

**OUR LADY AND ST. JOSEPH SHERINGHAM AND CROMER
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
13th June 2019**

1. **Present:** Father Denys Lloyd, Richard McNulty, Colin Fisher, Mary Mustoe-Arthur, Jim Laird, Veronica Marett, Bill Horner, Janet Arbuthnot, Ann Davies.

Other Attendees: 2 parishioners and Deacon Andrew.

Opening Prayer for our Parish

God, the creator and giver of all good things, bless our Parish in this united endeavour. Strengthen our faith and grant us the spirit of sacrifice that, with your help, we may provide for the needs of our Parish, give glory to you and sanctify ourselves. We ask this through Christ our Lord Amen.

2. **Apologies for Absence:** Darryl Smith, Caroline O'Grady, Gavin Dvelys, Keith Holt, Anne Buxton
3. **Minutes of 13th March 2019** - Minutes signed as true record by Chair. (error on original had been corrected after meeting and placed on website)
4. **Matters Arising –**
Breeda Godfrey attended the May meeting of the Council of Laity (hard copy of notes available on request) and now posted with minutes on website. Richard summarised Breeda's report for the meeting and thanked her for her attendance – next meeting in November.
5. **Finance Committee report**
Father Denys reported in Keith's absence. Parish accounts are stable. The heating at St. Joseph has proved a difficult project to take forward and it is likely that this will be handed on to the new Parish Priest. There has been considerable activity but it has proved difficult to get companies with the necessary experience/expertise in delivering such projects. The Finance committee are fully engaged with the process.
Gift Aid is up on previous years, however the contributions are reliant on some very generous donors and Sean White is giving a full report to the next Finance Committee meeting in September.
Holy Land Project – Children's Centre – money has been sent and acknowledgment received. The next donation will be after the Building Bridges second collection which will be taken up in January 2020. The donation has a real impact on this valuable project.
Father Denys reported he has asked for a quote for hot water boilers for the toilets at Our Lady of Refuge nothing yet received.
Septic tank at Our Lady of Refuge – problems with the car park and drainage – this has been reported and remedial work is underway, meanwhile areas of the car park are fenced off.
6. **Food Bank**
Caroline had sent her apologies and was not able to get an update report from the project manager.
7. **St Vincent House: progress report**
The Papal Nuncio blessed the house before work commenced and it is hoped that Bishop Alan will come to bless the completed property on 5th September. It is hoped that the work will be completed by the end of August. The Papal Nuncio's visit went very well.
8. **Parish 100 Club**
Peter Godfrey reported all going well.
9. **New Evangelisation (St Faustina Fund) Progress report**
Richard and his team have not delivered any more leaflets since the last meeting. They do continue to scrutinise North Norfolk District council plans for new developments and updates. There will be ongoing distribution as developments come on stream. Father Denys confirmed that there were a good number of leaflets left.
10. **New appointments**
Organist at St. Joseph's.
Jim and Joanne Laird will be leaving the parish to move to Yorkshire to take up a post with Our Lady and St. Robert in Harrogate and as organ tutor for part of the Leeds Diocese. Jim's appointment begins early October. Joanne has also been the Head Catechist. Both were thanked for their valuable contribution to parish life and were wished every success for the future. Father Denys reported that he is in contact with the Diocese about the process of finding a successor.

New Parish Priest.

Father Denys reported that our new priest will be Father James Fyfe who is currently Parish Priest in

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Wisbech. Father Denys and Father James begin meeting tomorrow to formally discuss the practicalities of handing over the parish. It is anticipated that Father James will be here for the second weekend in September. Father Denys will publicise Father James' appointment this weekend in the bulletin and ask Father James to give a pen picture for a later bulletin.

11. Updating Parish Website

Sean McNulty, working to Gavin has updated lists on website. Gavin has to maintain control of website and permissions.

12. July 6th Ordinations coach – Father Denys reported that a 30 seat coach has been ordered and lists will be available in the churches. 5 men are being ordained Jude Belnas, Alan Hodgson and Paul Spellman are well known to the Parish and the others are Simon Davies and Michael Brookes. Prayers are requested for all of these men who are serving the Diocese.

13. Social Committee progress report

Father reported in the absence of Anne and Michael Trott. Committee members include: Veronica Marett, Ann Freeman, Mary Cheeves and others who support on an ad hoc basis. There is a newcomer's party at St. Joseph's in July which will be a bring and share food event - Father Denys will supply the drinks. There will also be refreshments for Paul Spellman's first mass in the parish on the 7th July. Plans are in hand for Father Denys's leaving event on 25th August. All events will be publicised in the bulletin and those involved were thanked for their efforts.

14. "Exploring Prayer" programme: report

This has been going very well and Margaret Mary McFadyen, the Spiritual Director, has been pleased with the response. Those PPC members who had attended found it very good.

15. Link with the Holy Land – progress report

Holy Land Twinning – covered under finance report item 5 above.

16. Any Other Business

i. Canon David Paul – his health news is not good and we keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

ii. First Communion mass – all welcome to support the children at this weekend's mass.

iii. Stable Door Sheringham - Darryl reported that Stable Door has purchased a new property. Anyone who knows of someone in Sheringham who may be suitable/eligible please contact her or Sean White. Father Denys plans to put this in the bulletin for information.

iv Garden of Remembrance Cromer. Caroline O'Grady had written expressing concern at the state of the uncut lawns and unsafe benches etc. Deacon Andrew reported that this was being addressed the previous contractor had stopped with no notice, a new contractor was in place and changes were happening.

v. Caritas East Anglia – Peter Godfrey reported on the appointment of a new Development worker (full information in Catholic East Anglia June 2019 edition). It is hoped that this will enable new initiatives and also publicise existing good work around the Diocese. Reminder given that funding remains available via Parish Priests for applications to the St. Edmunds fund for the relief of short term crises.

vi. Father Denys – As this was the last PPC meeting with Father Denys thanks were given by all for the leadership and support he has provided over his time at the parish. Every good wish and prayers were extended to him for a long and happy retirement.

17. Date and locations of next meetings– 7.30pm start

Wednesday 18th September at St Joseph's and Thursday 5th December OLR

Bishop's Council of Laity 25th May 2019

Report to Sheringham & Cromer PPC 13th June 2019

Three weeks prior to the meeting we were informed that the main agenda item would be the latest Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *Christus Vivit* of the Holy Father Francis to Young People and to the Entire People of God. We were tasked with reading it in preparation for discussion.

In the lead up to the meeting it became clear that Ian Herbertson (the current secretary) was once again having great difficulty engaging with the 41 parishes of the diocese. Some parishes refused to pass details on to Ian, using the new GDPR legislation as a reason. Ian also stated that he would be stepping down after this meeting and a new secretary needed to be identified.

Present at the meeting were a total of 16 people representing 15 parishes. Ian had received 13 apologies and no acknowledgement at all from the other 13 parishes.

- 1.** The meeting opened with prayers led by Bishop Alan. He then went on to update those present on (a) vocations and retirements, (b) Papal Nuncio's visit, (c) his retirement, (d) new school in Swaffham.
 - (a) There are 12 men in seminary and 5 of them will be ordained on the 6th July. There are 3 permanent Deacons being ordained in June with 4 more as students. Whilst this is excellent the diocese is still facing difficulties as 5 priests are retiring and 3 are seriously ill. Bishop Alan asked for weekly prayers for vocations.
 - (b) Bishop Alan outlined the itinerary of the Nuncio and said it had been a successful albeit very busy visit. Details of the visit are on the diocesan website.
 - (c) Bishop Alan explained he had sent his resignation letter to the Pope as is expected having reached the age of 75. Pope Francis has asked him to stay on at least another year. Bishop Alan asked for our prayers.
 - (d) There is to be a new Catholic primary school in Swaffham from September and there are 3 bids for primary schools in Peterborough and St Ives.

- 2.** There was then a discussion about the support needed for the secretary to the CoL to ensure as many parish representatives as possible attended the meetings.
 - Brian Lafferty (Gt Yarmouth) said that there was an easy way of ensuring each parish had an email address hosted by the diocesan website where representatives from each parish would have access to agendas, minutes etc. This would do away with the concern raised under GDPR as there would be no sharing of personal details.
 - Use of the monthly diocesan newspaper to inform everyone of the CoL and its purpose was suggested.

- It was also suggested that more notice is needed if documents such as Christus Vivit are to be read and thoughts prepared for the meeting. With more notice, other parishioners could be asked to read and give their thoughts to the representative.
 - Bishop Alan did not wish to focus on the difficulties attached to organising the Council of Laity meetings and was pleased with those present who had made the effort to travel. Bishop Alan then said there would be some support available from the Diocesan office.
- 3.** Bishop Alan introduced the Exhortation and gave a brief summary of each chapter. He then asked that we discuss, in pairs, the following issues raised in the chapters: - Abuse; Prayer & Young People; The Digital World; Migrants; Ideologies; Leadership; Catholic Schools; Children are no longer Children. Each pair discussed the topic for ten minutes and then fed back. Not everyone present had read the document and some had simply been asked to attend without the detail of the agenda. This meant that the feedback, in parts, was not informed or based on the actual document but on their own views of the topic.

I do not have the summary of these discussions as the notes of the meeting have not yet been made available.

Breeda Godfrey