

ST ALBANS CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

3rd November 2016

Present:- Fr Paul, , Louise Franik, Andy Brough, Amanda Wilson, Sandra Endsor, Catherine Endsor, Cath Green, Linda McCauley, Carl Mendonca, Stuart Olivier, Nick Carberry

Apologies:- Juan Carlos, Jo Rowlands and David McArdle

Welcome by Stuart Olivier - Chairman

Opening Prayer: led by Fr Paul

Previous Meeting's Minutes/ Matters arising:

Mass times are to remain the same for the time being. Fr Slavic has applied for a couple of positions and will be called for interview next week:-

1. Chaplaincy at City and Queens Hospitals in Nottingham
2. Bishop of Portsmouth has advertised a job for Chaplain for nuns and a number of houses in Jersey which Fr Slavic really fancies.

It does look like Fr Slavic will definitely be gone by Christmas.

Fr Phillip has approached Fr Paul to say he would like to do one mass at weekend and one in the week for us and the Bishop is happy with this. St Hugh's and St Albans would employ him for say four hours a week to cover two masses , confessions etc and share the cost.

Stuart will add to the Parish Groups

The Parish pilgrimage to St Albans was well attended and enjoyed by everyone

Harvest Supper and harvest festival both went well too.

Cleaning Rota – Amanda will put a request in the Newsletter

Grass Cutting - Steve Hemsall is to be employed through the summer months to mow the lawns every couple of weeks at £30 a time. This will be most cost effective as he will use all his own equipment so the mower will not have to be serviced or perhaps even kept. He can have a look at the mower and strimmer and see what he thinks.

Lights have been fitted and are a really good improvement in the hall, passageway and outside. They will pay for themselves within three years on saving electricity alone.

Mass Changes/Living Stones

Fr Paul said the next Deanery meeting to discuss this is 27th November. He thinks that all the parishes will be put into "mini deaneries" and possibly have up to five parishes together. He will know more after the meeting.

Fr Paul will not do anything as regards amalgamating St Hugh's and St Albans finances for the time being until he knows what is happening with the parishes. The purchasing is done in one lot for both St Albans and St Hugh's and St Hugh's reimburse the cost of their part. They have contributed £1,700 for administration etc which they were very happy to do.

As Fr Phillip will be helping out Fr Francis Onwunalia will not be coming to the parish and so not moving in to St Hugh's presbytery. The presbytery will be put up for rent through an agent. The agent will take a fee for managing the letting but then 20% of the rent will go to the diocese and the balance into St Hugh's funds. St Hugh's have also started to use their hall more to raise income for the church.

Christmas Mass Times

Fr Paul has arranged these so that one priest can celebrate all masses:-

Christmas Eve - 4.30pm at St Albans (no carols before)
6.30pm at St Hugh's carols at 6pm

Christmas Day – 8.30am Oakwood
- 10.30am St Albans

St Stephen's - 10 am St Albans
28th December - 10am St Hugh's

It was thought Fr Philip could be invited to help celebrate one of the Christmas masses

Carol Services:-

Sunday 18th December at Oakwood 6.30pm
Monday 19th December St Albans School 2pm
?Tuesday 20th at St Albans at 7pm but to be agreed with Jo

Awaiting dates and times of the reconciliation services from the Deanery meeting

Disabled access to garden

Various quotations had been received for tarmac, slabs or concrete ranging from £,7,500 down to £2,500. The area is approximately 120 sq ms. It was thought that concreting would perhaps be best but Fr Paul to investigate. The timescale for this is probably by spring next year.

Events

Tomorrow 4th November Fireworks, crafts and food 6pm – 7.30pm

Remembering Services 13th November 2.30pm at St. Ablans for St Albans, Oakwood, St Hugh's and Mayfield Road Methodist Church

Advent Social 2nd December at Oakwood 7.30- 0pm "nibbles and natter" £1 on the door

St Albans Parish Bazaar 3rd December

It is the end of the Year of Mercy and the Bishop would like two representatives to go to the service at St Barnabas on 20th November 6pm. Each Parish is to take a legacy to carry on the Year of Mercy – two suggestions

1. Interest in St Mary's Educational Trust (Dominic and Gerardo) children working on the street in India. It costs £120 per year to sponsor a child and we could commit to sponsoring say 10 children. Benita Rene could come and talk to us at masses.
2. Praying for a street in the parish each week. A card would be pushed through the letterbox of each house on that street confirming that they would be prayed for that coming week.

The Deanery RCIA meetings have stopped as only one person turned up for these. Fr Paul discussed with Juan Carlos and Fr Philip about Rediscovering Faith. It was thought it would be good to do one meeting a month for twelve months but possibly have a couple of months off in the summer and carry them on to say February the following year. This could be for Catholics and non-Catholics – anyone interested and anyone not having been confirmed could go on to be confirmed at the end of the meetings.

Ask Derby Refugee Centre how we could help. Joan Stannard is the lady to speak to. Christmas tags for children went down well but rather than doing presents for children it was thought to ask Joan Stannard what they required. Sandra Endsor to contact Joan Stannard

Food Bank – give it a push and give out leaflet saying what sort of thing is required. Amanda to copy leaflets for Oakwood and St Albans

Louise is to be the liaison with school. Minutes to be passed on the Headmaster and also to Simon Baldwin to put on the web site. Louise to pass on email for school to Linda
Amanda to pass on email of Simon Baldwin to Linda

We will stop saying the Crossing the Threshold Prayer on 20th November. Fr. Paul read out a new prayer which everyone thought was good. Fr Paul to have nice cards done with the prayer. The new prayer would be said before each mass.

Cath Green and Stuart Oliver agreed to be St Albans' representatives for the end of the Year of Mercy service on 20th November.

Suggestions

Sandra mentioned that previously "Oakwood" was always on the agenda so we were always updated on what was going on at Oakwood. This would be added to the agenda in future.

Any other business

None

Next meeting Thursday 5th January 7.30pm