

Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the Meeting held 7th September 2022, 7:00pm

Present: Philippa Smallwood (Chairperson); Rev. Kieran Kirby (President), Fr. Albert Lawes; Fr. Anil Gundabatina; Rev. Kelvin Russell; Ken Cheek; Martin Overy; Monica Overy; Maria Quinn; Rosalba Villarreal; Eduardo Villarreal. Coral Mortier

Opening Prayer: Fr. Kieran

1. Apologies for absence: Rev. Delian Bower; Federico Caprotti; Michael Quinn.
2. Minutes of the meeting 25th May 2022 and Matters Arising
Agreed by Martin Overy, Seconded by Kelvin Russell

Phil welcomed Coral to the meeting and parish.

- Soft Toy Bags: Maria has spoken to Bridge Books; the bags will cost up to £15.00 a bag. It was decided that they would only contain books, which would be rotated weekly. There should be special books for Christmas and Easter. Monica and Maria to continue to move this forward.
- Synodal Journey: Fr Paul Keys will be coordinating this more widely. There will be a follow up meeting in the parish during Autumn. Fr Albert and Phil to develop this.
- Parish 3-minute Survey: This is now being called A Quick Survey, and Phil and Maria will attend to this at all masses on the first weekend of October.

3. Parish Ministries

- Fr Kieran reported that there have been a few people come forward for flowers, church cleaning, welcomers and Sunday coffee. Help is still needed in the Sacristy and for Catechists.
- The Commissioning of ministers/ministries needs to be undertaken regularly. This would highlight what is done in the parish and may encourage more interest in the different ministries.
- Legion of Mary will be attending all masses on the weekend of 24th and 25th September in the hope of establishing a group in the parish.

4. Social Action

- Waymakers update: The Waymakers teams are working hard across Catholic Exeter and substantial funds have been raised. Fundraising continues. It was suggested that we have a 'thermometer' in the newsletter, to show people how

much we have raised and what we still need. It continues to be difficult to secure adequate accommodation and work is ongoing to decide whether renting a property will be possible or whether we have to purchase one. Prayers are requested to solve the property problem and for the success of the venture.

- SVP: Peter Schranz has taken this on and hopes to start a Chatter Café on a Wednesday morning in the lower room.
- Running a soup kitchen was discussed. This should be coordinated with other soup kitchens being run in the area.
- Craft/sewing get togethers: Coral and Monica would like to get people together for a “craft and natter” tea/coffee morning or afternoon. There will be a tester in the beginning of October. Tentative date of Friday 7th October. Coral would like to run a wreath making afternoon during advent. This would also explain the history of wreath making and the meaning behind the candles etc.
- Christmas Party: Monica has taken charge of this. This would be for the elderly and the lonely of the parish. It would be by invitation only on Wednesday 7th December. It would consist of light refreshments and a little entertainment. We realise that we need to be careful when offering transport, due to potential insurance liabilities. Eduardo offered to pay for a taxi for those who really needed assistance.
- Library: It has been suggested that we have a library (bookcase) of spiritual books in the upper room. These would be for adults and children to borrow. It would need to be monitored for appropriate content. No library ‘system’ to be put in place. Kelvin, Martin and Ken offered to manage this.
- There will be a “Call my Bluff” quiz at St Nicholas school at 7pm on Friday 4th November, the funds will go to Waymakers.
- Arts Group: They will also be performing a play at 7pm on 14th & 15th October and 2pm on Sunday 16th October.
- Book Club: There was interest in starting a Parish Book Club. Martin and Phil will move this forward.

5. Outreach

- The South Street Event: There has been keen involvement from the parish, and we pray for a good outcome on Sunday. (Subsequent to the PPC meeting this event was cancelled due to the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.)

6. International Mass This will take place on Sunday 19th February. Thanks to Vivianne Anderson for organising this. A film night and Taizé Adoration in the preceding week will be coordinated by Waymakers

7. Safeguarding

No issues.

8. Health and Safety/Property

- The parish have commissioned Quinquennial Reports for the church and the Presbytery (schedule of work required attached)
- Lighting in the Church – we are looking at the issues and various schemes, including rewiring. Nothing can happen until we have a new Bishop to approve; once he has been appointed it can be put to the PPC and the parish.
- There was water ingress into the church next to the confessionals during recent heavy rain; the problem is possibly due to the revised drainage from the presbytery building work – the contractors (Nevada) are going to come and assess the problem.
- There are two areas of damage to the large window at the west end of the church; local specialists Gubin & Son have been asked to come and assess the situation.
- The five-year electrical test for the church will be carried out shortly.
- The damaged statue has been taken for repair. There is potentially more damage than first thought.
- Some of the Christmas Crib figures require minor repairs – Simon Ruscoe has been asked to assess the work needed.

9. Date for the next meeting: Wednesday 18th January 2023 at 7:00pm

Closing prayer: Fr. Anil.