

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Addiscombe

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Thursday 3rd October 2024 at 8.00 pm in the PRC

Minutes

1. Opening Prayer

2. Apologies: Fr Keith, Jennifer Da Silva

Present: Terry Braim, Mary Ann McGuigan, Nike Arowobusoye,
Peter McGuigan, Jenny Mitchener, Marie Tross,

3. Reports and updates:

Safeguarding: DBS processing is continuing steadily. Joanna has arranged another training session on 5th October to 'mop up' those yet to be trained and/or processed. The 'new recruits' process will be restarted in the near future. Fr Keith has yet to email volunteers to convene a committee meeting.

Plant works: A temporary repair has been carried out on the west side of the hall roof to ensure events can continue to be held. The report from the engineer regarding more permanent solutions was delayed due to a health issue. Fr Keith is considering options for the chapel windows.

Parish Anniversaries: The projects to produce an altar frontal and a grotto have both 'firmed up' on their proposals. Funding for the grotto project has already got off to a good start. Now that the Autumn Fayre is over, both projects will be making the necessary appeals for skilled assistance and funding in the near future and then moving on to practical production.

4. Commemorative Calendar & Scroll: The final design was agreed and 750+ copies of this impressive commemorative calendar have been produced. Funds from sponsorship and dedications have more than covered the printing and design costs. Sales of the calendar were launched at the recent Fayre, and more than 130 copies were sold on the day. Further sales will be promoted at parish events and on Sundays. The commemorative scroll has also been produced and plans for exactly how it will be used are being discussed. The 'Calendar Girls' were congratulated on these products and thanked for all their efforts.

5. Mass books: Our current books become **redundant** this Advent.

Replacements for the McCrimmons Mass books are priced at £5 each if bought in bulk (100+), with 6 books needed to cover the 3 year rotation although they don't need to all be bought at once. (300 books would cost £3000 per year for three years, but would then last for many years. Our current books have been in use for about fourteen years). The Sunday Missal from CTS covering the full 3 years will be £20. It is a hardback but with very thin paper, so not really suitable for general use. Some parishioners could be encouraged to buy their own copy of this.

Leaflets with readings and responses are available. Cheap example - Redemptorist 'Red' (no Eucharistic prayer) available from £1.53 per 25 per week (500/week would cost nearly £1600/yr). Other versions have various formats and can incorporate a newsletter, but this increases the price.

Projection could be used, but would need preparation for every service and the view from side chapels and gallery could be restricted. Two projectors with suitably angled screens might alleviate this.

Electronic screens on some of the pillars etc. would also need preparation and would need considerable cabling to link and power them.

The sound system output still generates complaints, and the sound quality on live-streamed services is reported as poor (although the picture quality appears to be ok).

After extensive discussion the following points were recommended for consideration by Fr Keith:

1. Another review of the sound system in the church. Improve the input scope of the microphone on the lectern. Improve the distribution of sound from the speakers. Link the sound output from the amplifier to the i-pad used when live-streaming.
2. Even if the sound system is made 'up to scratch', many parishioners would like to have sight of the readings etc.. This could be from a book or leaflet or a screen. It is suggested that we order either the first volume of the new Mass books or a temporary subscription to a suitable weekly leaflet to ensure it is in place for Advent. We should also give serious consideration to either electronic screens or projection and get quotes for suitable installations to see if it is an affordable alternative. A second collection appeal might be used to support this.

6. Meetings planned by Fr Keith:

- **Meeting for EMEs:** Updating/standardising procedures
- **Meeting for Readers:** Fr Keith plans to have discussions/training with readers including correct use of the microphones and the possibility of scripted formal announcements (welcome notices) before some services.

As Fr Keith was not present, dates for these meetings were not finalised.

Fr Keith will arrange these in the very near future.

It was noted that Sacred Heart Church in Wimbledon are holding a day discussing the new lectionary, with EMEs and Readers from other parishes welcome to attend. This will be held on 19th October (details in the newsletter).

7. Discussion Groups:

The original plan was to have an ecumenical group in early September and then, having assessed the practicalities, to follow that with an Advent group based on the diocesan materials. This schedule has not materialised, but current advertising from Andy Bebington is for an Advent group. Fr Keith is considering the level of clergy involvement that might be offered.

8. The tree at the front of the Church: Fr Keith has contacted a tree surgeon who agrees that the tree appears to be dead. If this is confirmed it will be taken down and 'chipped'. Plans for what might be done in that area were discussed, and the general feeling was that we should plant a new tree. Perhaps this year's Christmas tree for the church could be one with a 'root ball' and plant it after Christmastide. Further consideration will be needed to decide what to do about the lights which are usually displayed at the front, and about updating the notice board.

9. Date of next meeting: 21st November (apology from Nike Arowobusoye).

10. Closing Prayer