

Blessed Robert Grissold
Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting Held 5th June 2007

Present: Fr Sebastian, Joe Martin, Godfrey Chesshire, Bridie McSorely, Anne Santos, Chris Burleigh, Chris Mitchell, Ann Dodd, Dominic Green, Margaret Collins, Terry Biles, Ian Clarke, Maureen Carroll.

Apologies: John McClelland.

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Matters Arising

CaFE. Dates for the two remaining sessions have now been set.

The environmental health visit had not yet taken place.

The Circle of Singers are from Leamington Spa, rather than Stratford.

The minutes of 17th April were then agreed.

Faith Formation

CaFE. We will plan another programme before Advent. Godfrey will look at the remaining programmes to select one for the autumn.

Confirmation Classes. There are four known candidates for Confirmation at present. This will take place next year, and we will invite the Auxiliary Bishop for a time after Lent. An adult is needed to prepare the candidates. We should advertise in our weekly bulletin.

First Holy Communion. This will take place on 1st July. The parish children who attend St George and St Theresa will be invited to join the celebrations with the candidates being prepared at our church. Ellie Clarke will remind our parents to organise the breakfast.

Alter Severs. Joe and Dominic are providing guidance to the servers. The servers should be encouraged to join the Guild of St Stephen.

Choir. An occasion with a presentation will be planned to thank Chris Kearn for his contribution to our music. Ian is hoping to advertise for an organist in the Catholic papers, and the Diocesan paper. We do have twelve hymns recorded in the organ, which can be played for the congregation to sing to, when we have no other musicians available.

Mass Intentions. We should communicate to the parish that Mass intentions can be for all kinds of special intentions and not just for the sick and the deceased. We need a note in the bulletin to explain that intentions can be for a special event such as a wedding anniversary, or for the welfare of a person (young or old).

Young People's Mass . Now that this is established, Ian asked what else could be done to extend what we are doing for our young people and especially for teenagers. It was felt that we would have difficulty sustaining anything like a youth club. Perhaps we should try to be involved in the Diocese 'Youth 2000'. It was suggested that we might invite a Diocesan Youth Worker to talk at Mass one Sunday and ask as many parents as possible to attend, as the lead would need to come from parents.

Finance

Finance Committee. Joe reported that the 5-Year report had not noted anything very urgent that required attention. There were no structural problems with the building. It was suggested that the kitchen windows are opened whenever the urn is used, otherwise the steam will take the paint off the ceiling once again.

Joe passed around details of several potential dishwashers for the kitchen. Joe will arrange for quotes for the plumbing and fitting.

The parish will need to fund the £500 for Father's visa if the diocese will not fund this.

Charities and Social Events.

Curry Evening. Churches Together are hosting another Curry Evening to support Fr's Jesus Youth organisation. This will be held on 23rd June.

Puddings Galore. The date for this has been changed to 14th July as it was found it would clash with the Scout's pudding club event. Tickets will cost £10, or £7.50 if a pudding is provided. The aim should be to have mostly home-made puddings. We will need a raffle and some background music. Margaret Collins volunteered to assist Bridie with organising the event.

Quiz Night. This will now be held on 22nd September. Kathy Jones will be seeking helpers. The supper is likely to be jacket potatoes, beans, and sausages. 21st or 28th September.

Christmas raffle. Joe will run another Christmas raffle this December.

Other

Joe suggested we consider running a race night next year as we have enough events planned now for this year.

AOB

Parish Website. We have had one or two incidence of spam, but it is not a problem at the moment. Ian would be grateful for any ideas for additions to the site.

Bulletin Sick List. We should ask parishioners to identify any names which we ourselves do not recognise, and if nobody comes forward then we will remove the names after two weeks' notice.

Car Park. Godfrey reported that discussions had taken place with SMBC regarding the possible use of part of our field as an overflow car park, with access from the main car park. This would be for a limited number of uses (perhaps 70) in the year, and would be surfaced with something that the grass could grow through. We are now looking at the idea in more detail.

Notice Board. The outside notice board has been updated with our own parish details.

Abortion Act Amendments. There are a number of initiatives at Westminster at the moment for amendments to the act, both for 'liberalisation' and for restrictions. Maureen asked if a notice could be placed in the bulletin asking parishioners to write to their MP to express their views on this issue.

Date of Next Meeting. Tuesday 11th September 2007 at 8.00p.m.