

St Joseph's and St Alban's Parish Pastoral Support Group
22nd January 2014, St Joseph's Sacristy

Present: Fr David, Pat Duprey, John Odell , Victoria Smerdon, Sue Horncastle, Maureen Fearon , Tom Neal, Christine Parker

Welcome and Opening Prayer/Reflection:

Apologies: Deacon Norman, Michael Bond, Anna Torpey

Matters arising from the Minutes

- 1. Parish Centre:** Maintenance and management issues have been discussed by the Diocesan Commercial Company and Father David following complaints about the standards of cleanliness in the Centre. Various ways forward are being proposed and will be discussed further at a meeting between the Commercial Company and the Finance and Premises Committee.

Follow-up to Parish Meeting in September: The main items mentioned (attached to these minutes as a separate document) are being addressed but progress will continued to be monitored. The next Parish meeting will be held in March.

Feed-back from the Christmas liturgy arrangements: Vigil Masses and Midnight Mass were well attended. Morning Masses were average. Perhaps we need to give attention next year to more effective publicity. The number of children at the Christmas masses was thought to be disappointing.

Web-site up-date: No further information at the moment although attention is being given to updating current web-content.

Storage in St Alban's Parish Centre: Problems regarding storage area used by "Messy Church" organisers need to be addressed.

Cambodia Links: Query regarding possibility of a trip to the Cambodia community. This has been raised with Father David previously. Costs would not necessarily be prohibitive and such a trip could include visits to local areas of interest, and opportunities to meet with the local community socialising and sharing liturgies. This suggestion will be explored further.

Blue envelopes/Standing Orders: Some people who make their parish donations via standing orders feel somewhat embarrassed when they pass the collection plate without putting anything in. Probably we have to accept that everyone is free to donate in their own way and that no-one should be looking over their shoulder at anyone else.

Meeting dates 2014:

19 th February	St Alban's	16 th July	St Joseph's
19 th March	Open meeting at St Joseph's	10 th September	Open meeting at St Alban's
9 th April	St Alban's	15 th October	St Joseph's
14 th May	St Joseph's	19 th November	St Alban's
18 th June	St Alban's	17 th December	Christmas meal

Confirmation: 23rd May 2014 at St Alban's

Lenten meetings: Bishop Brian will be invited to lead a day on Reconciliation, 10.00 a.m. to 3 p.m. This will include a shared table and Mass at 12 noon. Date to be fixed with Bishop Brian.

AOB: None

Next Reflection - Viki

Next meeting: February 19th at 7.30 p.m. – St Albans