

**St. Peter's Parish Pastoral Team Meeting.**  
**Tuesday July 17<sup>th</sup> 2018. Started in church at 7pm with Exposition**  
**of the Blessed Sacrament.**

**MINUTES.**

1. **Present.** Fr Peter, Anne Rogowski, Margaret Drury, Margaret Horan, Tony Cordes, Jim Burns (chair), Rachel McKay (minutes), David Small, Anne-Marie Bailey, James Walker, Terry Thiele, Tony Shaw.
2. **Apologies;** - Alison McGarr, Helen Lyons, Sophie Hourihan.
3. Minutes of last meeting already accepted.
4. **Divine Renovation – where to next?**

This was the focus of the meeting in the light of Fr Peter's homily on the feast of the Birth of St John the Baptist about looking at how we address the issue that we are losing and not gaining people as a parish. Fr Peter asked if there had been any reaction to his words.

David had picked up feedback from a few people.

A) Need to re-invigorate the schools – children, parents and teachers. Families less involved in parish. More non-Catholic teachers.

B) One of the welcomers suggested reserving a few rows at the back of Mass for the Baptismal group parents as he felt that they often ended up without seats in the porch with prams etc. Discussion followed around how best to put new families at their ease. This idea has already been passed on to Karen Haines.

Idea of having a crèche area (probably in the parish centre as limited space at the back of church) that remained a sacred space where the Mass could be relayed to – might be easier for parents with young children.

Further discussion around how we hang on to families post sacramental programmes. Families come with a desire for 'something' – getting the idea across that there is more to this than the programme. 'Special friends' idea was discussed. This happens between year 6 /reception children – could we link new families up with a parish family, 'parish God-parents'?

Further ideas; - group for mums, better links with the Little Fishes group.

C) Many youngsters involved in sports teams that play out their fixtures on a Sunday morning.

D) Discussion around what happens within Divine Renovation model. The focus is on belonging. Put energies into creating the best Sunday experience for people and young peoples groups that children can belong to. They have stopped the 'age specific programme model' which had stopped bearing fruit and took away much of the parish energy. Put their energy instead into creating youth/children's groups that young people can be belong to and receive the sacraments when they feel ready on their journey (At whatever age). Less numbers involved but bears more fruit – fewer confirmed but involved and committed post the sacrament and often available to be involved in journeying then with the younger ones coming through behind them. Model of drawing people into a web of relationships where they feel they belong. Alpha/Connect groups for parents.

**Action;** - All - Further prayer and thought over the summer. Discussion will continue.

## 5) **Shine**

The copy deadline will be Sunday 12th August. A note is in the newsletter asking for articles. James will ask the Lourdes group for articles. Magazine will be delivered to the parish on Friday 7th September for distribution that weekend.

Action; - All; - encourage people to write articles.

6) A.O.B A) **Programme of talks**. Building on the good response to the recent talks held in the parish centre, Anne-Marie and Tony Cordes have put together a programme of talks over 6 months starting in September. There dates will be advertised in Shine. The first talk is by Mary Hardiman on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

B) Anne mentioned the 'Stockport Community Fund.' Grants are currently available for community-based projects if anyone has any ideas?

C) James noted that the fire escape door off the meeting room is in need of urgent attention. **Action;** - James will inform Helen Lyons about this.

The meeting closed with the Parish Prayer.

**Next PPT Meeting;** Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Meeting starts in church at 7.00 pm with Exposition.

**Chair;** - Jim.

**Minutes-** Rachel