

MINUTES OF PARISH FORUM HELD WEDNESDAY 15th February 2012

Present: Mgr J Corcoran, P.White, A.Harkin, S.White, D.Marsden, M.Manning, P.Hargreaves, L.Collinson, K.Shepherd, M.Procter, J.Clegg, C.Astin, A.Marsden, S.Hall, J.Hall, P.Sutcliffe, B.Collinson, J.Brown, A.Brown, M.Bradley, C.Waterworth, H.Waterworth, Lou Marsden, B.Mercer, T.Mercer, P.Hardwick, M.Mercer, C.Riley, V.Murray, P.Donnelly, M.Illingworth, H.Kerr

Apologies: C Carr, M Carr, E Thomson, A Taylor, M Donovan, E Davies, S Shore,

1. **Prayers were led by Mgr. Corcoran**

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. **Matters arising**

Retreat Day in Preston for Eucharistic Ministers

There was some disappointment that this was a general Retreat Day rather than training on the “practicalities” of the roles of Ministers and Readers. It was also noted that there was no experience of holding a Eucharistic Service in Sabden, if Father were to be prevented from reaching Sabden for some reason. Action: PP to organise a practical training period after Easter.

Home Mission

Margaret Donnelly had contacted the Zion Group to request their assistance in holding a Mission in the Parish. A reply was awaited.

Little Church

As actioned at the last meeting, Margaret Donnelly had contacted Little Church to explore the possibility of a Children’s Liturgy. Questionnaires had been distributed through the children and 60% of parents had replied. There was a very positive responses in terms of the 60% return rate as well as the children and parents finding Little Church valuable and enjoyable. There had a request for teaching on elements of the Mass.

4. **Committee Reports**

Maintenance report

Work on the hall had begun 18 months ago and all of the actions have now been completed. A slight damp patch had been identified above the stage and this was due to a leaking pipe which had now been repaired. The main objective was now to maximise external bookings and everyone was asked to “spread the word” about the facilities which were available for parties, family events, meetings etc.

Ladies Group

Recent Events

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| Christmas Dinner | The Golf Club had proved to be an excellent venue for the Christmas Dinner and was made even more enjoyable by Frankie's comedy "turn". |
| Old Shops of Clitheroe | This presentation had drawn a capacity crowd to the hall and £200 had been raised from the raffle. |
| Tea Dance | Over 60 people had attended today's Tea Dance. |

Future Events

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| Stations of the Cross | This would be on the 23 rd March with a practice session on the previous Friday. |
| Women's World Day of Prayer | This was on the 2 nd of March this year and the Service would be hosted by St Paul's Church. |
| Coffee Morning | Donations of cakes and prizes for the Tombola and Raffle were requested for the event on 21 st April. Proceeds would be donated to Derian House Children's Hospice. |
| Trip to Manchester | A trip to Manchester Town Hall was planned. |

The Ladies Group are holding a recruitment drive at the moment and would welcome any new (or returning) ladies.

St Michael and St John's School

Mr Murray explained that the Diocese Building Fund had provided a grant towards bringing the school into compliance with the DDA and where possible, provide access for disabled pupils, parents, staff and visitors. This is a major project with a final bill of £180k as there are separate lifts/ramps required to permit access from the ground to upper floor, from the ground floor to the hall/dining area and another lift from the hall to the playground. There will also be a ramp at the front entrance.

Social Club

Membership

The Club till had had to be replaced due to escalating repair bills so it seemed appropriate to take advantage of the more sophisticated facilities offered by the new system. The new membership cards are effectively swipe cards which will allow a member to be charged the current prices which in turn allows for higher prices to be charged for casual users.

Knights of St Columba

It was highlighted that the Scouts were in urgent need of funds for the HQ and the Knights were able to assist them for both this year and next year. A Youth Day is being organised at Hinsley Hall on 10th to the 13th July for young Catholics from 17 to 22 years.

SVP

The SVP have continued with their programme of visits and over 150 people were called on over the Christmas period. The local branch is participating in a national campaign to recruit "Friends of the SVP". Everyone is being asked to commit to contributing a small amount on a monthly basis which will finance projects across the country.

Youth SVP

The Youth SVP group will visit St Augustine's this term to speak to Year 9 in an effort to establish a new branch within the School.

Website

The Committee are making progress and new additions have been made to site.

Sabden

"Our Day Out"

Actors and "behind the scenes" volunteers are for the production. The actors are mainly from 11 years and up, although there are some adult parts to be filled. Please come along on Sunday at 2.30 p.m. to share your talents.

Stations of the Cross

These will begin on the Tuesday 28th February.

Golden Jubilee

Father Birmingham will celebrate this very important milestone on 13th June with a Mass and a celebration afterwards in the hall.

Blackburn People's Choir

The Choir will perform an inspiration variety of music the on 5th May in the hall and they are highly recommended to everyone.

Flower Team

Lilies for Easter

A suggestion from last year had been to purchase a Remembrance Book for

deceased relatives and friends where donations would be made. In turn, the funds raised would be used to purchase lilies for the altar.

Future Events

27th May - Confirmation (Sabden and Clitheroe)
17th June – First Communion (Clitheroe)
24th June – First Communion (Sabden)

Greenery was requested to help decorate the Church for these important occasions. Please contact Jane Brown, 01200 441949.

5. Lent

Lenten Lunch Talks - begin on “Where I Stand” and will be followed by lunch. These begin on Saturday 25th February.

Lent Course

As anticipated, it had proved difficult to find someone to come for a Parish Mission but a new course was available from [Cafe](#) This consisted of films looking at the lives of 6 Saints, including St Patrick and St Ignatius of Loyola, to ask how they speak to us today. The sessions will be on Thursday nights (except for Wednesday the 7th of March).

Stations of the Cross

Last year, Sabden had been asked to participate in Clitheroe’s service and CAFOD stepped aside. This year, the Knights will step aside to “free up a spot”.

24 th February 2012	SVP
2 nd March	Women’s World Day Prayer/Sabden
9 th March	Cafod
16 th March	Pro-Life
23 rd March	Scouts
30 th March	Ladies Group

Sacrament of Reconciliation

This is offered every Saturday, but it will also be offered during the Stations. Please remember that all parishioners are welcome to the Sacrament of First Reconciliation for our school children at 7.30 p.m. (27th March in Clitheroe and 28th March in Sabden).

Liturgies during Lent

<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	9.15 a.m.	SMSJ (including the school)
<i>Distribution of Ashes</i>	11.00 a.m.	Sabden (with the school)
	7.30 p.m.	SMSJ
<i>Holy Thursday</i>	8.00 p.m.	Mass
	9.00 p.m.	Watching
	10.00 p.m.	Compline
<i>Good Friday</i>	9.00 a.m.	Stations
	10.00 a.m.	Stations (Sabden)
	10.00 a.m.	Service at Trinity Methodist
	11.00 a.m.	Procession of the Cross
	12.00	Service at the Castle Gate
	11.00am	Sabden service at village Cross
	3.00 p.m.	Veneration of the Cross
<i>Holy Saturday</i>	8.00 p.m.	Vigil and Easter Mass
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	9.30 a.m.	Mass
	11.00 a.m.	Mass (Sabden)

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers from Sabden would be invited to assist with the ceremonies in Clitheroe. During Holy Week the statues in both Churches would be covered in purple as a sign of The Passion; it was suggested, and accepted, that individuals should wear a purple item of clothing or flower as a personal remembrance on Good Friday.

Chrism Mass

Once again four tickets will be sent to us for the Chrism Mass in Salford Cathedral at 10.00 a.m. on Maundy Thursday. Refreshments are served afterwards. If anyone wishes to attend, please contact Mgr. Corcoran or Janet.

6. Church Bell

Excellent progress has been made. The area has been cleared using an industrial hoover and an electricity cable has been installed for the clanger. As the bell will no longer be swung to sound it, this will reduce the vibration but allows the speed to be varied. The bell should be ready for Easter.

7. New Altar

The carpets have been lifted and a great result achieved in cleaning the tiles. The parquet flooring has been removed and new carpet laid within the new marble surround. A template of the altar was made to ensure that that everything fits and is now with the firm making the altar. The Altar will be ready for the end of March and installed in time for Easter.

8. Sacristy

It was agreed that the Sacristy does need renovation but this will be very expensive as both ceilings need to be demolished and replaced. They have bowed as happened in St Nicholas' in Sabden.

9. Weld Day

It was agreed that Weld Day will be held on 1st July 2012.

10. Anonymous Letters

Mgr. Corcoran had received an anonymous letter which referred to the upset caused when choices of music were deemed to be "unsuitable". He wished to use this as an opportunity to share his reasoning as it had been unfortunately necessary in the past to refuse certain selections:

1. A Catholic Liturgy is followed and the same rules apply to everyone.
2. There are some secular "songs" which are unsuitable to be used within the Liturgy.

11. AOB

Christmas Fair

Fewer people had attended last year and it might be that there had been a clash with other events. It was suggested that the timing of a Sunday after Mass prevented attendees from Sabden and that a Saturday event might attract people who were shopping in town.

Do we need to change the format or any other ideas? Please contact Janet or Carol know.

Other Dates for the Diary

1 st December	Sabden Christmas Fair
Sunday 15 th July	Mass for the Sick
Saturday 7 th July	SMSJ School Fun Day

12. Arrangements for Next Meeting

The next Meeting will be in Clitheroe at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 26th April 2012¹

¹ Agenda items are always welcome but please ensure that they are sent to the secretary before the meeting