

# Parish Coordinating Group Minutes

20<sup>th</sup> April 2010

Present: Fr Kieron O'Brien - Chair, Fr Alexander, Susan Line, Ged Lavery, Kathy Campbell, Geoff Breeze, Maria Whitehouse, Marie O'Grady, Lena Finn (secretary).

## **1. Prayer & welcome**

Fr Kieron welcomed Marie O'Grady to the Group.

## **2. Apologies:** Dot Leaver, Simon Davenport, Jenny Edwards

## **3. Minutes of last meeting**

- (5) SL: felt the statement "Visiting Group has a problem in that many are young..." was misleading. Fr K agreed that it should read that there were younger, needy parishioners that the Visiting Group could encompass.

## **4. Matters arising**

### ➤ **Bell Tower/Angelus**

Fr A queried whether the bell had been rung. Fr K told the group that the servers had been on holiday and therefore it had not been rung recently.

### ➤ **Parish Walking Pilgrimage**

MW had concentrated on the first walk to Bosham. Bosham parishioners would provide refreshments. Fr K queried the possibility of an order of service for Evening Prayer. Transport back from Bosham to Chichester & the Wittering was discussed. KC raised the possibility of using the Monday Club mini-bus from Bosham. GB agreed the Wittering minibus could be used but informed the group the decision had been taken by the Parish Council to sell the minibus at the end of July. It was agreed to raise the publicity of the walks in the Witterings. MW will change the newsletter insert to focus on the first walk. It will also be publicized in the School newsletter. People would be invited to attend Evening Prayer without having taken part in the walk. The possibility of stopping at Chichester Cathedral/Fishbourne Church/Bosham Church was discussed. **(LF to make contact with the churches)** KC presented information regarding the Itchenor Ferry to the group.

## **5. Report from Liturgy Group**

- SL reported the review of Lent/Holy Week had generally been satisfactory. It was suggested that groups rather than individuals led The Stations of the Cross and therefore possibly generate more support.
- The involvement of the School was discussed. Fr K informed the group that servers would now be invited to start from Year 4.
- Becky, Hazel and Ruth from the music group had offered to go in to the School to animate singers and musicians.
- It was noted that volunteers for the Easter Masses had only been sort from St Richard's. In future this would be extended to Bosham and St Peter's.

## **6. Bereavement Mass**

- Fr A reported that it had been a great success with 40/50 people attending. Many had stayed for refreshments. People liked the music and the names of the deceased being read out.
- Fr A was keen to organise another possibly January time as this was a difficult time for the bereaved. The venue would alternate between the three churches.
- It was agreed the newsletter insert was good and worthwhile. Fr A invited suggestions for publicising the event.

## **7. Healing Mass**

- There is a clash with the FHC Preparation Mass at Bosham. Fr K felt it too late to change but could still include the children in the mass e.g. welcoming and reading.
- The possibility of one being held at St Peter's was discussed. It was agreed that a Friday would be best and either 11<sup>th</sup> June (Feast of Sacred Heart) or 29<sup>th</sup> June (St Peter & St Paul).

## **8. Parish Meeting**

- Fr K proposed a workshop/evening in the School Hall. This would include an introduction/welcome by Fr K but then each organisation or Group to be represented by a member/s and display/information. Refreshments would be available and people encouraged to find out more about the Parish.
- Fr A suggested the same day as the Parish Mass but the group felt this to be too much on the one day and not enough notice to prepare sufficiently.
- MW queried the provision of a "question and answer" opportunity. Fr K would like the Forum, the new initiative by Brian Pointer, to be platform for any questions. A date for this would be set following the presentation evening.
- It would be publicised in both the Parish and the School Newsletter coordinated by the secretaries to both.

## 9. Confirmation Programme

- MW queried if the current programme met the needs of the young people as the feedback she had received suggested that it was not.
- Fr K said that the programme had been revised 2/3 years ago and was now Youth CaFE discussion based. He had recruited two younger members to team. The feedback from the residential weekend had been positive and although it might have its short comings our course was more rigorous than other parishes.
- MW felt there were too many meetings and too simplistic for those who were secure in their faith and attended Mass regularly. Fr K did not want to reproduce a class environment and it was difficult to pitch it at a level that would be suitable for all.
- This year the invite to all those in Year 10 had not been sent and it was felt as a result the group was more committed as they attended church regularly.
- MW: it was generally felt that the current leadership of the group was not good. Fr K asked for suggestions on possible Catechists to invite on to the programme as. It may be something that the Youth Worker could take forward.
- KC queried the provision for those who had missed out on Confirmation. FR K informed the group that Marie O'Grady was leading a short course for adults that had missed Confirmation but had received a Catholic education and attended Mass.

## 10. AOB

- **Day of Recollection**  
Usually held at St Peter's, one Saturday in October.  
**LF to liaise with GB & Fr A.**
- **Year of Priests**  
Fr K agreed that Fr A could organise a Day of Prayer on behalf of Priests to mark the Year of Priests. Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June was suggested as a possible date.
- **Bosham Extension**  
Keith McNally had received a quote for £16K for the timber frame. Fr K confirmed there would be a shortfall in funding and work would not start until the funds had been raised. There was also the issue of general maintenance to the Church but funds for this would not have to be met through fundraising. Fr K highlighted concerns regarding the Choir and Altar Servers. The Barn Dance is 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2010.

➤ **Funerals**

MW asked that if a funeral was scheduled for the same day as The Event could the time be slightly earlier so as not to impact on those arriving for The Event as parking was an issue. Fr K agreed to this if necessary.

MW also asked for the sign for Funerals be put out to discourage parking as this has not been done recently.

**Post meeting:** Moving the mass to 12 noon may cause a problem with Nursery traffic. A complete change to 10am or 11am might be better.

➤ **Rosary**

MW requested the Rosary be prayed after 10am Mass on a Saturday during May. She would prepare something for the newsletter.

➤ **May Procession**

There would be a May Procession on 7<sup>th</sup> May at the School to which parishioners would be invited. This would be publicised in the newsletter.

➤ **Websites**

KC asked if there could be a section of the newsletter dedicated to relevant websites e.g. Westminster Declaration 2010 and the Popes visit.

**LF to contact John Frost re links on website.**

**Date of next meeting – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at St Peter's,  
East Wittering.**