



Diocese of Nottingham: Good Shepherd Parish Think Tank
Minutes of the Think Tank meeting held 11th May 2024 from 10.00 – 11.30 am
Venue: Joseph Hall, Parish Centre

Attendees: Isaac Amieghemen, Julian Caesar, Theresa Joseph, Ann Lynch, Michelle Swann, Christine Thomas, Moira Hodgkinson, Laura Bator, Helen White, Sarah Williamson, Caroline Smith, Adriano Staiano, Reg Carter (Chair) and Fiona Mackenzie

Apologies: Philip Martin, David Staiano, Nicky Gudgeon, Ron Lynch, Sarah Sweeny.

Opening Prayer

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Reg.

Reg asked that we keep David in our prayers during his university exams.

Introduction: Welcome extended to Laura Bator, Assistant Head at CTK school.

Notes/follow up of the previous meeting held on 23rd March 2024

1. Defibrillator has been set up and is now working; positive comments have been received from the community. Rebecca O' Connor will be advertising training (see newsletter for further information)
2. Choir lead- still looking to fill this vacancy
3. "Big Sing" organised by Rachel Boyce-Steele to include all schools; date still to be agreed
4. Short of volunteers for the Jubilee Committee
5. Carlton Male Choir- discussed admission fee; it was decided that the event to be held on 27th September would be advertised as free entry but donations would be gratefully received
6. £8 million to be raised over a 5 year period for the Bishop's "Enabling Mission" initiative. This covers three broad areas :- Communications – Youth – Priesthood (vocations).

Calendar

1. Jubilee Mass led by the Bishop (22nd June)- invites sent to Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, Priests, Mayor, nephews of Fr Moony, Vicky McClure and many others. There will be an after-Mass celebration. Email to follow to Think Tank members for their attendance/help at this event.
2. Flower festival - Helen and Michelle did a superb job, the flowers on display looked fabulous, sponsors from all of the schools, Friends of The Cathedral, St Anthony's Church added to the many arrangements made by our flower team and sponsored by parishioners on display. The donations received covered the cost of

the flowers and left a small profit. Over 125 people attended the afternoon tea and we were delighted to welcome a good number of our neighbours who responded to our personal invites. Also lovely live music by Alison (flute and piano) and Paul (guitar).

Parish social media & communications policy/calendar

To ensure that all events/celebrations are captured, please make the calendar your first port of call.

Parish Ministries

1. Reg preparing a presentation as an introduction to catechesis in the hope of recruiting a team of catechists. An important issue is that for children their primary catechists are their parents and they need to nurture their children's faith after baptism, Holy Communion through to Confirmation. With this in mind it was noted that on 8th June 2024, First Holy Communion, there will be a captive audience who are still engaged, so it may be a good opportunity to remind parents of that at this point, and parents for next year as well. Serina Dougal and Katie Kitchen leading on this.

2. Confirmation sponsors are not always family, it would be good to encourage our parishioners to get involved. This is a 2 step process as safeguarding checks will need to be undertaken if the church is offering sponsors, if friends or family of the candidates then it is not a safeguarding issue.

Safeguarding Sunday

Introduced by Julian. A letter from Bishop Patrick for Safeguarding Sunday on 5th May was read by Julian at all Masses at Good Shepherd. Christine read at St Anthony's. Feedback mainly positive. Honesty by the Bishop and raised how safeguarding is everyone's business.

An update to the Safeguarding Recruitment Policy, Practice & Guidance is available on the Diocese website, as well as the Parish Safeguarding Handbook. Audit by the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency is still in progress. Parish representatives were sent surveys as part of the audit and to date 53 surveys have been returned.

Mission Priorities

Bishop sent 3 mission priorities for think tank members to complete and return to Fr Philipp – ***Please return by Wednesday 15/05/2024***

Friends of Jesus of Nazareth Community

Introduced by Isaac. Informing the community so that we are all working together to support and encourage children to progress in line with our Mission priorities, and to help to follow this through to adulthood.

Issac is the lead for this at the Good Shepherd Church; when feedback has been received, Issac will arrange a meeting to inform all members and consider formulating a team for this work.

Reading rota

CTK school and St Margaret Clitherow school asked if they could be put on the rota to read at the 09.45 am Sunday Mass.

Caroline shared:

1. The Worldwide Children's Eucharistic holy hour-Feast of Our Lady of Fatima is on 13/05/2024 starting at 6pm.
2. Sunday, 13th October – Fatima event at Good Shepherd- the World Apostolate of Fatima will again bring the statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and relics of Saints Francesco and Jacinta, the little shepherd children.
3. It is hoped that young people will be more involved in the Fatima event and to that end Caroline is to prepare a pack of resources for Sarah to use with the children's liturgy group in the run up to the event. There is also a song which they can learn. Rachel Boyce-Steele and the parish folk group will be providing the music at the Mass.
4. As 13th October is also the anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun, it is hoped to involve the children in some art work in the run up sessions to the Mass, with the results to be displayed in the church/narthex. Consideration will also be given to having some "Sun" related snacks and drinks for the children after the Mass.

The Pastoral Team –

1. Feedback from the team to be a permanent item on the think tank agenda. Adriano shared the success of prayer cards that have been taken to several different areas for letter drop. Adriano is re-vamping this, any volunteers please? Caroline happy to help.
2. Adriano to include our young parishioners i.e. Confirmation candidates, who are already involved in offertory and helping in the church.
3. Adriano also shared that Altar servers are at an all time high, they have progressed really well and getting very independent in setting up the altar ready for Mass. Caroline suggested that a trip to the Mary Potter Heritage centre might be of interest to them.
3. Adriano to include St Anthony's going forward in the really successful "treat night" that took place in February. Adriano and David organised pizza and games and included discussion around religious theme. Confident that this type of event will help with retention. Adriano trying to encourage attendance at different Masses.

Good Shepherd School

Summer fayre a request for help with this was made to the think tank, GSS to come back to let us know the nature of the help so that volunteers can be approached.

Message from Fr Philip – Fr Philipp keen to get volunteers to share their story, Fr believes that parishioners would be very interested to hear from different ministries on any Sunday that isn't already planned.

AOB

Next meeting is 13 July 2024