**AMDG**

**November 2018 Parish AGM Notes**

As a Pastoral Committee, we have held 5 quorate meetings since our last AGM. All have busy lives and I am grateful to those who are able to attend.

1. Fr Tim came early in the New Year and we celebrated Fr Peter’s time as Missioner with a nice social at St Peter’s club. The Parish was able to contribute and support Fr Peter’s travel expenses for a pilgrimage to Lourdes and typical of Fr Peter he wrote a thank you note after his trip. Fr Peter was appreciated not only within the Parish but in the local community too.
2. New broom and new changes, partly as a consequence of Fr John Twist also departing. Fr Tim is our Parish Priest but also the working Chaplain at all three schools. The changes include the dropping of one Sunday Mass time (8.30am). The 9.30am Mass at St Joseph’s Chapel has been a positive change and it seems to me one which is popular, supports the Children’s Liturgy and Sacramental Programme better, and includes a nice wide range of ages.
3. Fr Tim has also moved out of the Old Infirmary part of the College and into St Philips / Dashwood opposite the College refectory. This will allow not only visiting clergy to be accommodated but also Parishioners and council business without running into the College security restrictions
4. With reference to security / safeguarding, I was pleased that the a good number of Parish volunteers took advantage of the Diocesan Safeguarding clinic conducted recently at St Mary’s Langho. This included adult volunteers with the Youth group, Eucharistic ministers, children liturgy programme and myself as the Parish Safeguarding Officer. We have a further two Youth Group members to undertake the DBS process but apart from them we are up to date.
5. The Sacramental programme was run by Sarah Hodgkinson again year and it has been a successful outcome for our candidates for Confirmation and First Communion. Thank you Sarah
6. Advent Services: last year’s Vigil Mass did not take place due to a fire and smoke in the organ loft. It was a great disappointment for all the families who attended and I hope we will be more fortunate this time around. Our thanks to Lucy Harrison and John Thomasson for their efforts in putting together all the Christmas Packs and for all others who provided assistance particularly on Christmas Eve. If anyone is attending any of the services this year, any assistance in tidying after the services would be greatly appreciated.
7. The Easter Triduum was wholly shared with the College retreatants. On behalf of all the committee I would like to extend thanks to John Thomasson for his lead in this, and the Easter services booklet produced by Frances Ahearne. There have been some changes to the format just to refresh the process but it is still a very reflective and thoughtful experience.
8. The Diocesan Renewal Programme instigated by Bishop John continues apace, and we have completed Stage One and now into Stage Two. One of the changes at Parish level include Eucharistic Ministers leading week day services if Fr Tim is unavailable; more change is inevitable but the response from Parishioners seems positive and open. Our thanks to Margaret Lewis for her work in this matter
9. Jesuit Parish community: the Swanwick conference brought members of the Parish to meet with fellow Jesuit Parishioners and together to examine the various Papal documents of Pope Francis. Delegates have shared their reflections at several Masses last year. The feedback from delegates in meeting other Jesuit Parishioners is always positive and energising.
10. We have had a number of deaths in the Parish during the year, and in particular John Holden of Winckley. John was a stalwart of the Parish, Community and local Farmer who passed away on the first of October (feast of St. Therese of Lisieux). What he did not know was not worth knowing. Patient, organised, principled, generous servant to all the PPs that served here. May he and all those who died this year rest in peace.
11. Cemetery update: thanks to the volunteers Kaz Poloczek, Bill Holden, myself and the boss Bernard Holden; we have continued the tree branch maintenance programme on the outer perimeters of the cemetery, including two large felled trees. It is hoped to focus more of the inner old cemetery part for next year – mainly branch work rather than any felling. The volunteers greatly appreciate the support and thanks from Parishioners and visitors alike.
12. Rosary Wednesdays have been a wonderful example of Parish members’ initiative and generosity. I think they have been both prayerful and sociable experiences. Thank you to the hosting householders.

I hope this is a reasonable summary of the past year in our Parish. Our thanks go to all the volunteers and I apologise if I have not name checked you – that is my error entirely. Without your commitment too much would fall on the shoulders of Father and we have a responsibility to take up our Laity Mission and serve the Parish accordingly.

Thank you for listening and thank you for coming!

**LDS**