

Minutes of the Parish Forum held on Thursday April 26th 2012

Present:

Peter White (Chair), Rev. J. Corcoran, Margaret Donnelly, Les Collinson, Tom Woodhead, Julie Woodhead, Susan White, Arnold Marsden, Mike Bradley, Mary Manning, Elsie Thompson, Harry Waterworth, Carol Waterworth, Heather -Louise Kerr, J. Noonan, Peter Donnelly, Daphne Marsden, Lou Marsden, Teresa Mercer, Bernard Mercer, Maureen Mercer, Suzanne Brown, Andy Brown, Amanda Taylor, Aillen Evans, Vincent Murray, Carol Riley.

1. The meeting opened at 7.30 with a prayer led by Julie Woodhead and Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies:

Janet Clegg, Peter Hardwick, Jane Brown, Marie Valovin, Peter Sutcliffe, Chris Carr, Betty Collinson, Caroline Muldoon, Grace Fellows, Craig Morgan

3. CAP

Peter introduced our guests, Pamela Entwistle and Ruth Haldane, Centre Manager and Community Links co-ordinator respectively, for CAP- Christians Against Poverty. Pam and Ruth gave the meeting an informative and inspiring talk on the work of CAP. The vision of the organisation is to give people free help to enable them to become debt free and the work is carried out from the position of Christian faith. Clitheroe Centre opened last November and is endorsed and supported by Nigel Evans. Leaflets were given out and help requested in raising awareness through notice boards. Mon 21st May Prayer meeting to support CAP work at St James.

4. Minutes of the last meeting were accepted after the following amendments.

- Apology received from M. Donnelly
- Little Church were not contacted to explore children's liturgy and there were 3 new volunteer helpers.
- Youth S.V.P. replace with: Peter D. to speak to SSMJ Yr 9 pupils at St. Augustines to recruit new members.

5. Matters Arising. None

6. Food Bank

Peter Donnelly reported that he had had a meeting with Stephanie Clarkson from the Grand who is hoping to set up a food store in Clitheroe. He and Ann Southworth attended a meeting of Clitheroe Churches in Partnership who had discussed ways of doing this. Peter asked for names of anyone interested and suggested that one way of providing food would be through donations of food at the Offertory. He received 5 names after the meeting of people interested in helping.

7. Vocation Action

This Sunday is Vocations Sunday. SPA suggest that Parishes sponsor the training of a priest overseas. Parish chooses country and can maintain contact. Target :£500. Meeting agreed to do this and Julie W offered to co-ordinate it.

8. Evaluation of recent events.

- Exposition went well but overnight watching will not be repeated next year as there are too many problems, security, lack of watchers through the night etc
- Stations were beautifully done but groups did not support each other, no one from SSMJ came over to Sabden and very few to Clitheroe. People from Sabden more involved but still feel like invited guests. Eucharistic ministers were not briefed re Communion procedures in Clitheroe.
- Easter services were very special and well done in both churches. Thanks to all.
- Ecumenical service was prayerful and reflective but walk of witness should be silent.

9. Committee and Group reports.

- **Parish Centre:** Aillen presented the end of year accounts which will be displayed for every one to see. There was a gross profit of £43633,(increase of 6.4%) from bar sales. Other income, including £7500 from hire of hall, was £11006. Expenditure was £64923 but this includes £9000 depreciation of hall refurbishment. Net loss £10283.
- **Progress on Website.** There has been some improvement and Craig has made some adjustments. S.V.P. have a new member through the website.
- **Sabden.** “Our Day Out” had to be cancelled due to lack of support but rehearsals were enjoyable and lots of fun. Blackburn People’s Choir at St. Mary’s Sat. 5th May 7.30.Garden Party 13th June, meeting 8th May. Fr. Birmingham’s Jubilee Mass 13th June.
- **Eucharistic Ministers.**We have 6 new people who are going to train. Date for training and commissioning to be arranged.
- **Ladies group** 13th March Trip to Manchester – guided tour around Town Hall during morning – free time afternoon. Arrived back in Clitheroe approx 5.30 pm.
21st April, Coffee Morning Thank you to everyone who supported us by donating raffle prizes, tombola, cakes, purchasing a ticket and coming along on the day. Rev Andy Froud came, had a cup of coffee etc and invited us all to a Special Service of Thanksgiving to mark the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 5th June in St Mary Magdalene Church, Clitheroe at 7.30 pm. The Librarian also came – they were holding a coffee morning to raise money for the Torchlight procession – and asked if anyone had any memorabilia i.e. photographs, programmes etc that they could use for their display. Please contact Library.
9th May Trip to Southport - Free time plus visit to theatre at 2.30 pm to see show
“We’ll Meet Again”
Tea Dances These are going very well – 46 people attended last month.
- **Youth S.V.P.** This has now restarted with 3 new very enthusiastic members. They helped at Little Church last Sunday.
- **S.V.P.** Meeting at Thornleigh College Sun April 15th was attended by 200 members. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Brain followed by speakers who spoke about the work of the society linking with families of prisoners through the prison chaplains.
- **Pro Life.** Annual Day of Prayer 12th May with Exposition.
Annual N.W. sponsored walk 27th August
- **Cafod** Thanks for signed cards for water campaign. Gov scheme pound for pound runs till 17th May. £2.5 million raised by March 23rd Mass at St. Wilfred’s Longridge June 23rd .

10. School Report. SSMJ

- Building work still on-going with completion date looking to be June / July 2012
- Children received Sacrament of Reconciliation Tuesday 27th March – lovely service.
- Stations of the Cross in school during Lent – Voluntary devotion at 8.40am in the hall each morning. There were between 12 – 28 in attendance.
- Final meeting for parents in Sacramental Programme 10th May at 7.30pm.
- Confirmation service – Sunday 27th May at 3pm.
- Celebrating the Jubilee with a mass at Stonyhurst followed by Street Party (Friday 1st June)
- Holy Communion – 17th June : Arrangements changed - Mass now at 2pm *preceded* by ‘breakfast’ and photographs.
- Possibility of using Education Sunday for Building Fund collection in church?
- Torchlight Procession – would this be a suitable vehicle to showcase ‘the Parish’? It is on 25th August. Any thoughts?
- School and Parish Summer Fayre – Saturday 7th July.

11. School Report St. Mary's

- School recently had a successful Health and Safety Audit
- Dog fouling is a problem and school involved in a campaign with Sabden co Primary.
- Governors have formed a working party to look at increasing Admission Number
- School to hold post jubilee BBQ
- Key Stage 1 trip will be to a Mexican restaurant in Blackburn.

12. Weld Day. This will be held on Sun. July 1st. Format to be as last year with Mass at 10am. During Mass we will have the final celebration of our First Communicants and the investiture of servers from both churches in the Guild of St. Stephen.

13. Mass for the Sick

15th July in Parish Centre. Forms will be put in both churches several weeks before this and S.V.P. and K.S.C will organise transport for those who need it in Clitheroe and Sabden.

14. Sunday Coffee

Could people on rota please make sure all 4 doors are locked before leaving the centre. These have recently been left unlocked.

15 Street Signage.

No progress has been made on this in 4 years .Mike Bradley to have final try with the Council. Propose to move the sign at the bottom of Lowergate to more suitable position.

16. Bell

This now rings 3 x daily. People asked to say the Angelus for vocations. Also rings for weddings, funerals, important services daily call before Mass etc. Peter Hardwick sent comment, "I think the bell is wonderful, it rings us back to the days of Catholic England".

17. New Altar.

This is arriving tomorrow 27th April.

18. Cemetery Mass.

Bank Holiday Monday, 27th August at 10am.

20. Town barbecue.

Fri. 25th May, 12 till 2 in Market Square. Sat. 26th May 12 till 2 on Castle Field. Hope to generate a family feel . Volunteers are needed for all aspects of this event. Forms available from church.

21. A.O.B.

- Peter D asked how the Youth Event went. Andy reported that it went very well. Young person to come to next forum to tell us about it. Group now liaising with Lorraine Lennard, Diocesan Youth Leader
- Arnold ask why we had reverted to singing "Kyrie Eleison" Fr. said it is in the new Mass translation , at International gatherings, eg. Lourdes, we can all join in and it takes us back to the very beginning when the Mass was celebrated in Greek before the introduction of the then vernacular : Latin.

22. Date of next meeting. Wed. July4th at 7.30pm at Sabden

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

