's.

