

**St. Alban's Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of meeting held
16th February 2010**

Present: Fr. Gerry; Martin Brown; Sandra Endsor; Angela Fairbrother; Anne Kearney; Susan Lewis; Shaun Reid

Apologies: Jim Parlato;

Opening Prayer: led by Martin

Minutes of last meeting following alterations

Proposed as a true copy by: Angela

Seconded by: Shaun

1. Matters Arising

- 1.1 Confirmation:** Fr. Gerry reported that the course is going well. There is a nice group of youngsters and seven attended the Service of the Word last week.
- 1.2 Hall ceiling:** The insulation has been checked in the Parish Centre and there is 10 inches of insulation material so we must look to other reasons for the low temperatures. Possible reasons are the large amount of glass in the doors and windows and the council agreed that enquiries should be made into the use of curtains or blinds to reduce the loss of heat.
- 1.3 Land opposite church:** A new plan has been submitted for four, two storey houses on the site. This is likely to be accepted. Fr. Gerry wrote suggesting that bungalows would be more in keeping with the buildings already on the site, but he is not hopeful that it will make any difference. He also mentioned the parking problems again and sent photos of the road when full of cars but there was no response. - Sunday parking will not affect the parishioners too badly, but Fr Gerry wondered if we could apply for white lines to be painted across the gates to the car park to ensure easy access in and out. When the hearing is reported Fr. Gerry will put the results in the bulletin.
- 1.4 200 Club:** Julie has resigned from the committee. Fr. Gerry will put something in the bulletin to encourage people to join
- 1.5 Christian Unity Service** enjoyed by those who attended. There were more Catholic Christians than usual, which is a good sign, although none of the other communities in Chaddesden were there, except Rev. Colin Pearson from All Saints, Breadsall. Part of the problem could be that Rev. Jonathan Paige is no longer at St Philips and there is not the encouragement to take part.
- 1.6 Haiti:** The collection was very impressive - £1300+. But the visit of Fr. John from the Kiltegan Fathers did suffer as a consequence - £400+

2. PPC Elections

- 2.1** The timetable for this year's election process was agreed. Fr. Gerry will put details in the bulletin on weekend 20/21st Feb and nomination slips will be available at the back of churches.

- 2.2 Martin queried the need for a ‘seconded’ if the person named has already agreed to stand. The council decided to leave matters as they stand because that is what is in the Council Constitution
- 2.3 If there are more candidates than places there will be an election on weekend 13/14th March – slips to be completed by parishioners at the end of Mass.
- 2.4 If this happens candidates will be asked to provide a short statement of intention and what they might bring to the Council if voted in.
- 2.5 If there is to be an election, those members remaining for a further term will be included on the voting paper.
- 2.6 If anyone wants to stand they must find a nominator and seconded and complete a nomination slip

Council members then discussed who might be suitable, and willing to stand, and agreed to approach anyone they thought would be an asset to the PPC.

3.Lent

- 3.1 This year is the 50th anniversary of the CAFOD fast day. The CAFOD group has arranged for the parish to follow the “Give it Up” campaign during Lent and to consider what difference we can make by doing our little bit. Envelopes and leaflets will be handed out and parishioners encouraged to give something up for Lent and to give the money saved to CAFOD. Someone will speak at each Mass for the four weeks involved, about the theme for the week. The special CAFOD prayer for Lent will be said at Mass
- 3.2 There will be a Service of Ashes at Oakwood, led by Rev, Lindsay, followed by a frugal supper.
- 3.3 The Spirituality group has moved back to St. Alban’s for the remaining sessions and these will be held on Thursday to avoid the Lent Course held at Oakwood on Wednesdays. Fr Gerry thanked the group for being willing to fit in with this activity.
- 3.4 The York Course for this year at Oakwood is “When I survey.....Christ’s cross and ours” Every Wednesday during Lent 7pm to 9pm - an ecumenical event, all are welcome.
- 3.5 Shaun will make enquiries about the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, and whether it will take place this year, in view of the fact that Rev. Jonathan Paige is no longer at St. Philips and he was the main organiser of this event.
- 3.6 Fr. Gerry will hold a Reconciliation Service during Holy Week.
- 3.7 There will be a joint Good Friday Service at Oakwood at 7pm

4 CAFOD Group

- 4.1 In addition to the Lent activities the group have also arranged a Fair Trade Wine Tasting evening. To be held on April 30th. Tickets will be £7.50 each and this will include the cost of the wine tasted! – Further details to follow.
- 4.2 The meeting with Marie Molloy to discuss “CAFOD partners” has been put back until after Easter

5. Oakwood

- 5.1 Plans are taking shape for the visit of John Bell from the IONA community during Advent 2010. There will be three sessions – one on Friday evening 3rd December (entitled “The Big Sing”) to be held at St. Alban’s and two on Saturday 4th - am/pm to be held at Oakwood. (10 things they never told me about Jesus / Music and Christian text with a Christmas flavour)
Prices will be £5 per session or £12.50 if all three sessions are booked together. Lunch will be provided. More details to follow when available.
- 5.2 Fr. Gerry reported that he had paid the annual bill for the expenses at Oakwood this totalled £200 (This comprises the expenses for the year less the income from rents etc.), our contribution is 25% of the total expenditure/income.
- 5.3 We have also contributed £1500 towards the cost of the new boiler- again 25% of the total.
- 5.4 Refurbishment of the kitchen is due to be completed by Easter. This will be funded by voluntary contributions and charity events and not from church funds.

6.A.O.B

- 6.2 Swanwick weekend 18th-20th June,
Entitled “Catching up with Jesus – A Call to Deeper Unity”
Led by Diarmuid O’Murchu M.S.C, a member of the Sacred Heart Missionary Order and a graduate of Trinity College Dublin
Fr. Gerry has agreed that the parish will pay half of the cost for the whole weekend and all of the cost for the Saturday only.
Susan and Sandra will be going for the weekend
Booking forms were distributed for anyone else to book if they wished.
Fr. Gerry will be attending on the Friday only, because he has a wedding on the Saturday.
- 6.3 There are 30 First Holy Communion candidates this year.
There has been one meeting with the children and two with their parents - Anne Kearney is trying to involve the parents more in the process and has grouped them with their children’s catechist in order for them to get to know each other.
The Enrolment Mass took place last week and First Reconciliation will be on the Saturday before Palm Sunday.
- 6.4 **As the next meeting will be the last one for this term Fr. Gerry thought we should all make the effort to be present, to make a good ending. Perhaps we could review all that has been accomplished during this time and celebrate what we have done together.**
We will also mark the event with a meal together – to be arranged

Final Meeting: 18th March 7.30pm in Parish Centre
Opening Prayer: Angela