

Blessed Robert Grissold
Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting Held 23rd January 2006

Present: Fr Sebastian, Chris Burleigh, Maureen Carroll, Godfrey Chesshire, Chris Mitchell, Ann Dodd, Dominic Green, John McClelland

Apologies: Terry Biles, Ian Clarke, Joe Martin, Bridie McSorely, Anne Santos

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Matters Arising

The Christmas raffle raised over £700.

Kevin Caffrey from Fr Hudson's had written to thank Blessed Robert Grissold parishioners for the Christmas Giving Tree gifts. Fr also expressed his thanks for the Giving Tree, and it was noted that several parishioners who had received presents had written to thank the parish.

The minutes of 28th November were agreed.

Faith Formation

CaFE. Fr listed the options available, and it was agreed to start with the sessions on the theme of The Catholic Church. These will begin on Tuesday the 27th February and run throughout Lent. Each session will last 1 hour and include a DVD, a discussion, and refreshments. Godfrey and Christine will take names after Masses before the 27th February.

1st Holy Communion. Ellie Clarke is preparing three older boys for 1st Confession and 1st Holy Communion. These should be completed by Easter, so they are not overlapping with preparation of younger children.

Music. New arrangements had been worked out. Chris Kearn will provide organ playing on two Sundays each month. Linda Chesshire has agreed to play one Sunday each month, and the guitar group will play one Sunday. If there is a fifth Sunday in the month, there will be a children's Mass.

Finance

Finance Committee. Bob Jones has given a report to the Diocese. We have paid back a further £6000 of the debt. The Finance Committee was due to meet on Tuesday 30th January.

100 Club. Chris Burleigh asked for guidance on the setting of the value of prizes each month. It was agreed that these should be set at £25, £15, and £10. If it is found towards the end of the year that this will result in less than 50% of the funds being returned as prizes, then there will be a special draw in November or December to correct this.

Charities and Social Events.

Curry Evening. The numbers attending will be around 80. An additional 12 chairs and 6 tables will be required. Godfrey would ask John Peat to help him transport these from the Old Hall at Temple Balsall. Godfrey will check if it would be possible to use the Tennis Club for additional parking.

Members were asked to be available on the Saturday afternoon to help get the parish hall ready for the evening.

Chris Mitchell reported that arrangements were in hand for another Parish Meal on 24th March.

The HCPT coffee evening would be held on the 1st Monday in March.

There will be a cake sale after Mass, on 29th April. Godfrey will put a notice in the bulletin nearer the date, asking for cakes for the sale.

Other

Rotas. The new Children's Liturgy rota is awaited.

Parish Website. Ian is appealing for photos for the new website.

Notice Board. It was agreed to put any action on this on hold for the time being.

It was agreed the Christmas newsletter had been very successful.

Chris Burleigh asked whether we should consider using Fair Trade products for tea and coffee after Mass, as the Methodists do in their hall. Chris will ask Louise to investigate.

Maureen knows a singing group in Stratford who would be willing to provide a concert in the church possibly in October to raise funds for HCPT. Fr explained that this would be put to the Finance Committee which is concerned to spread the fund raising activities evenly through the year.

Godfrey had received a note from the Solihull MBC Environmental Health department asking to inspect our kitchen. It was agreed this would be arranged sometime after the curry evening.

Carried forward

From 28th November: A possible 'pudding club' event was discussed. This will be explored further at the next meeting, and might be held in June.

Godfrey agreed to investigate how the new arrangements for occasional licences worked, so we could continue to sell alcohol legally at our social events.

Date of Next Meeting. Tuesday 17th April 2007 at 8.00p.m.