

Blessed Robert Grissold
Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of Meeting Held 24th January 2008

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

Apologies: Chris Mitchell, Dominic Green.

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Matters Arising

None.

The minutes of 18th September 2007 were then agreed.

Faith Formation

CaFE. We will plan another programme for Lent. Fr has purchased a programme on the Creed. Sessions will take place each Wednesday in Lent, starting at 7.30. Godfrey can assist but is away for some of the weeks, and will ask somebody attending the sessions to help out when he is not there.

Ian will advertise it on the parish website.

Confirmation Classes. There are ten known candidates for Confirmation at present. This will take place at 9.30 Mass on 6th April, with the Auxiliary Bishop.

Ian C will help in preparing the Order of Service, which will be sent to the bishop.

Joe M will prepare the altar servers. He will also ensure he is present to cover the wardening.

Music will be provided by the instrumental group, and the quavers and senior choirs will combine after Communion. Teresa Green will ensure the parents and children do the readings, bidding prayers, and offertory procession.

Ian C will take photos (subject to parental permission), and Godfrey will arrange overspill car parking at the Tennis Club.

Fr will arrange to meet the parents to ensure they are providing the refreshments.

Margaret C will co-ordinate helpers to serve refreshments.

Youth Ministry. Leslie Richie-Yates has expressed an interest in starting a group with assistance from John Kuzminski. The age range will be 11-17.

First Holy Communion. This will take place on 8th June, with First Confessions just after Easter. Classes for the five candidates will start on 28th January.

Liturgy and Sunday Mass. Fr has now received the Lenten Booklets and calendars. These will be available and people can donate towards them if they wish.

Fr will incorporate the introductory prayer in Mass each Sunday, to improve awareness. It was decided that Maureen C would ask at Knights Court whether the Catholic residents there would like a Mass said.

Masses and services over Easter will be as follows:

- Maundy Thursday – 7.30 pm
- Good Friday – 3 pm.
- Easter Vigil – 7.30 pm.
- Easter Sunday – 9.30 am.

Altar Servers. Some servers have dropped out. Joe knows of some more families with children who would be interested in becoming altar servers. The servers should get their albs washed before the visit from the bishop.

Choir. The choir will be able to provide singing for Maundy Thursday and the Easter Vigil, but there will be no organist.

New members have joined. Ian C is still trying everything he can to find a replacement organist.

Linda Chesshire has agreed to record some more hymns on the organ. Using recorded hymns on the organ has worked well.

Kerala Community. Fr's community will hold a retreat at Blessed Robert Grissold church on March 15th and 16th.

Children's Liturgy. We have two new volunteers.

Mass Intentions. Fr was asked to mention the Mass intention at the start of Mass.

Rotas . There have been twelve new volunteers. Joe will work out how many hours are volunteered each year by the community.

Finance

Finance Committee. Joe reported that at the end of 2007, we had a surplus of c£8000, which was an increase of 25% on 2006. We had had more successful fundraising events than in 2006. However, offertory donations have remained static after an increase in 2006.

Several ideas have been suggested for expenditure in 2008: Fr has requested some new vestments; we should have suitable chairs for the altar before the visit from the bishop; blinds for the hall windows will be investigated; installation of a professional dishwasher will also be investigated.

There will be an appeal to the parish on 3rd February.

We will advertise the presence of the church in Pride, Look Local, and in the local hotels.

Charities and Social Events.

Parish Dinner. Pam Martin and Chris Mitchell have agreed to arrange another Parish Dinner for 10th May.

Quiz Night. This will now be held in September. Kathy Jones has asked for volunteers to help, so she and Bob can hand over on a future occasion and thereby take part in the quiz themselves.

Other events. The possibility of a parish Bar-B-Q was discussed with a tentative date of 22nd June. A Race Night or Puddings Galore could be considered for November.

Charities. Maureen C will find out how much each of our three main charities (HCPT, Peru, Kerala) has raised in the previous year, so we can communicate this to the parish community.

Churches Together. The collection at the Christmas Carols raised £514 for the Bridgeway Church project in South Africa.
Lentern Breakfast will start again. We are providing the refreshments on 23rd February.
Women's World day of Prayer in on 7th March. Ellie Clarke will be our representative.

AOB

Easter Newsletter. Ian C is looking for contributions for the Easter newsletter.

Health and Safety. We have to appoint an officer. Terry Biles said he was familiar with H&S requirements and would take this on.

Kitchen cleaning. We need to have a thorough clean before the visit from the Solihull MBC inspector.

Tidying Church. We need to remind the congregation to take away with them any books and papers that they bring into church, so others are not left to clear up the pews.

Recording Mass. Ian C asked whether it was felt there was any call to have the Sunday Mass recorded and available on the website.

Date of Next Meeting. Thursday 3rd April 2008 at 7.30p.m.