

The Glossop Parishes Pastoral Council Meeting

Thursday 27th April 2023

Minutes:

Present: Fr Martin, C Hulley, L Doyle, A King, L Nash

Apologies: B Payne,

Opening Prayer: Fr Martin

Reading: L Doyle

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were amended and accepted.

2. **Matters arising from the minutes:**

Item 3, the SPH CVA Art department have been busy and have not yet had time to produce their graphic local history, but the History department have done some work on local history.

Item 3, there was discussion around the logistics of students' optional attendance at a weekday Mass at SMC, including an example of how this had worked well elsewhere.

Item 8, there were a number of people accepting the extra opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on 3rd and 4th April.

A.O.B. the 'bring your own bottle' drinks celebration after the Easter Vigil Mass was well attended and very enjoyable.

3. **Pastoral Theme – Family Support:**

Already in place: Family areas in both churches with books and toys, at ASC church there is a speaker in the family area; we have disability/pram access in both churches; a youth club was tried but with little success; altar server training is available for young people; Sacramental support is offered through the Baptism preparation course, the FHC programmes and the Confirmation programme, the Baptism course signposts parents to a variety of books, including CTS and Redemptorist publications, the book for parents with children following the FHC programme is very helpful, parents are included in some sessions of the Confirmation programme and Confirmation candidates are offered the YouCat book.

A 'Family Support' noticeboard was suggested, with information showing details of diocesan and local support groups, including marriage and family life support, bereavement counselling, help with benefits, food banks, the Glossopdale furniture project, the Hummingbird project, Teams of Our Lady.. ,

A suggestion was made for a crisis counselling course for some parishioners;

There was discussion about a 'surgery' with Fr Martin, this would require a waiting area, volunteers to look after visitors while waiting, a log of those assisting, Fr Martin to consider possible dates during the warmer summer months.

There was consideration of research into what difficulties people might have affecting in going to church, the schools will offer the WHY? Course and seek some feedback there, as well as, perhaps at other parents' meetings, and parents might be given something to take home, 'YouCat for Kids' a possibility.

4. Update from the Divine Renovation Team:

The team are very focussed on their work, and the recent coaching session was very successful. There will be an open meeting on 20th May at SMS, 11am – 12.30pm, "What next – the future for our parishes". The aim for the first year is to form new leaders, new disciples, Sycamore will be an important tool here. Initially steps forward will be small, cf Jesus, Peter, James and John.. the 12 disciples.. the wider community. Fr Martin and the team have invested a lot of time and commitment.

5. Buildings and Maintenance:

The Committee have done a good job with the new plans for SMC, suggesting various amendments, the plans will be on display in SMC.

At SMC, lights have been repaired, and a new switch and timer for the fan heater at the entrance have been sourced. At ASC, the Payback Team have been working on the gardens, and there is a new TV ariel.

6. Finance:

There are no volunteers for the Finance role, a new entry for the Newsletter will be tried.

7. Update from the Events Committee:

Various events are planned: May: Flower workshop by Sandra; September: Heritage Open Days, October: Craft workshop by Inspiration Creation; November: Film Night, December: Christmas themed workshop, December: Craft workshop at ASC to coincide with Old Glossop Christmas Market; Organ recital, date to be confirmed.

8. Safeguarding Update:

Raising awareness of safeguarding in our churches and at events is essential, and it is the duty of all who attend to demonstrate love and respect for one another, especially for the young and the vulnerable. The diocese has recently updated their procedures and supporting documentation. Safeguarding Sunday is 14th May, and provides an opportunity to strengthen awareness and good practice, the PSRs will speak at the end of Sunday Masses, emphasising the 'Safer Recruitment' process and the creation of a safe environment in churches and at events.

9. Items from the chairperson:

Fr Martin will be away 2nd – 12th May, and at a conference 15th – 17th May, Canon Brown will cover our Masses; there will be a Vigil Mass for the Ascension on 17th May.

10. Correspondence:

Consideration of a letter about the rents and the collection thereof for the gardens on Church St next to the grounds of ASC, some changes may be necessary.

A.O.B. - None.

Next meeting: Thursday 29th June, with cake.