

**St Teresa's Parish Pastoral Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**Present: Paul Carter; (Chair); Clemence Kudiabor; Margaret Malone; Father John Mulligan; Margaret O'Donovan; Fred Mendonca; Adri Wells; Mary Mandryk; Mary Cadd; Liz Continho; Rob Mobile; Denis Yorke; Justin Datchler; Con Diver; Brendan Gilbert Jean Dolan; Lorraine Pinto (Minutes)**

**1. Apologies for absence: Teresa Goldband;**

<p><b>2. Opening Prayer</b></p> <p><b>Minutes of previous meeting</b></p>	<p>Justin Datchler led the opening prayer</p> <p>In the minutes of the previous meeting dated 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017, the name of the school business manager under section 9 (school report) was misspelt. The name should be corrected to "Mr. Tadhg Fahy."</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
<p><b>3. Matters arising from previous meeting</b></p>	<p>Justin Datchler agreed to present the result of OFSTED report at the next meeting</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
<p><b>4. Pastoral &amp; General Parish Life</b></p> <p><b>a) Holy week feedback</b></p> <p><b>b) First holy communion</b></p>	<p>The holy week services went well. It was raised that blessing of the fire could not be watched by all. Paul Carter suggested displaying on screens for the next time. There was good attendance for the vigil which was celebrated by 3 priests and 2 deacons. In particular the moment when the candles were lit and the church was in darkness had a good effect. The 11am service was joyful.</p> <p>The support and hard work by Chris George was especially acknowledged. Chris ensured that the IT problems were sorted by attending to the matter on Wednesday. He regularly ensures that the readings are ready for the services each week. The lack of a back-up plan for Chris was noted. Fred Mendonca added that although the readings may not be available in Chris' absence, the hymns would still be available. Fred suggested asking for volunteers to operate the system. Training would be provided.</p> <p>Fred also suggested that back up arrangements should be made for music and singing. At the moment, there is reliance on a single organist. It was suggested that training could be offered to youngsters and this should be mentioned in the newsletter. Adri Wells agreed to check if Mary would be willing to undertake the training.</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p> <p><b>Action</b></p>

<p><b>c) First Holy Communion</b></p>	<p>Points for consideration for future services were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Put up a notice to request the congregation to avoid talking during the service</li> <li>- Justin suggested it would be a good idea for children to do the welcoming.</li> <li>- Paul suggested that more ushers are needed for the holy week services.</li> </ul> <p>The first holy communion will be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May and 20<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon and on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May and 21<sup>st</sup> May at 2pm. Margaret Malone raised that every year the arrangements for musicians are forgotten and asked if Adri and Fred could help with the services in May. Rob Mobile added that he would speak to Rex who agreed to do the music for one of the days.</p>	
<p><b>d) Confirmation</b></p>	<p>Paul mentioned that special ministers will be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>This week marked the 4<sup>th</sup> session of confirmation including a retreat. The group has taken well to the programme. Rob Mobile added that it was felt there is no formation provided to youngsters between the time of receiving first holy communion and confirmation. As a result the youngsters are embarrassed to discuss their faith at the time of confirmation. To address this matter a pre-programme will be considered, such as youth alpha which was done at Wimbledon. It was also considered that the level for confirmation should be moved to year 10, when kids are more mature to understand the essence of confirmation. The confirmation service will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> June, when 39 youth will be confirmed.</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p>
<p><b>e) RCIA</b></p>	<p>The RCIA members participated in washing of the feet held at the Maundy Thursday service. 8 adults were received into the church at the Easter Vigil.</p>	
<p><b>f) Prayer groups</b></p>	<p>The prayer groups continue to be on going as usual.</p>	
<p><b>g) Baptism</b></p>	<p>4 babies were baptised last week. The 2 deacons prepared the families for the baptism. This week there will be a further 6 baptisms. It was noted that it was helpful to have the deacons, who will be around until June this year.</p> <p>Justin raised that this year there were fewer applications for places in the school nursery, which has been oversubscribed in previous years. This could be attributed</p>	

<p><b>h) meeting at Roehampton</b></p> <p><b>h) Pastoral programmes</b></p> <p><b>i) 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations</b></p>	<p>to the impact of Brexit and it is important that the parish is aware of the vulnerable families in the community.</p> <p>In addition funding will fail to be available if not enough applications are received for school places. Fred suggested that it could be beneficial to do a statistics on the number of European families that could loose residence status. This will provide information on the potential impact to school applications.</p> <p>It was agreed that the meeting at Roehampton was educational and it provided a better understanding of our purpose and how one fits into the church. There were reflections on whether we consider the views of the church in parish council discussions. The talks focussed on the pillars of the parish and were attended by 77 people from across the deanery.</p> <p>Paul agreed to email a copy of the leaflet provided at this session to the parish council members.</p> <p>Paul circulated the Merton Deanery formation programme and suggested that the PC members book a place. Fr. John advised it would be good to attend the talk by Fr. Nicholas King. Paul asked members to raise if they faced any issues with transport.</p> <p>The 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Theresa's parish will be celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 to coincide with the parish feast day. Justin agreed to arrange for the booking of the Hall. Fr. John recommended that the 9 am mass be cancelled and parishioners should be invited to the 11 am mass. All agreed to the recommendation. The announcement will be made at masses in advance which will allow parishioners to make arrangements, if needed.</p> <p>In terms of the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Justin will arrange for 80 children from the school to be involved in forming a chain that would link each year of parish life.</li> <li>▪ All musicians will be asked to come together to form the choir.</li> <li>▪ The thanksgiving mass will be held at 11am which will be followed by lunch in the school hall.</li> <li>▪ Mary was asked to extend an invitation to the sisters from wales.</li> <li>▪ Fr. John suggested that a sub-committee of 3 -4 persons should be formed to discuss the logistics on catering. Suggestions were: the community to bring in food, provide sandwiches and soups in commensurate</li> </ul>	
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	<p>with the times 80 years ago, put up a list in the church for parishioners to update food items that they can contribute, adopt a contemporary team that captures the community of today.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ On 11<sup>th</sup> June 2017 the Wandle walk will be held. Rob/Paul and Bella will put together a plan for the day.</li> </ul> <p>Justin will arrange a joint event with the school. This will be a summer fair which will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2017. As 15<sup>th</sup> July is the actual anniversary date, Paul recommended that the summer fair should bring in the anniversary theme.</p> <p>Parishioners will be invited to volunteer for the above programmes.</p>	
<b>5. Parish Finance Report</b>	<p>The finance report was presented by Adri. It was noted that the contributions through gift aid were down this year and the surplus is forecast at £21k which is a drop from the previous year's surplus of £28k.</p> <p>The accounts were audited and no issues were found. New gift aid envelopes will be issued. Mary will appeal to the parishioners to consider standing order.</p>	
<b>6. CHEC report</b>	<p>The CHEC committee will work alongside the school in raising funds at the summer fair on 16<sup>th</sup> July. In addition the committee intend to raise funds through raffles at the time of the international evening in November. Father John confirmed that he would pass on details of potential applicants for further bids.</p> <p>It was noted that there were no issues since completion of the toilet block, other than an issue with the power supply. Con agreed to investigate this matter. Work will be undertaken to complete the pathway to the toilet block.</p>	
<b>7. Youth Report</b>	<p>Rob presented on the report for the youth community project. The membership currently stands at 110 young people. During Lent the club focussed on the 40-Day Lent Challenge where members were encouraged to do something for someone else each day.</p> <p>MySpace continues to be a success. A special reflection was held during Easter in which parents were invited to take part in the adoration.</p> <p>16 young volunteers help out in the junior club programme of Connect+, which is a new service and aimed at developing young leaders and discipleship. The group is</p>	

	<p>currently training on level 2 Award in working with young people.</p> <p>In terms of funding, £2,500 was raised towards the Youth Community Project. This was due to the effort of the young people who presented on the work of Susan Macurdy. Rob said he would write to supporters to thank them for their contribution and to enquire if anyone is interested in setting up a standing order. Further, 3 fund raising events have been planned.</p>	
<b>8. School update</b>	<p>Justin confirmed that the OFSTED visit was held for the school. It was a 1 day visit. The inspectors were happy with the outcome and the school continues to maintain its grading. The school has 5 new teachers this year. Following the OFSTED inspection, Justin asked for the Diocese to hold their inspection. This was held the week after Easter and an outstanding grade was received. Justin acknowledged the extensive work provided by the parish and the governance body.</p> <p>The OFSTED inspection was light touch and the one done by the diocese was more extensive.</p> <p>The allotment areas at the school (known as 'graves') will be offered to families who could maintain and tend to each allotment.</p> <p>As part of the faith formation programme the children's group will do a trip to Tunisia.</p> <p>On a personal note, Justin announced that he will be welcomed into the Catholic church on 11<sup>th</sup> June which is Trinity Sunday.</p>	
<b>7. A.O.B.</b>	<p>Justin raised that due to the hatching painted on the road, people have started to park against the field which has been raised as a risk by parents of the school children. It was suggested that a 'no parking' sign should be put up on the fence.</p>	
<b>8. Next Meetings</b>	<p>20<sup>th</sup> June (Chair Clemence)  13<sup>th</sup> Sept (Chair Magaret)  25<sup>th</sup> Oct (Chair Paul)  29<sup>th</sup> Nov (chair (Clemence)</p> <p>The meetings will be held at 7.30pm.</p>	
<b>9. Closing Prayer</b>	<p>Paul led the closing reflection.</p>	