

**St Gregory's PPC**  
**Thursday 18th November 2010**  
**7:30pm**

**Present :), Steve Godwin (SG), Richard Verrian (RV), Helen Burnell (HB), Mike d'Apice (MD), Ann Burke (AB), Fr Tom (TD), Alan Trowbridge (AT), Cannon Michael (CM), John Proctor (JP).**

**Agenda:** No agenda was set

The meeting was opened with a prayer. As there were no outstanding actions from the last meeting and in the absence of an agenda the open items discussed at the last meeting (23<sup>rd</sup> September) were used as a starting point for this meeting, with other matters discussed as they arose.

#### **Item 1. Refurbishment of Kitchen**

AB raised concerns and frustrations experienced by those who have been driving forward the kitchen refurbishment that a date for commencement of the work had still not been set. There did not appear to be any reason for the continued delay of this as the funding was available and approval received. The delay was being caused because the builders were awaiting written confirmation that the work was going ahead. The fund raising committee felt they were not receiving any support for their efforts and were therefore planning to tender their resignation from the committee. SG hoped that issues could be resolved and resignation of committee avoided.

Cannon Michael joined the meeting at this point and said he had not seen the email from the architect requesting a meeting and apologized for the delay in getting the work started. It was agreed that a meeting would be set up between himself, Peter Fairweather and the contractor to agree a start date. **Afternote: The work will be completed between approx 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 11, during which period the hall will not be available for bookings.**

#### **Item 3. Hall cleaner**

The lack of a cleaner for the hall over the last 3 weeks has meant that Christine Francis has had to take on this roll on top of everything else that she does as a volunteer as the hall must be kept clean if it is continued to be hired out. CM said that arrangements were being made for this task be added to the existing contract and a meeting was held on 15/11/10 with the existing contractor to arrange this. Christine was thanked for all the time and effort she has given to maintain the hall in the interim period.

#### **Item 4 Central Coordinator for transporting people to mass**

Currently there is no coordinator for this activity. In order to provide this service a coordinator is required. This is another area where it is difficult to get volunteers. It was stated that getting people to volunteer was a pastoral issue which can only be addressed if the community sees themselves as a family and support each other in the community by taking on these activities. There are still many ways in which the community must grow in order to strengthen as a welcoming community and this is just one of them.

An idea was put forward that the sign of peace be used as an opportunity to introduce yourself and welcome those around you and invite them to coffee afterwards in the hall.

This led to a discussion about baptisms which take place in the church and why some were held during mass and others outside the mass. How do we welcome these families into the parish?

#### **Item 5 Joint Pastoral Council**

The first meeting was held at the end of October and St Gregory's was represented by RV and AT. IT is envisaged that by holding a joint PC this will reduce the number of meeting that the clergy members have to attend. Initially it will increase the number of meetings but once established there will be a reduction. The International Mass was discussed at the first meeting and it was put forward that each parish should have its own multicultural panel that will work with the other parish panels providing support and organize this event.

The International Mass is to take place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

RV suggested that making an announcement after mass might encourage people to volunteer.

### **Item 6 Bishops Pastoral Visit**

Arrangements for this visit were discussed and a point was made that the parishioners of St Gregory's would have little time with the Bishop as he would need to leave straight after mass to get to the next mass, this is an ongoing issue with the priests every week which there is no real resolution to due to the spread of parishes and number of masses to be covered by two priests.

It was highlighted that the Bishop would be meeting members of the PPCs in the afternoon on the 5<sup>th</sup> December – this was not something that had been communicated to all the members of the PPC.

### **Item 7 AOB**

#### **Provision of Hand Rails**

BD has provided 2 estimates for provision of hand rails on the steps leading up to the hall these have been passed to AT to take to the finance committee.

The Senior Moments group has offered to provide a donation of £150 to help provide these railings and also sort out the automatic lighting outside the hall door.

#### **Youth Music Group**

Some progress has been made in getting this started through the youth mass where Caroline Williams has set up a choir. It is hoped this will encourage others with an interest in music.

#### **Welcome Pack**

Vincent Thorne is putting together a folder and it was suggested he liaise with MD to use elements of the welcome pack that Mike has already drawn together.

#### **Volunteers Evening Follow Up**

A training event is to be held in the New Year to train people to be Parish Visitors to support the clergy in parish visiting.

#### **Senior Moments**

Fish & Chip Supper planned for 5<sup>th</sup> February will be postponed to a later date.

#### **Liturgical Diaries**

Liturgical diaries now available

### **Meeting Closed**

**Date of next meeting Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2011 7:30pm**

**Apology received from JP for next meeting.**