

## **PPC meeting /Parish AGM**

Wednesday 8 November 2017

Welcome to Parishioners and PPC; Edward Almond [Chair]

Apologies from PPC members; Gaye Beirne

Prayer; Called Beyond Prayer

Apologies for no official Agenda.

### **Item 6 FINANCE**

Financial accounts were circulated and comments were made by Brian Salisbury [Finance Committee].

- Offertory collection is down by 6% up to August 2016 and has been doing so for the past three years.
- Surplus of £7409
- 500 club is separate from Parish money
- Sound system paid for itself

#### **Bills**

- Heating grills
- Glass in the link corridor
- New car for Parish Priest
- Blessed Sacrament Chapel windows 1<sup>st</sup> payment
- Concrete repairs – survey
- Sr Veronica's new kitchen and boiler

Forecast is going down £30,000 -40,000 over the next three years. The first time there have been two consecutive deficits for ten years. We can claim some monies back from 'listed buildings'.

#### **Questions and answers;**

- The Diocesan assessment made up of; 25% offertory income, tax gift aid income to Ampleforth, 10% to Archdiocese [poor parishes], £2900 school levy [based on mass attendances] goes to the Archdiocese.
- The Newman cannot be a separate entity. The account is held in the Parish Accounts: we do keep a record.
- We get the VAT back from the government department [listed buildings] for any major expenditures within 12 months.
- We can claim on the windows in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
- Levy is for planned school projects, the Archdiocese pay over 15%.
- We will have a reduced levy. Ampleforth's Account displays this as does the Archdiocesan account.
- In September the offertory collection was down by 8%.
- What can we do to save money? Brian suggests a meeting to discuss how we can begin to save money.

### **ITEM 5 Pastoral Council report on Events since the last PPC meeting**

- 2x sessions of the sacramental programmes
- Called Beyond programme of events
- Baptismal programme
- Replacement of the glass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel
- Faith in Action Awards
- High School Presentation Evening
- Harvest Festival

- Requiem Mass at Ampleforth for Fr Theo
- Remembrance Service for those who have died over the last twelve months
- Mass for Recently Bereaved

**ITEM 7            Called Beyond Programme**

The meeting received, from Kevin Quigley, a summary of responses and a comprehensive analysis of the data accumulated from all the events and responses to questionnaires from Masses.

Reports contains; National Office of Vocations initial idea, extracts from minutes of team meetings, responses to events week, mass questionnaires, review meeting comments on 25 October, 5 responsibilities of the team to sum up and evaluate what the week achieved.

The success was based on opinions and data from the week.

This is only the beginning part of the National Pilot.

How do we move on and integrate all this into the life of the Parish? Discussion took place and questions were received and answered;

- The next event would be on 9 November for the team and anyone who wishes to contribute can do so.
- This pilot will be evaluated by the national Called Beyond team.
- Fr Jonathan has spoken to the Diocesan Vocations Director. Other pilot parishes only used parish centre but we used other venues, which exceeded expectations.
- Many positive comments about family life contributions, speakers own journey in faith, relationships with God.
- The focus was not solely on Youth but it was felt that it was also a renewal of the parish and community. ‘a bit like a retreat’
- Did we miss our ‘hidden church’ – sick, housebound.
- Called Beyond is complex and there are no simple answers but we are not alone in this respect. We should not lose the momentum of Called Beyond.
- We should welcome small ideas, small groups getting together in own places. It’s up to us as parishioners.
- Suggestion of having a Called Beyond book where parishioners could record something extra that they have done.
- There are 40+ groups within the parish.
- Suggestion of a group to maintain the perimeter of the church and its buildings. To be raised at the next CB and PPC meetings.
- From a comment made by a parishioner about having a more welcoming Parish Centre. The manager is slowly improving the décor but toilets, kitchen and corridor need updates. This may therefore attract new custom.

**ITEM 8            Christmas arrangements**

Saturday 23 December	<u>Vigil Mass</u>	6.00pm	
Sunday 24 December	<u>Christmas Eve</u>	10.00am	[one morning mass]
		6.00pm	[evening mass –vigil]
		9.15pm	[Carols]
		10.00pm	[Night Mass]
Monday 25 December	<u>Christmas Day</u>	8.00am	
		10.00am	

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Leyland Band will be playing.

Cross and crib will be displayed [Walter and team] Suggestion of one crib to be placed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for quiet prayer.

Christmas collections – to start at the front.

## **AOB**

1. Did we have feedback from the Archbishop regarding views on the shortage of priests?

Eucharistic Congress to be held in in 2018. The Synod in 2020.

2. The number of priests is reducing and their workload is increasing. Have we looked at how the Church of England have been dealing with this?

We need to look at the French plan, more than C of E, as it is more closely related to our situation.

We need to develop how to have a relationship with God which does not have to always be an external one, like going to Mass, which may be difficult for some. There is no specific answer.

3. Is encouraging people to become Deacons something to consider?

Possibly but the training programme is long and very intense which might not suit everyone.

4. There have been some problems with concrete in the fabric of the church, a piece of which became loose and caused a slight injury to a parishioner. There are 26 areas that need attention from a survey that was undertaken. This would cost £6000.
5. The corona has been inspected on a yearly basis and is expensive to maintain. From now on the corona will be in a fixed position on wires and will therefore only need to be inspected every 5 years.
6. Anyone who wishes to be on the Finance Committee please see Brian Salisbury.
7. Two cracked paving slabs have had to be repaired. There are a total of 115 other slabs with non-dangerous cracks. The piazza was not designed to be used as a car park so there will be no access in the future. Locked yellow bollards are in place. Permission would not be granted for change of usage.
8. Two years ago a very successful parish dinner was held. Tony Matthews would like to organise another in Spring 2018. This was well received.
9. We need to support the Parish Centre more. The current manager is redecorating in her own time and money. Request to be placed in the church bulletin to ask for support.

Date and time of next PPC meeting; Wednesday 7 February 2018 at 7.30pm

Chair; Alex Anthony

Prayer; Called Beyond Prayer

Meeting closed at 9.15pm