OUR LADY AND ST. JOSEPH SHERINGHAM AND CROMER
Parish Pastoral Council 24th October 2023

1. **Welcome** Darryl welcomed Father Trindade to the Parish and hoped his time with us would be a blessing to us all.
   Opening Prayer for our Parish
   Present: Father Trindade Monteiro, Darryl Smith (Chair), Breeda Godfrey, Michele Otway, Angela Sandell Tony Grossfield, Anne Buxton, David Burns, Mary Mustoe-Arthur. There were 7 parishioners in attendance
2. **Apologies**. Nicola Gilbert (Parish Administrator), Michael McMahon SVP
3. **Notes of Closed Meeting 18th June – agreed**
4. **Matters Arising**
   a. Parish Magazine: *Church and Community* – David reported there have been 3 editions –well received in the Parish, community and other churches. David is always happy for parishioners to write or suggest content. 2 sponsored editions and the third cost £220 for 425 copies. Congratulations to David and all contributors for getting this initiative from the Parish Way Forward meetings to fruition.
   b. SVP report - Michael McMahon sent his apologies and Angela Sandell shared his comprehensive report (copy attached). The SVP is always happy to have new members, they meet on **Tuesdays at OLR at 11am**. If parishioners have items of furniture or other goods which may help those in temporary accommodation moving into new homes, please contact the SVP as they now have storage facilities. This year the SVP protected 65 lives from homelessness comprising of 7 families with 27 children and 31 single people, most of whom moved on positively to permanent homes – let us continue to pray for those who need help and those who respond so generously. **NB 18th Dec 2023: Mass for the Housebound and Sick at OLR at 2pm organised by SVP**. Confession for the sick at around 1pm before mass.
   c. Parish Project Kuchinate - this is based in Tel Aviv and the volatile and heartbreaking news from that part of the world has impacted directly on the project its staff and users. David will ask Father Trindade if there can be a second collection to assist. The project target was £3,000 and so far, £2,350 has been raised. There will be a final appeal for old vinyl records publicised in the Bulletin. At the January PPC meeting there will be discussion whether to continue supporting this project or an alternative. The Parish Social and Fundraising committee had this as their main focus for 2023 – they decide what funds go to the project.
5. **Treasurer's Report -** Peter Godfrey reported that the Parish finances continue to be closely monitored by himself and the Finance Committee who met recently. Money has been withdrawn from our Diocesan account to meet some of the costs of the drain repairs at OLR, Nicola (our Parish Administrator) had obtained insurance funds to assist. Work has now begun and some issues have arisen but the contractors are closely liaising and updating us.
   100 Club – renewal forms for 2024 will be available from **18th November** these will be at both Churches; forms will only be posted to those members living outside the Parish or who are unable to attend church. (*Please let Peter know if that is the case).* During 2023 there have been 65 members and 134 numbers. £804 is paid out in prizes and the same amount to Parish Funds – new members are always welcome.
   Parish Giving - Mary as Gift Aid Officer reported that at the last Finance Committee meeting there had been a discussion about how to increase the take up of Gift Aid for those parishioners who pay tax, increasing payments by Standing Orders to enable accurate budgeting and the request for all parishioners to consider prayerful review of their financial support of the Parish. Father Trindade has asked Mary to speak at all Masses on the weekend of 11th/12th November and write an article for the Parish Magazine. Useful questions raised which will be added to the talk. Thanks, given to increasing numbers paying by Standing Orders
6. **Social and Fundraising Committee**
   Michael Trott reported, he began by thanking members of the Committee for their work. This year went well: Pancake evening provided in February (to be repeated in 2024 D.V). The Lenten lunch received donations and in 2024 opportunities may be available for working with other local churches. There was an afternoon tea in April at OLR which went very well. Planned curry evening and BBQ did not take place but there was a buffet for First Holy Communion and Confirmation and also Father Peter's leaving party. Next event the Parish Harvest Supper at St Joseph's on Wednesday 8th November tickets are now on sale. Appeal for Raffle Prizes and thanks to Mary Cheves for work on this. Those who buy, prepare, cook, serve and tidy away were thanked for all their efforts. This is primarily a social committee to enable parishioners to mix and get to know one another.
   Breeda will be selling her home-made Christmas Cakes again this year for Parish funds – information in this week's bulletin
   Maureen Sibellas and Anne Buxton will raffle a Christmas cake and Hamper please support by buying tickets. Reminder that anyone is welcome to make suggestions or help out. Darryl thanked all involved.

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7. Parish Priest report including November Masses.

Father Trindade thanked everyone for their welcome and support. Father sees the Parish supported by 2 routes: The Finance and Administration for practical matters and the PPC for the Pastoral and Spiritual work of the Parish. Father Peter had updated Father Trindade on the work which had been done to improve Parish systems and to rebuild after Covid. This built on the existing systems and improved on several practical matters. Father Trindade thanked all involved for this.

Father Trindade is settling in well but will be away from the Parish from **16th November to 10th December,** Weekend Mass cover will be provided by Father Denys Lloyd and Father James Walsh. **Contact details for a Priest <u>for emergencies only</u> will be finalised and published on Website and in the bulletin**. There will be no weekly masses during his absence. Father Trindade is not able to drive here yet so any parishioners who can assist with lifts please let him know.

Arrangements for November Masses for All Saint, All Souls and remembering deceased family and friends

	Our Lady of Refuge	**St Joseph's**
Wednesday 1st November All Saints Day	**9am Mass**	**7pm Mass**
Thursday 2nd November All Souls Day	**9am Mass followed by blessing of Garden of Remembrance**	**7pm Mass (blessing of Garden of Remembrance after 11am Mass on 5th November)**

Boxes will be placed under the altars at both churches for Parishioners to write the names of those they wish remembered at each Mass – Father Trindade will announce this at this weekend's Masses.

2024 Changes– Father Trindade will change his day off to Monday so Mass at OLR will return to Friday morning. Saturday morning Mass at St. Joseph will be reinstated with confessions available. The Rosary will still continue. Tuesday evening confession at St Joseph remains. Confession times at OLR for 2024 are being finalised.

8. Membership Request for Additional Volunteers

More Parishioners are needed to enable the Parish to meet all its needs. If you want to find out more about what is involved, please speak to Father. There is particular need for Finance Committee members with appropriate skills, and also anyone with practical skills to help with maintenance etc. Mary will organise a meeting with Colin, Breeda and Nicola to review practical matters. This work will feed into the requirements of the Quinquennial report. Father Trindade reported that the Diocese has confirmed that we can carry out emergency repairs up to the Diocesan limit and work is in hand to address recent leaks. Listed building status at St Joseph's complicates matters.

9. Christmas Confession and Mass Times 2023

Dates	**Our Lady of Refuge**	**St Joseph's**
CONFESSION TIMES	**5.30pm to 6.30pm 16th and 23rd December in the Hall.**	**Every Tuesday between 6.30 and 7pm and by appointment**
Sunday December 24th 2023 Christmas Eve	**6pm Carols followed by Mass at 6.30pm** (activity with children being organised by Michele)	**9 pm Carols and Gospel reading followed by Mass at 9.30pm**
Monday December 25th 2023 Christmas Day	**9am Mass**	**11am Mass**
Thursday December 28th 2023		**5pm Mass with Carols @ St. Joseph's followed by Bring and Share Party in hall**

10. Any Other business

a. Boxes for items have been available in both churches – nothing raised by Parishioners
b. Peter Godfrey reported that a Parish representative would be needed for Caritas. 2 planned Caritas events 4th November in Cambridge and one at St. George's in 2024. Stalls of work will spotlight Catholic action in Diocese – Angela to update SVP on this. Article will be in next magazine.
c. David Burns to meet with Father Trindade to update on the Parish Way Forward work to see what is possible during Father Trindade's time in the Parish.

11. Dates Times and Venues of Next meetings

Next meeting will be in January (hopefully the week of 22nd subject to availability of Hall. **Action: Mary to email members with confirmed date.**