

Minutes of PPC Meeting 6th March 2025

Present: Fr Festus, John Joyce, Katrina Nzeribe, Alan Duerden, Michael Waite, Ann Marie Coubrough, Linda & Eddie Whiteoak

Apologies: Kath Devlin Peter Maloney

1. John opened the meeting with a prayer

2. Wider Church context - where are we as a parish in this synod and jubilee year?

- A.** John asked the group to give an example of one of the joys of the parish and one of the challenges we have within the parish.

Joys

- Meeting new people coming into the parish
- Seeing people come from other countries
- New international population is thriving in the parish
- Catholic church open to welcoming new people
- To see so many people at Ash Wednesday at both Masses especially with the school involved
- Coming to celebrate Mass when so many churches are closing and less priests available
- Involving children after the sacraments

Challenges

- How do we keep new families and young people involved in parish life
- How do we involve more people in the parish to support the continuation of both churches
- Getting people involved in doing things in the parish lots of jobs and events need more helpers
- Learning the Mass and Prayers in English when English not your 1st language
- Expenses of running two church not enough funds to do any work other than essentials
- How do we keep families and children involved after sacraments

B. The Jubilee Year – Pilgrims of Hope – suggestions:

- Pilgrimage/ retreat at Carnforth to be investigated – John and David visiting wb 10th March.
- There is a diocesan pilgrimage/ walk on the 29th March from Keighley St Ann's to Ilkley Sacred Heart and then up to Middleton Lodge stations of the cross. Unfortunately, there is no Mass at Ilkley that day. But parishioners can meet the walkers at Sacred Heart church at 1.00pm and accompany them on the last stage up to Myddleton Calvary. Bob Marshall is doing a sponsored walk and will be happy for any support.
- Parish Holy Door Event to be investigated. (At the last Jubilee year, a group from the parish went to St Anne's cathedral.

- Next week the relics of St Columba, St Andrew and St Margaret of Scotland will be at Leeds Cathedral, Margaret to advertise this in the bulletin

3. Buildings

- St Peters Roof sorted by insurance
- St Peters New boiler sorted by insurance
- St Peters Dry Rot has been surveyed, and 2 quotes have come in that need to be approved by the Diocese. This will cost between £12,500 and £20,000
- Need to have a walk around St Peters at all the work that is needed to maintain the church in good order. May not have the funds now but need a plan for when funds become available from the school rent and the preparatory rent in the future.
- Groundworks at St Peter's following Catholic Care moving in - We had a discussion around the work currently carried out around the church and the gardens. Gardens need cutting - where does this start and finish now that Catholic Care are living in the house? We need to ask Kevin Anderson at the Diocese to meet, to clarify these aspects of the tenancy agreement. We need to look at either having bin for the rubbish collected from the garden or bag up the rubbish and ask parishioners to take a bag home to their bins to keep on top of it. Ann Marie will call the council to see if we can get any help.

Utilities - The parish are still paying the bills for the house. We need Kevin Anderson at the Diocese to confirm how we pass this on to C Care as the parish cannot afford to pay these bills. This was one of the reasons to rent the house so the parish would not be responsible for these.

4. Events in our Parish Community

African Choir will be leading the Mass at St Peter's on Sunday 9th March

Other plans in progress-

May processions

- i) Discussion to be held with St Columba's school regarding the possibility of school involvement at 11.15 Mass;
- ii) Fr looking at 11th May St Peters 4pm in the afternoon

Corpus Christi

19th June need to discuss with school if they can come to Mass on this day process around the school. First Holy Communion Day is Saturday 21st June at St Peters which may conflict so need to ask the school as soon as possible.

Parish Feast Day St Marys' parish need to consider a date for next year and make this special in the parish.

Summer Events Summer Fair

Question mark around school involvement can we ask Margaret to approach the school. Need other people to be involved we only have a handful of helpers to organise these events.

Any other business**Saturday Mass Time**

There was a discussion around Mass time on a Saturday evening moving to 4.30. Mass time used to be at 6.30 and it was moved to 5.30 for winter 6 years ago and was never moved back to 6.30. Mass being moved to 4.30 in the winter will not make it any lighter. There are also other Mass times that may be better for people to attend in winter on Sundays. Although other churches may have earlier Mass at this point it was thought that it would need further discussion before a decision could be made.

Annual Parish Programme.

Father Festus circulated an annual programme of parish events for consideration for comments to put in place next year on the parish calendar. Please send comments to Father Festus.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 5th June 7pm at St Peters