

**ST BONIFACE, SOUTHAMPTON  
MINUTES OF PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL  
MEETING  
20 January 2023 at 19:00**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Attending</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Fr Jufel Baldado(Fr J)	Asst Priest	✓		
Helen Bignell(HB)		✓		
Angela Braga(AB)	Chair	✓		
Guadalupe Dagongdong(GD) Vic Dagongdong(VD)		✓		
Diago George(DG)		✓		
Fr Godwin Kambai (Fr G)	Asst Priest	✓		
Fr Tom Kleinschmidt (Fr T)	Parish Priest	✓		
Neri May (NM)		✓		
Augustine Odukoya (AO)		✓		
Joanna Rzepecka (JR)		✓		
Irena Sachrajda (IS)		✓		
Trish Spiteri (TS)		✓		
Angela Wood (AW)			✓	
Hannah Wood (HW)		✓		
Emma D’Arcy (ED)				✓

1) Meeting opened with a **prayer** from Fr Tom

He welcomed the five new members of the PPC and thanked them for volunteering.

2) Apologies for absence: Angela W.

3) Minutes of last meeting (15/11//2022) were approved as a true record

4) Matters arising

Review of Dec and early Jan events.

Penitential service. Much better publicity than last year, reasonable attendance, prayerful atmosphere with readings and music.

Christmas Novena. DG suggested should be promoted to other parishes and beyond for next year. Fr J stressed that event was open to everyone, not only Filipino community.

Advent Formation. Quiet, reflective, insightful. Small attendance, but much valued by those present. Look at timing and location for next time. And maybe too many events in Advent ?

Carols and Candles. Great success, well- planned and publicised. Confirmation candidates fully involved. Need to make clear that the event is primarily outreach. A few parishioners arrived expecting a Carol service.

Healing Mass. Again generally successful but maybe a bit long, and church cold. Adjust for next month.

Seniors Epiphany Tea. Attracted some of the older parishioners who had not attended for some time. Great success. Confirmation candidates helped serve the tea and mixed with the guests Inter-generational contact between two hard-to -reach groups !

- Plans for Lent.

Repeat many of the 2022 events:

- Soup lunches every Friday
- Station of the Cross after each weekday 10 am Mass
- 6.30 pm Mass on Fridays, followed by Way of the Cross
- Fr Tom will run a weekly series of reflections, Saturday afternoons, culminating in a full-day retreat on Sat 1 April

- This year, we won't provide hot cross buns on Good Friday as this was felt to be inappropriate by some.  
Need to ask Danielle if CAFOD have any events planned for Lent.
- Children's Liturgy Team will organise children's Way of the Cross, 11 am Good Friday.
- CTIS will hold a witness event in the precinct, starting 12 noon?
- The Triduum will of course be the main focus of Holy Week. Fr T may look at running Tenebrae as well, on the Weds.

#### Deanery response to Diocesan 10-year plan

Fr T summarised the main points of the plan. More centralised efficient structure, joining existing parishes together to make 24 large parishes, each with one parish priest and several assistant priests. Change to occur over next 3 to 5 years, then bed in for next 5 years.

Important we are as positive as possible in approaching this. Focus on pastoral aspects rather than the business/ economic ones. Where is God asking us to be in 5 years' time? Working together doesn't mean uniformity.

A meeting of our Deanery priests and parish reps to take place at Holy Family on Sat 28 Jan. To attend this: Fr T, AB, HW and Peter Kollig as Chair of Finance .

#### Update on Closer to Christ campaign

Fr T has been meeting with families and small groups to raise awareness. Basically it is a fundraising exercise, to support seminarians, retired priests and current priests. Some of the money will come back to the parish. Our target is £95k. At present, almost £30k has been pledged over next 5 years. It does fit with our parish vision as we need funds to build up the parish.

DG and VD offered to set up a system to help raise the money by involving parishioners as fundraisers. Sadly this is not the model being used by the Diocese.

#### **5) From Maintenance to Mission.**

Fr T referred to his Ashurst day talk and explained that the PPC focus is on collaborating to support each other and to set the future direction of the parish, always bearing in mind our vision statement ( 'Working together to bring Christ to all, and all to Christ' ). Teams model is designed to help this. Recruitment weekend 28/29 Jan will hopefully bring in more volunteers.

## 6) Election of officers.

HB agreed to take on the role of Vice- Chair.

AO agreed to take on the role of Secretary.

## 7. AOB

- AO felt we should improve our response to the parish registration forms. If people hear nothing they become discouraged.

ACTION : Fr T and AB will work on a welcome message to be sent to newly registered parishioners.

- AO suggested that a Thanksgiving Day for Nigerians would be welcome and could be a means of involving people more in the life of the parish. Food, music, dance, children's activities etc  
Agreed that this could be widened to other National Days, eg Goan, Filipino, Polish
- GD suggested that personal invitation works well, going up to people and asking them to help with collection or choir. Some people have the impression that those who help with parish life are a closed group.
- GD suggested that the second collection should be taken after Communion, perhaps accompanied by an offertory hymn.
- VD said the 5.30 Sun Mass had been successful in involving whole families and training them eg.in reading. Advance notice needed so people can prepare.
- IS pointed out that if people change email, address or phone no we need to be notified. Maybe an online form and a reminder?
- Fr G mentioned holding meetings for readers and allocation of duties from that. He had several other ideas based on his past experience in Italy and elsewhere.  
Agreed that Fr G should have a slot on the next agenda to set out his thoughts on how we could improve our approach.
- JR asked when the monthly children's masses would start, Agreed to begin on 5 March and use first Sunday of every month from then on.

**8. Dates of next meetings : 1) Friday 10 March 7 pm, 2) Friday 21 April 7 pm**

9. Meeting closed with a prayer led by Fr Tom.

