



## **Good Shepherd Parish Think Tank Meeting-28<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Attendees: Isaac Amieghemen, Julian Caesar, Reg Carter (Chair), Nicky Gudgeon, Moira Hodgkinson, Theresa Joseph, Ann Lynch, Fiona Mackenzie., Caroline Smith and David Staiano.

### **1. Opening Prayer**

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Reg.

### **2. Notes/follow up of the previous meeting held on 13th July 2024**

The notes from the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

Ron to get in touch with Ian Wells (in due course-owing to personal circumstances) regarding the proposed talk on the history of Catholic churches in Nottingham.

Communication calendar (confidential item) - new website to be introduced; it will be necessary to work on all data supplied being accurate.

ALPHA for years 16+ is now ready; invite cards will be available to invite a colleague/friend in order to look at faith and spirituality.

Murder Mystery event - This has not moved forward; email for help with this was passed onto Francesca and Adrian.

Reminder that St Anthony's are holding their Christmas Fair on Saturday 23rd November; as this is when the next Think Tank meeting is being held, members from St Anthony's have given their apologies for this meeting.

### **3. Strategic review of the parish**

Fr Philip has requested that a sub-committee of the parish think tank be established in order to identify current good practices and develop a strategy for the future in terms of need in our work with evangelisation, catechesis, relationship/involvement with schools based on the demographics of all areas within the parish boundaries of the Good Shepherd and St Anthony's. It would be possible to co-opt other people with relevant experience to assist with this. The aim is that a report is produced by the 25th January 2025 in order that a plan/programme can then be shared with our congregations on the first Sunday of Lent, 9th March 2025.

Attendance at today's meeting was low and nobody today came forward to commit to being a member of the sub-committee (it was felt the task was a large one and the timescale too tight). However, there was a willingness to help with specific tasks identified by such a committee. All members agreed to ask anyone they know with the relevant knowledge/skills to help with the review.

It was agreed that The Good Shepherd and St Anthony's need to look at the demographics relating to both parishes as they reach far wider than Arnold and Woodthorpe. St Anthony's for example cover a lot of surrounding villages, and The Good Shepherd covers East Nottingham e.g Sherwood, Mapperley Park and Nottingham City.

#### **4. Good Shepherd Church Diamond Jubilee- Progress Report**

It was reported that the performance in church by the Carlton Male Voice Choir went very well, although advertising this earlier could have been more beneficial. The parish quiz night, held on the Friday before, also went very well but seems a lot going on too close together, not allowing all parishioners the opportunity to plan effectively.

The performance in church on November 22nd by the Cantamus girl's choir was felt to offer a fundraising opportunity but probably on a 50/50 basis with the choir.

#### **5. Parish social media & communications policy/calendar**

In Sarah's absence an update was not provided. The policy/calendar will be reviewed at the think tank's next meeting.

#### **6. Parish pastoral team -feedback**

Reg reported that deliberations of the team had concentrated on the issues discussed under item 3 above. It was concentrating on building on the momentum of this year to move further forward in our missionary discipleship during the Great Jubilee year of 2025

#### **7. Safeguarding**

Julian reported that the Nottingham Diocese safeguarding audit, undertaken by the national Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency, had now been published on the diocesan website. On the whole positive feedback was received. Volunteer online DBS training has not, as yet, been undertaken by many of our volunteers on the parish register. (SVP members, apparently, do not need to complete this training unless they have an additional role within the parish). Christine reminded us that 10th December is the deadline for completion of the training.

The parish safeguarding representatives' network day is to be held annually.

#### **8. Any Other Business**

The 9.45am Mass on 13th October is Fatima Sunday; the procession will be led by the children. Caroline asked for help from stewards please.

#### **9. Date of the next meeting (Saturday 23rd November 2024)**

#### **10. Closing Prayer**

Julian led the group in the closing prayer.