

Minutes of the Parish Forum held on Wednesday 4th July

Present: Mgr. Corcoran, F. Mulgrew, M. Donnelly, P. White, J. Clegg, C. Waterworth, P. Hindle, A. Brown, J. Brown, C. Riley, L. Marsden, D. Marsden, B. Collinson, L. Collinson, L. Dixon, J. Woodhead, T. Woodhead, J. Hall, S. Hall, M. Bradley, M. Fitzpatrick, P. Whitwell, M. Parsons, J. Haythornthwaite, P. Donnelly, V. Murray, P. Hargreaves, E. Davies, M. Valolin, E. Thomson, S. White, A. Marsden, H. Waterworth, A. Taylor, C. Halstead, V. Carson, A. Brown, C. Brown, D. Buggy, M. Mercer, T. Mercer, B. Mercer, A. Galea, A. Taylor, H. Kerr.

1. Prayer

The meeting opened at 7.30 with a prayer led by Frankie Mulgrew, our visiting Deacon. Peter welcomed everyone to Sabden.

2. Apologies

P Hardwick, Dixon, S. Shore, M Sellars, P Sutcliffe, C Carr, M Barrett

3. Minutes of the last meeting (April 26th)

These were accepted as a true record with no matters arising.

4. Agenda (Margaret Donnelly)

Margaret suggested that 2 weeks prior to the Forum a notice be put in the newsletter asking that anyone with items for the agenda either email her or ring her. The meeting agreed to this. Anyone submitting an item should attend the Forum if possible. (donnelmarg@aol.com 01200 441081)

5. Year of Faith

Pope Benedict has called for this to be celebrated from October 2012 to November 2013. Special Liturgies and events will be organized throughout the deanery. We will aim to regenerate a pride in our faith and in our history, John Southworth is our local martyr.

In each parish of the deanery we aim:

- To train, accredit and commission laity to conduct funeral and particularly crematoria committals.
- To train, accredit and commission teams of laity (3 per team) to conduct Eucharistic Services on weekdays who would be able, in an emergency situation when a priest is unavailable, to conduct a Sunday Service. An agreed format of service will be used in all parishes.
- To train, accredit and commission teams of laity to support bereaved parishioners.
- To stimulate the promotion of priestly vocations by clergy with an emphasis on the responsibility of laity in this task.
- To use the more accessible YOUCAT in parishes to strength the faith as the basis for all activity. (To negotiate a price reduction for 2,000 copies)
- To discuss the possibility of a Permanent Diaconate ministry.
- To explore with the schools the "anti-practice culture" evidenced within

our schools and ways to support and encourage teenagers who continue to practice.

- To find ways of inviting the estranged to "come home to God."

6. Culture of Silence before Mass

Fr. John introduced this with a quotation from Thomas Merton and the story of one atheist's experience of silence and prayer. The opinions of the meeting were divided, some strongly for silence before Mass, others very concerned that we would lose the warmth and welcome that we now have in SSMJ. After discussion, Fr. John told the meeting that this will tie in with the Year of faith and we will enforce it then.

7. Special Ministers of Holy Communion

A course for Eucharistic Ministers will be led by Frankie. All ministers must attend both parts.

Part A Thurs July 5th at 7.30pm or Saturday July 7th at 3pm.

Part B Thurs July 12th at 7.30pm or Saturday July 14th at 3pm.

Some discussion took place re the need for more Ministers at Sabden.

8. Readers

A course is to be arranged for all readers in the near future.

9. Times of:

First Holy Communion: arrangement in Sabden to remain the same. This year because of Mass times First Communion took place at SMMJ's at 2pm after the children's "breakfast". Meeting agreed that next year First Communions are on a Saturday allowing the children time for family celebrations etc and then children come to Sunday Mass in their First communion outfits, receive Holy Communion and are introduced to the parish. Frankie suggested a Blessed Sacrament procession. This to be discussed further at a later meeting.

Confirmation: arrangements for this will remain as this year in both Churches.

10. Weekday Mass times

Sheila Shore had written to Fr. John requesting later weekday Mass times. There was a request for one weekday evening Mass but this is difficult for Fr. because of meetings. Decision was to leave times as they are at present. Fr. John will give this further consideration.

11. Cemetery Mass

Aug. 27th at 10am in the old cemetery. Mass will be celebrated for all deceased friends and relatives. Council are unable to take over this cemetery until the last three graves are occupied.

Right to life Walk is at 1pm on that day.

12. Book for Prayer Intentions

Theresa Mercer will arrange for a book to be put at the back of church for parishioners to write in any intentions and these will be included in the bidding prayers.

13. Sabden Parking

Public are using this as a public car park and this is creating problems for parishioners. Eventually it will be marked out, After some discussion and various suggestions of ways to resolve it, Peter W. said he would deal with it in a non confrontational way if possible.

14. Rotary Civic Carol Service

This will take place in SSMJ's on 12th December 2012.

15. Mass for the Sick

Wed. July 11th is last day for return of slips. Wheelchairs and taxis will be organized by S.V.P. Knights will organize furniture and Ladies will do refreshments. Mass is on Sun. 15th July at 2pm in the parish centre

16. School Reports

Sabden (presented after item 3 of agenda)

Very busy, enjoyable summer term. Yr.1 and one Y5 completed Sacramental programme. Children have received some cricket coaching and have taken part in a tournament. Friendly match with SSMJ. Y2 Sats marked internally and moderated with SSMJ. Schools trips: KS2 went to Bradford to the Media Museum and KS1 went to Blackpool Tower. Theatre group, Story Magic have presented "The Hare and the Tortoise" in school and a Cinema night has taken place. The school FSA has more members. Barbecue on Sat 7th July will be a big fund raising event. All welcome. Events before the end of term include the Crossroads leaver's Mass. sports day, awards ceremony and leavers assembly. 12 new reception children will be welcomed in Sept. and yr.5/6 will go on outdoor pursuits week in Wales on 17th Sept.

Clitheroe Sacramental programme completed. Summer Fayre this coming Sat. Crossroads Mass Sun. July 15th .

17. Parish Draw (Clitheroe)

More agents and contributors needed to run this. In 1996 there were 409 members now there are only 236. Anyone interested to see Janet. Need for raising awareness of this. Sabden "Bonus Ball" runs very successfully.

18. Website

Craig has made a mirror site and is in the process of redeveloping the site. Meeting arranged in Sept.

19. Street Signage

No progress, Mike Bradley still working on this.

20. Sabden Bell

No planning permission needed. Bell makers to install bell, an old bell but new to Sabden

21. Torchlight Procession

Aug. 25th. 2 schools to join together to put in a float. Jane Brown suggested a bell theme and she and flower ladies would cover the bell for centre of float. Small group to meet after meeting to discuss and plan.

22. Parish Press Officer

Margaret Parsons volunteered to take this on.

Email: Margaret.parsons@eastlancsnews.co.uk

23. Vocation Sponsorship

No progress made in arranging sponsorship of an overseas student. Julie W. moving away so will be replaced by someone else willing to take this on.

24. Committee Reports

Food Bank. 5 people from the Parish attended meetings. Question of sustainability is being looked at. Peter D. suggested that this be an item on future Parish Forum agendas.

25. Group/Events

Sabden. Bingo on 5th Supper. Commences at 7pm for 7.30. £5.

Olympic Quiz, 18th July 7.30pm Teams of 4, £1 per participant.

Ladies Group. Walking Treasure Hunt Aug 29th at 6pm Meal at 7.30pm £12 or £13

Pro Life. Walk Aug 27th. Marshalls needed, see Arnold.

Date and Venue of next meeting: Wed. Sept 19th , 7.30pm Clitheroe

Meeting closed at 9.26pm and was followed by tea/coffee and biscuits.