

Minutes from Our Lady of Peace Parish Council Meeting - 6 May 2021

Attendees: Fr Joseph Udoh, Barbara Bryant, Brid Vaughan, Madeleine Bowron, Millie Fernandez,

Apologies: Yvonne Cafferty, Norman Grimmette, Mary McCarthy, Louise Dance

Minutes from March PPC reviewed.

Attendance at Sunday Mass: Avg headcount - 65 for OLP, 80 for St Andrews

Parish update

- FHC preparation underway – 40 in total. Session in OLP school and simultaneously in church.
- First Holy Communion likely to take place in September.
- Confirmation – interest currently being discerned. If large take up – delay until after June.
- RCIA candidates - Fr Joe to meet and discuss where they are on their journey. No RCIA intake planned for this year.

Covid Response – after May 17th, funeral attendance opening up to max capacity in church (as per Sunday services currently).

Diocese – A finance management review will take place across the Diocese. Fr Joe will also investigate the current counting money process to check if still relevant.

Parishioners – we continue to pray for our families affected by Covid – especially in India and Brazil.

- Visitation plan by Fr Joe underway – once restrictions open up, more will take place. Contact Fr Joe if you know of anyone who would benefit from a (safe distance) visit.
- Plan to connect with families who currently might feel disconnected. Some ideas:
 - Special masses for the FHC groups (1 per month)
 - Formal welcoming group - trained. Current Stewards might like to transition.
 - Gift of miraculous medals have been donated to give to the stewards.

St Andrews. Licencing for new Vicar of St Andrews – 6th July. Fr Joe to attend. Decisions will be needed regarding the building and fundraising concerns once new Vicar is fully installed.

Easter went very well across both churches - excellent turnout - safely conducted. Thanks to all who helped to clean and tidy the church and grounds, booking of services and stewarding along with the music team who recorded the hymns.

Flowers – funding needed to purchase the flowers. Team will review the process especially for weddings to see what can be offered.

LASR – frequency of clothing collection of clothing needs increasing. Possibly use the container for longer term storage.

List of groups in our Parish across OLP and St Andrews

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| • Churches Together | • Cleaning |
| • Visiting the Sick | • LASR |
| • Mothers Prayers | • SVP |
| • CWL | • Eucharistic Ministers |
| • Prayer Groups | • Readers |
| • Parish Evangelisation (including Youth Evangelisation) | • Meet & Greeters |
| • Marriage preparation | • Children's liturgy |
| • Choir | • First Holy Communion Team |
| • Justice & Peace | • Confirmation Team |
| • Flowers | • PPC |

Updates from each group to share plans and x-check for clashes at next PPC meeting

Parish Remembrance Service and Get-Together – July 25th. Remembrance Services at OLP and St Andrews followed by a Picnic at St Andrews - subject to restrictions.

Blessing of the graves - Sunday 11th July 3pm – to be published in the bulletin.

Pastoral Area Group – attended by Barbara. Reflection day proposed Sat 17th July. Fr Joe considering who would be suitable to join.

Post Covid – considering at how/when to refresh the parish council

Parish Website – to be updated and developed

AOB: Parish Advent Retreat / New Helping Hands Survey

Next Meeting schedule for – 2nd September

Minutes from Our Lady of Peace Parish Council Meeting - 4 March 2021

Attendees: Fr Joseph Udoh, Barbara Bryant, Brid Vaughan, Madeleine Bowron, Louise Dance, Millie Fernandez,

Apologies: Yvonne Cafferty, Norman Grimmette, Mary McCarthy, Martin McCarthy,

Minutes from December 2019 reviewed. Agreed to start afresh given delay and many changes due to lockdown.

Attendance at Mass - Average headcount dropped from 533 – 156.

It is a tribute to parishioners and supporters who have managed to attend.

Obligation to attend mass and confession is still suspended.

Despite the difficulties, First Holy Communion and Confirmations took place in 2020.

Parish office - Yvonne has been on Furlough but now back.

Offering support during Pandemic - This parish has responded magnificently, with many parishioners reaching out to help others. We also supported families in need as Parishioners donated foodstuffs. Following the Christmas appeal and Giving Tree, the Rotary Club were extremely grateful and very touched with the support provided by all concerned, including the SVP.

SVP is no longer a local initiative and has joined with a central conference in the whole of Slough to pool resources and share offices. Congratulations to the first President of this new SVP - Cedrica Lobo! One of the primary issues identified is the high number of young people in poverty in this area. Could be a great start. We may be able to provide some funding from our central 'Poor' fund.

Looking ahead - Pastoral Plan / Committees / Physical Structures – Diocese has asked us to suspend for now until we know where we are going. It has been agreed that, at an appropriate point in time, we need to hold a parish meeting to present plans and get feedback on the direction we should be going as a parish

Parish Council - For some time now, this Council is keen to refresh its membership. We must find the right way to do this.

Helping Hands survey to be conducted again.

Mailing list low. It has been suggested that we conduct an email gathering exercise to improve our ability to communicate with everyone.

Pastoral Plan - but we need to wait until restrictions are opened up.

Changes in the pastoral area and Diocese - Fr Francis Eyo is the new PP at St Ethlebert's. Fr Michael Turner in Marlow will retire and Fr John Udris will take over from him.

Memorial service - COVID – a memorial service for parishioners and family members who have died during this time has been suggested, to take place when restrictions lift (July).

Sacramental preparation - First Holy Communion: new process to be confirmed with the school to help with the preparation and simultaneous sessions held in the church for children not attending OLP school. **Confirmation**: not ready to start yet. Bishop has sent dates. Prithi and Christina are currently the Catechists. Fr Joe to decide if we wait until next year and combine two years into one.

Post FHC, we need a programme to continue to engage the children. Plan and timeline needed and people to help lead. Fr Joe to discuss with school and with St Bernards.

St Andrews Shared Church: A new Vicar has been appointed – Rev Rachel Monie – we look forward to welcoming her. Funding at St Andrews has become a critical issue.

OLP Finance committee: needs to be set up. Funding for 'poor' as a central pool to gather and distribute to the many needy groups.

Parish Finances - Comparable Figures

2019/2020	Expenditure £97,018.00.	Income £92,663.78
-----------	-------------------------	-------------------

2020/2021	Expenditure £51,582.43	Income £56,356.50
-----------	------------------------	-------------------

Comparable difference for each year

Expenditure £45,435.57	Income -£36,307.28
------------------------	--------------------

AOB:

Out of date banner in Sanctuary now removed. A new banner has been suggested but given current financial climate, it has been decided not to invest at this time.

Spring cleaning pre-Easter. Saturday 27th. Request for helpers to tidy up outside and inside space.

Next meeting: Thursday 6th May