

St. Peter's Parish Pastoral Team Meeting
Monday 8th January 2024

MINUTES

Present Fr Peter, Alison McGarr (chair), Anne-Marie Bailey, Rachel McKay (minutes) Clare Allen, David Small.

Apologies Terry Thiele, Anne Rogowski.

Minutes of last meeting already accepted.

- 1.** Synod document. Fr Peter shared the document with the PPT so that people could see where things are up to.
https://www.synod.va/content/dam/synod/news/2023-12-12_towards-2024/ENG_Document_TOWARDS-OCTOBER-2024_XVI_II-Session.pdf
Further information should come from the diocese soon.

Anne-Marie shared a link from Bishop John Wilson. Slightly easier to read.
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/11/Synod-Reflections-Abp-John-Wilson.pdf>

- 2. Raising Awareness of Autism and Disability.** Open Day planned for **Saturday 27th January 2024, 2pm – 4 pm**. Chance for people with additional needs to come and explore church, feel more at home; raise disability awareness in the parish; opportunity to listen to people's thoughts and ideas to aid participation in liturgies and the community. To be publicised in the schools; Stockport council; open to all denominations. Fr Pat attending. People from the St Peter's group have been invited to join a diocesan focus group to look at some of the ideas from the St Peter's group which could be taken forward in other parishes. Maura Beesley is the contact in the newsletter for the St Peter's group. Clare has kindly been working on an accessibility document for the church. Clare would like to meet to clarify a few measurements/loop system etc. Fr Peter suggested including the handrails on the sanctuary /screens.
Action: Rachel will arrange to meet with Maura and Clare to look at the document.
David will check which areas of church, including the porch are covered by the loop system.

- 3. Celebration of Marriage and Family Life - February 3rd, 2024**, at 2pm. This has now been advertised in the newsletter. Dave and Fran are providing the music. Fr Peter asked David to provide some notes so that Fr Peter can promote the day at Sunday Masses this weekend. David will then get people to speak at the Masses the following weekend – Fr Tony Myers will be covering that weekend. Careful attention has been taken with the wording to be as inclusive as possible. The Parish centre is available until 5.30 that day.
Action: - David to pass notes to Fr Peter for this weekend/ people to speak the following weekend?

4. David Wells Parish Day on Saturday March 2nd. No further contact from David yet.

Action: - **Rachel** will email David Wells to get details for publicity/planning purposes.

5. Parish Centenary Flower Festival –This will now take place over the weekend of 29th of June 2024 (Fri/Sat/Sun)

Discussion re. a centenary plaque or mosaic. Positioning of this needs further thought. St Alban's had a centenary plaque made for their 200th Anniversary. This was made by Whitby's Memorials in Hurdsfield and cost around £400. A mosaic would be more of a community project enabling participation of the Parish. Clare Allen will check out costings with a company in Stockport.

Action: Clare will check out costings of a Mosaic. (2-4ft)

6. Parish Events List. Anne-Marie now has a meeting planned regarding the website. Idea is for the Parish Events list to be updated monthly and then added to the website. Talks on Old Testament/Jerusalem/St Peter's Helpers and other items need to be added. Idea was to keep the list updated by emailing the parish group leaders each month. The best way to do this would be to have a separate email address for the PPT. Anne-Marie has the most up to date list of events.

Action: - **Anne-Marie** will email the events list to Rachel who will update.

David; - will speak to Peter Welch about an additional email address (PPT @St peters...)

7. What else can we pick up from the Parish Synod notes? Further thoughts on more targeted outreach and welcome to those on the margins. Doing quite well as a welcoming parish, but also clear from Synod responses that some feel excluded or fear that they might be excluded from the community. These responses came particularly from people who are divorced and remarried/ others who were co-habiting/ and people in the LGBTQIA + community. Synod is about listening. How do we become more of a listening community? Listening to people's thoughts/needs/feelings and bringing people together. Allow things to grow from the people. This has been successful with the Bereavement group; Autism/Disability group. Similar conversations happening with those who have experienced divorce. Engage with the needs as people express them.

The meeting finished with the parish prayer.

Date for next meeting: **Monday 5th February 2024** starting at 7 PM with Adoration in church followed by Meeting (probably in the Members' Lounge as date might clash with RCIA.)