

St. Marie's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of meeting held Monday 24th May 2017
In Cathedral House at 7:45pm

Present:

Niall Corroon
Leandro Martins
Fr. Christopher Posluszny
John Rodgers
Eileen Maher
Hugo Teruzzi
Tricia Hall
Josip Korbar
Candida Calvert

Apologies:

Steve O'Hara
Moya O'Hara

Opening Prayer: Kindly led by Josip Korbar. The chair (Leandro Martins) warmly welcomed all PPC members and guests to the meeting. There was a suggestion that the prayer should be read by all members at future meetings – the PPC as a whole agreed.

It was noted that our most recent PPC members do not have their photo present on the PPC board in the entrance to the cathedral. Up-to-date photos are to be taken at our next meeting.

Following publication of the last set of minutes, it was noted that the PPC minutes forgot to publicly thank all those who volunteered for the Triduum and Easter celebrations; notably the musicians, altar servers, sacristans as well as volunteers in other aspects.

1. Parish Evangelisation

Following from the last PPC meeting, Hugo Teruzzi kindly reported back on how the parish evangelisation group had been progressing. A group of 12 volunteers had been established, who had met with Fr. Luciano after the Friday evening mass. The group identifies as an 'Evangelisation Learning Process' following inspiration from the Archdiocese of Southwalk's similar initiative. Currently, the group is trying to come together to understand the nature of what contemporary evangelisation means, and how this can be developed in St. Marie's parish. In the future, there will be a meeting with Deacon Andrew Crowley, and hopefully from then there will be some greater certainty as to the direction of the project. Shalom Media is also participating in this group.

Leandro Martins suggested that the group should have its own page on the cathedral website. One member of the group is an artist, so that might be useful for some of the output from the group.

Candida Calvert made the point that, in evangelisation programs, the church must not be judgemental or overly pressurising to those who lack the confidence to seek membership of the Catholic 'club'. Niall Corroon made the suggestion that new evangelisation should capitalise on, and be in the same spirit of, the renewed tone of the church under the present Pope.

ACTION: Hugo is to continue as a contact between this new group and the PPC. There is to be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to pray for evangelisation on Sunday 4th June. The group is to stay small for the time being, but possibly expand in the future when they start evangelisation activity in the future.

2. Cathedral Website

There was an issue last week when the cathedral website went offline, and the GoDaddy account was locked. After a long exchange of emails, Hugo Teruzzi created a separate account for the website and pointed the domain to that new account, which is now operating. A free email account hopes to be set up via the connections of the website to the Diocese of Hallam, and emails are to be moved onto Google. The PPC expressed their sincere thanks to Hugo for his work in fixing this issue over the last week.

In addition to this, there has been some correspondence with Shalom Media, who have asked whether they could connect their website with the cathedral website.

3. Organ Restoration

Lots of work is happening within the parish to encourage revenue for the Organ Restoration appeal. A recent Table-Top Sale (the first of 3 in total) raised approx £270.00. The Smarties challenge is ongoing, but there has been some return of filled tubes already.

One issue which could have improved the last Table-Top sale was the relative lack of published leaflets to inform people on the street about the sale (and future sales). This was originally planned, but due to a computer issue (an email failing to reach Matthew at the Cathedral office) unfortunately did not happen. It was noted that, although Holden Hall is appropriately spacious, it lies in a slightly hidden location, and having more of a presence outside Holden Hall to draw attention to the sale, could improve interest from members of the public.

There are numerous events still planned for the future weeks and months. It was discussed how the greatest possible range of cathedral volunteers could be involved in this, and it was suggested that the African community may like to make a contribution. Various PPC members agreed that all of these events are really important and, aside from generating funds, help to 'open the doors' of the cathedral.

For prospective larger donations, there was discussion amongst PPC members of how this should be formally recognised. Josip suggested a display within the cathedral itself, although this would have to be permanent and would not get past the Historical Churches Committee. However, other PPC members suggested recording donations within a special smart record book (to be purchased) and this is to be kept safe in the sacristy (alongside other records) for future generations. This paper record could be combined with a record

online, alongside ways on donating online via possible installation of a JustGiving page or PayPal option. It was thought that becoming an 'organ donor' was a catchy buzzphrase for such donations!

Work in the cathedral on reassembling the organ starts on 25th May 2017. The Blessed Sacrament chapel is to be closed off during this time, with the instillation of a temporary tabernacle in St. Joseph's chapel.

ACTION: In the future, there are planned quiz nights and musical evenings, all to raise funds. Fr. Santosh is also due to arrange a curry night.

PPC members to discuss with members of the African community whether organising an African-themed evening (which has been done before, successfully, in the past) might be an option to help raise funds for the organ restoration.

4. Corpus Christi 2017

Advertising has now started for volunteers for the Corpus Christi procession, and lists have been displayed at the back of church. The procession will be on Sunday 18th June at 3pm, and involve altars at the St. Marie's, Tudor Square, the Town Hall, the City Hall and the Anglican Cathedral. The ecumenical dimension at the Anglican Cathedral is now an established tradition of the procession.

There was much discussion over some of the difficulties of last year, where much of the work came together in a last-minute fashion, and the vast majority of volunteers came from the cathedral (in an event supposed to be for the City of Sheffield, with all parishes within it taking part). There was also some confusion as to the exact location of the altar at City Hall, though Matthew (cathedral staff) has clarified with staff at City Hall that the altar is allowed at the top of the stairs.

Ideally, the PPC thought that of the 4 altars around the City Centre, different parishes should volunteer for their construction and stewardship. St. Marie's has numerous tables for altars, but additional designs and backdrops were welcomed (with additional structure needed in particular at the City Hall altar. Although posters and bulletin notes go to neighbouring parishes every year, the PPC discussed a direct approach to assist with the smooth running of this year's procession. However, with time running short it was agreed that ideally we need commitment guaranteed by the end of May.

There was talk about, on the day of the procession, distributing a leaflet outlining the meaning of the Corpus Christi procession. These have been distributed in previous years, but need updating.

ACTION: Various PPC members have agreed to discuss the construction and stewarding of altars with contacts at St. William's, St. Vincent's and St. Francis' parishes.

Amongst PPC members, Tricia Hall has agreed to take responsibility for the canopy. Leandro Martins is to assist in recruiting altar servers (though unfortunately he is unable to be there in person). Niall Corroon has volunteered to head the team of processional stewards again.

John Rodgers has offered to assist with the construction of altars. Jesus Youth have agreed to assist with the sound system.

Regarding updated leaflets to hand out, the Evangelisation Group are looking into discussing this at their next meeting, and designing an updated leaflet for distribution. The final product will be sent for approval by Fr. Chris.

5. Confirmation/Communion 2017

Confirmations are to occur on Pentecost Sunday, at the 6:30pm evening mass with Bishop Ralph presiding and Jesus Youth providing the music. This year, there are approx 12 candidates to be confirmed. First Holy Communions are also to take place on Sunday 11th June.

ACTION: Candida Calvert is to supply a cake for the confirmations. Eileen Maher has offered to decorate the front benches with flowers for the upcoming First Communions.

6. Fr. Chris Update

Over the next few months, there will be additional priests arriving for short stays.

The PPC is very sorry to hear that Laura Claveria will be moving on at the end of the month, and wish her the very best in all future endeavours. Laura is to have a small leaving party with volunteers for the Heritage Project on 31st May, and Eileen Maher is to present flowers and a card on behalf of the PPC. An advert has been put in place for her successor.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 26th June at 7:45pm

Future meetings (provisional)

Wednesday 26th July