

St. Bede's Parish Council Liturgy Committee meeting 11th February 2019

Present: - Father John, Paul, John, Gail, Cath S. Kath R, Alex, Amanda and Colette.

Apologies: - Monica, Gabrielle, Andrew, Veronica and Jason.

Father opened the meeting with a prayer.

Matters arising from the September minutes: - Stewards, Holy Water Stoop and Hymn books.

The choir require at least six hymn books that include the written music. The cost would be £40 each. Money stipulated to the choir after weddings/funerals should be noted and kept separate for such items.

Water stoop – it had been suggested to Father to use the stoop in the old porch but it is not possible to remove it easily. Fr. would like to replicate a centre piece on entering the church to represent baptism – again not possible.

Review/Evaluation/Updates: - today there had been a Mass with the blessing of the sick which was well attended and very much appreciated by all who were anointed. The new notice boards are good but are empty at the moment. Sr. Cathy was excellent with the youth on the Day with the Lord. The lay led All Souls service was very moving and again appreciated. The choir have greatly enhanced the 6p.m. Mass when they have taken part. There are a few extra cleaners and two new flower arrangers assisting at the moment. There was a lovely atmosphere during the recent family Mass – the children were excellent. To enable the young readers to be heard clearly Father would like a 'flexible' microphone. Colette to contact Scratch Music. Everyone appreciated Father's rendition of the Gospel.

Lent: - Colette suggested giving out a holy picture of Our Blessed Lady instead of daffodils this year for Mother's day. Gavin to be asked to undertake this task. The school would have to be reimbursed for any costs i.e. ink paper, laminate and the photocopier is on lease and is charged per copy. Gavin would waver any fee. {even the princely sum of 2/6d} but is grateful to Father for his consideration!

There will be a 7a.m. Mass on Friday mornings. The first one being 8th March. Stations of the Cross before the 9.30 Mass. Children from St. Bede's and St. Bernard's will attend the 9.30 Mass on the Wednesdays of Lent. Father will arrange a Saturday morning with visiting Priests for confessions during Lent.

Other events: - St. Bede's feast day and the Assumption will be discussed at a later meeting liaising with the Social Committee who are planning coffee mornings.

Exposition Sundays – the church should be silent before Mass. It was suggested that the refreshment tables be prepared the previous day to eliminate noise from the kitchen.

Window cleaning in general:-The porch windows are too high for the weekly cleaners to reach and the parish room windows require cleaning inside and out. The stained glass is covered outside with a special protective material and inside should only be dusted. Amanda could ask the school window cleaner if we wish to use his services. Carpet and blinds replacement will be put forward to maintenance/finance.

Advent food festival: - Paul was disappointed with the numbers attending and felt the Liturgical aspect was also disappointing. The social aspect was good. Some people find the altar servers distracting on the front rows now they are taller. They require training for Eastertide. Is it possible to share out the duties for Mass?

Children's liturgy: - would like a crucifix and a small table and some storage units. This will be put to the finance committee.

Some parents thought there would be a children's liturgy on Christmas Day. The Mass for the children is held on Christmas Eve at Forty martyrs'.

Adult liturgy: - the choir is struggling especially for male singers. Andrew has been ill and Ivor died recently. The choir is becoming a critical situation. Paul feels we are not a forthcoming parish. Kath suggested speaking to people personally may be the way forward or to have the choir members mingled in with the parishioners one Sunday. We do appreciate the choir and their dedication to training every week. Father would like a clock in the choir loft to co-ordinate timings with Paul.

Paul feels the Diocese is in a poor state and had spoken with the Bishop, Vicar General and the Cathedral.

Readers require further training. Eileen from the Cathedral to be approached re some coaching.

St. Bede's feast day will be discussed at the next meeting.

Would a talk about the stained glass windows be of interest to the Parish?

Vestments: - some are 15 years old and Father would like to replace them. Kath offered to look at them before committing herself to this task.

Stewards: - there are usually some nurses in the congregation in case of illness and various adults who would take charge in any emergency.

Heating: - the house heating is working at the moment but we may require a new boiler. If the heating breaks down again – refreshments **must be cancelled**.

The gas fire should not have been used around the children without a fireguard.

The meeting closed with a prayer.

The next Liturgy meeting will be Monday 11th March at 7p.m.

**There will be a Parish Pastoral Council meeting on Monday 25th
February at 7p.m.**

