

THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH THINK TANK MEETING

18 TH FEBRUARY 2023

Attendees: Fr Philip, David Staiano, Fiona Mackenzie, Christine Thomas, Jo Turner, Theresa Joseph, Isaac Amieghan, Caroline Smith, Pat Faulconbridge, Polly Jarvis, Adriano Staiano and Reg Carter (Chair)

1. Opening Prayer

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Reg

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th November 2022

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and accepted as an accurate record. There were no matters arising.

3. Feedback re rescheduled Mass times

Comments received by Think Tank members were mainly that there is not enough time between the 9.45 Mass at the Good Shepherd and the 11.15 mass at St Anthony's Calverton to allow time for Fr Philipp to speak to parishioners after mass and to travel to Calverton. Other than this, the new Mass times have been accepted positively and attendance numbers are good. It is working well at St Anthony's and no negative comments have been received.

It was noted that our notice boards are out of date and in need of changing but that it would be wise to wait in case of potential future changes and certainty of the stability of any new mass times.

4. Liturgical Calendar

Fr Philipp gave a brief explanation regarding the feasts and liturgical colours on the calendar. Green for Ordinary Time and normal Sundays; Red for the Holy Spirit and martyrs; white for Celebrations of the Lord i.e., Christmas and Easter; purple for Penetential seasons i.e., Lent; Sundays and Ferias of Advent, Liturgies on Holy Saturday (except for the Easter Vigil); Sacrament of Reconciliation; Sacrament of the Sick.; Rose for Gaudete Sunday (3rd Sunday of Advent) and Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday in Lent).

Solemnities are feasts of the highest rank E.g., Easter, Pentecost, Most Holy Trinity, Immaculate Conception, Christ the King. Feast Days are of second importance and are celebrated on a particular day. Memorials are next in order of importance and are either obligatory or optional. They commemorate a saint or saints. If obligatory they have to be observed and these are usually saints of universal significance E.g. St

John Bosco is obligatory but St Blasé is optional. The annual Ordo issued by the Bishops lays everything out.

It was agreed that the Liturgical Calendar should be a Think Tank agenda item in order to facilitate planning two months in advance. **Caroline** will send a blank calendar to all Ministry Leaders for them to include what they would like to have entered on the calendar. **Reg** to provide Caroline with the relevant list of email addresses for ministry leads.

David requested that the calendar be uploaded onto the website and reviewed and updated at certain times of the year, as and when required. Caroline suggested highlighting our parish events in yellow so that they stand out.

Other suggestions were that an A3 size calendar be available in the Narthex as well as A4 double sided copies to be made available for those parishioners who do not have access to the internet. Reg agreed to ask the office to undertake this task. It was also suggested that the Liturgical Calendar be a rolling item in the newsletter to remind parishioners about upcoming feasts.

It was agreed that the Liturgical Calendar will be a great focal point for the Think Tank and Caroline was thanked for her work.

5. Evangelisation

Fr Philipp asked the Think Tank for ideas regarding the process of Evangelisation. Adriano shared information on leaflets which are almost completed and which will be delivered to people outside of the parish. These are currently being shared within the NG5 and NG3 areas. It may be possible to approach the Confirmation group to ask if they would take part in a leaflet drop.

Isaac suggested producing an A5 leaflet to advertise the varied activities happening within the Parish for outreach purposes i.e., warm space and soup luncheon available each Friday. Leaflets could be handed out at the Soup Luncheon which would highlight other events. **Isaac** agreed to work on the leaflet ready for the next Think Tank meeting.

It was identified that the Friendship Group being run by Polly and Pat, currently reaches 40-50% of non-parishioners who bring their friends and neighbours to the group, another thread to our parish work on Evangelisation.

Polly is organising a Coronation Party with details to follow.

Volunteers are needed to collect housebound members of the parish to enable them to take part in the Friendship Group and Friday Luncheons.

6. AOB

- It was proposed that Safeguarding be an agenda item for every Think Tank meeting.
- Pat has been approached by at least one parishioner re the installation of a Defibrillator. This may be sourced free of charge but needs further investigation.

7. Closing prayer

Reg led the group in a prayer to close the meeting.