

ST MARIE'S PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 18 January 2017

In Cathedral House at 7.45pm

PRESENT Candida Calvert (CC) Hugo Terruzzi(HT) John Rodgers(JR) Tricia Hall(TH) Fr Christopher Posluszny(Fr CP) Leandro Martins(LM) Chairman and Eileen Maher(EM) Minutes. **APOLOGIES** Josip Korbar(JK)Niall Corroon(NC) Steve & Moya O'Hara (SMO'H)

CHAIRMAN welcomed members to the meeting with a special welcome to John Rogers as a new member. **OPENING/CLOSING PRAYER** led by EM

MINUTES MEETING Weds 5 December 2016. Felt that Year of Mercy could have been expanded upon more as this was a year long event and had involved several people in producing Booklets and ensuring the Shines and other areas were kept stocked and tidy. Guides were also involved in Year of Mercy pilgrimages with numerous schools and parishes. **ACTION** EM to produce more detailed account to go on notice boards.

Comment made about distribution of PPC minutes. Agreed some time ago that minutes be sent to Finance Group as a way of keeping abreast of events. Was this happening? Also sent to Health and Safety, and Safeguarding. Thought that many people read Minutes on Notice board and online and could be sent minutes if they so wished.

1. **REVIEW OF CHRISTMAS. VIGIL MASS 5.30** Attendance 415. This year's Crib was constructed mainly of straw. Children were invited to carry bundles/handfuls of straw during the Offertory procession and help construct the Crib. Two adults carried the animals which were placed in the crib, followed by the Manger. This was a new idea and a way of involving people in the Mass and construction of the Crib. Given that this was the first time it had been done, it went well, however as there are many visitors at this Mass, it might need further organisation. Having four stewards helped things to go smoothly.

MIDNIGHT MASS Attendance 385. Carols from 11.30. The statues of Mary and Joseph were carried in with the Entrance Procession and placed in the Crib. Baby Jesus was carried down in the Offertory procession and placed in the Manger by the Bishop who then blessed and incensed the Crib.

These procedures will happen every year with the building of the Crib and placing of the animals at the Vigil and the placing of Mary and Joseph, plus the placing of the Christ Child and the Blessing of the Crib. Details to go on the website and be in future Christmas bulletins/service sheets. Attendance at 10.30 Christmas day mass – 280, with 115 at 12.30 Mass. The Cathedral had looked especially

lovely with red and gold flowers, pillar decorations with red and gold bows, wreaths on the gates, a flower display in the Porch and other decorations. Huge thanks to all those who made this possible.

CHOIR AND MUSIC GROUP. More singers needed for the Choir, Evening Mass needs more instruments. Suggested there could be an event during Lent to encourage these. **ACTION** CC and LM to contact/follow up leaders of choir and music group with a view to organising something to encourage more singers and instrumentalists.

2. **EASTER.** Repeat **LENT TALKS** during Holy Week in the evening. Speakers to be asked including the Bishop. Possible theme might be from PROCLAIM 15. Finalise at next meeting.
3. **CATHEDRAL WEBSITE.** Working well. HT trying to contact people to form a local project with support from Diocesan website. Two parishioners working with SHALOM MEDIA on programmes/interviews which could be added to website. **ACTION** HT contact head of Shalom Media.
4. **CHARITIES REVIEW.** Nominations for new charities to be held during Lent. To start at Pentecost. A framework to be in place for maximising collections and opportunities. Following on from the last PPC meeting HT has produced the following framework. (copy to all PPC members and on Notice boards) In future all chosen charities to work to this framework.
5. **ALTAR SERVERS.** Need to establish a framework/training for existing and new servers for all Cathedral parishes. **ACTION** LM, P Helliwell and Fr Santosh, to form a committee to plan a programme with dates etc to start during Lent. Also establish an annual special event.
6. **PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS.** This to remain on agenda for further thought and attention.
7. **UPDATE FROM FR CHRIS. A)** Fr Luciano Falcao arrived two weeks ago and will stay for three years.
B) ORGAN being restored and will be back in place in July. Further work will then take place.
C) TOWER. Work is still in progress.
D) UNDERCROFT Plans underway as to how to make best use of this space.
E) Heritage Lottery Funding programme ends during 2017.
F) We still have a large debt for the Restoration which needs to be paid off. Will need long term planning and a professional fund raiser.
8. **A.O.B. a)** Eucharistic Ministers needed for 12.30 Sunday Mass. Suitable people to be referred to Fr Chris. Needs a preparation programme. **b)** comment re lack of SINGING at 10.30 Mass. Some hymn books are battered, but no money for a new set.

NEXT MEETING MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY at 7.45 (two PPC members have given apologies – date may be re-arranged) See Bulletin for date.