

English Martyrs Liturgy Meeting – Tuesday 16 October 5.30pm

Attendees - Father Michael Dennehy, Angela Wills, Martin Wills, Anne Hogg, Joe Wise, Linda Heneghan, Andy Clayton, Catherine Bond, Phil Gouge, Peter MacDonald, Susannah Knight, Charlie MacArthur and Catherine Bond.

Apologies – Gerard Rocks and Sr Vivian.

Run through of previous minutes:

- Parish Film Proposal – Finance Committee has not yet met. CB to circulate to Finance Committee in the meantime for comments / approval.
- Divine Renovation Initiative – Welcoming Community - Martin confirmed that the Welcomers have met, they have agreed they need to take on some additional duties and will run a workshop for Welcomers in December. The key actions are:
 - Make sure the person coming for the first time is welcomed
 - STEP group will produce info leaflets that will be available to hand out (and shelves for leaflets are also being put in)
 - Welcomers to generally be around after Mass as well as beforehand.
 - Barbara will now let the Welcome coordinator know if something special is happening at Mass (e.g. Baptism / FHC)
- 6.30pm and 5pm Masses; it's hard to find replacements for reading, ministering when people are missing. Anne to ask the respective coordinators and Father Michael to look out for potential new Readers and Extraordinary ministers.

Action: FR M and AH
- Carol Service meeting – Sr Vivian, Chris Ferreira from BHF school, Ona and Angela met to discuss the possibility of a joint Parish /School Carol; Service this year. Unfortunately, English Martyrs school were not able to send a representative and would find it difficult to fit in their schedule this year. Since BHF prefer a weeknight and those who prepared the service last year prefer a Friday evening, the school will do the service on a Tuesday (19th December?) and the Parish event on Friday 14 December (so there will be two). BHF may look to plan something for the parish at Eastertide or Pentecost ; they will explore the possibility of planning ahead to work with EM school next Christmas.

Action: ?? and Chris Ferreira
- Advent wreath – At each mass, one family will be invited to lead a reflection based on the Advent wreath. One member to introduce the theme, another to light the candle(s), and one to lead the prayer. It was suggested that the “ Advent Wreath family” join the procession halfway down the church , read the prayers,

then carry the lighted candle(s) down to place on the new, circular wooden Advent wreath on the sanctuary. This would increase the family focus. Booklets containing the prayers could be made available for parishioners to use for their Advent prayer at home. Susannah and Father Michael have spoken with someone about having the wooden circular wreath made.

Action: All to invite possible families 16 needed. Wreath: SK, FR M

- Suggestions for developing more family friendly, child-focussed Masses –
 - Aim to have one “family friendly” Mass per week: each mass would have one “family friendly” Mass per month.
 - Children could read (but they do need to be well prepared and good readers)
 - They could be gathered as a `carpet Mass`.
 - Find a way for the children to share with the congregation what they have been thinking about in their separate liturgy.
 - Worksheets for every week – CB to arrange, MW to ensure Welcomers know to hand them out to children as they arrive.
 - Choir – look at music. Ask what the children are singing at school
 - Ask the children what they would like to see at Mass
 - We need a group of people to come together to discuss and plan how to implement – Father Michael to set meeting date and time
 - A small group of parishioners is preparing some “welcome bags” containing soft toys / books to offer to smaller children at the start of each Mass
- Screens – Martin mentioned the screens should have hymn words on from this Sunday.
- Memorial for centenary of ending WWI – Linda suggested the possibility of a Mass to remember the people from the Parish that had served in the war. Father Michael confirmed there’s some planning underway; a silhouette has been ordered. The plan is to celebrate this at the weekend Mass on 11th November.
- Focus for Advent – to discuss. Refugees; Cafod has an appeal to support a refugee child, as well as £4,500 for setting up a medical centre. Linda to ask Cafod if we can get the name of the centre we would be providing the funds for to make it more tangible.** Action for all – bring a couple of ideas to the next meeting. Potentially ask the parishioners to vote.

Next meeting: 5.30 pm Tuesday 13 November

*** Linda has been informed that CAFOD are not able to arrange for a direct connection between the parish and a specific place needing a medical centre.*