

**The Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, Canterbury.
Minutes of Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Monday 13th January 2020**

Venue: The Presbytery, St Thomas of Canterbury RC Church

Time: 6.00pm

Present: Canon Anthony (AJC), Rob Meredith (Chair; RM), Louise Beesley(LB), Lisa D'Agostini, (LD), Saju Jose (SJ), Josephine Lewis (JL), Helen Nattrass (HN), Catherine Spratley (CS).

Apologies: Mary Francis (MF); Isy Mead (IM)

1.0 RM welcomed those present.

2.0 Minutes of Meeting of 30th Sept 2019 were accepted.

3.0 Matters arising:

3.1 PPC members - new and retiring.

Saju Jose was welcomed as a new member. He came to the UK in 2001 and has 4 children. He works in the Office for National Statistics. He is doing a Masters in Theology and is a eucharistic minister. Other members introduced themselves to him. Christine Robinson has resigned from the committee. People expressed their appreciation for the work she has done for the PPC, particularly in relation to the communications team and the Youth Ministry. A card was circulated and signed. LB will write to her on behalf of the committee. **ACTION LB**

John Renn has expressed an interest in joining the PPC and will be available from March.

We still have one further place.

We discussed the need to pace the change of PPC members so that there is not a sudden exodus of those appointed in 2018. Members can remain up to two terms.

3.2 Diaconate:

One parishioner is applying to become a deacon.

3.3 New parishioners evening:

- a. New date proposed: Saturday 7th March 7.00pm at the Presbytery. All PPC invited to attend. LB & RM will cater. To be in newsletter & on the web.

LB will compose letter for Linda to send.

ACTION All

3.4 Alpha Course:

AJC & CS to meet in 3 weeks to consider further.

We need 3-4 co-ordinators to help run this. Focus on youth.

Terry & Monica Spratley have offered their home as a possible venue - they could manage 10-12 people.

A retreat at the end was suggested, possibly in Whitstable.

ACTION RM,CS & AJC

3.5 Becket 2020

A small group is meeting together about Becket 2020. This includes JL, CS, RM & AJC. It does not therefore need to be duplicated here, but minutes from that committee could come to this group. Main event is weekend of 4th-5th July.

3.6 Development of Shrine & Oscar Romero Evening - see report.

St Thomas has been designated as an official Catholic Shrine of St Thomas of Canterbury. JL & HN outlined how they are developing this.

The talk by Julian Filowski about Oscar Romero will be on 14th March at the Cathedral Lodge. Tickets will be organised through the website. HN will liaise with CS about this.

Archbishop John Wilson will come after the Martyrs Chapel is completed.
The Logo for the Shrine was circulated. Candles with this will be organised.
£1000 has been donated specifically to encourage the Shrine as a place of prayer.
The question was raised as to whether this is a National or Diocesan Shrine - as it has been designated by the Archbishop, it is a Diocesan shrine.
We need to utilise the Becket 2020 celebrations to make the Shrine known.

3.7 **Website:**

Up and running now. Feedback welcome.

Need to consider what events go on the website, each takes about 30 minutes to set up. Events from outside the parish can be put on as a PDF

3.8 **Developing Parish Youth Ministry** - defer until next meeting.

4.0 Feedback from Finance Committee, Social Committee & Liturgy Committee

4.1 **Finance Committee:**

- Have 3 quotes for Narthex from which one will be chosen.
- Just heard that lift should be closed for health & safety. £4000 cost for repair.
- Have received advice from the Diocese on increasing giving.
- There are new kneelers for the Church.
- The floor in the sacristy and sanctuary need repairing
- Diocese have developed a new accounting system through which they take money from the account.
- The Episcopal Vicar for Kent, John O'Toole, will be coming to live in the presbytery.

4.2 **Social Committee:**

The Christmas fair was successful. A post Christmas gift auction is being arranged

4.3 **Liturgy Committee:**

Need to promote the Liturgy of the Word.

5.0 **AOB:**

LB suggested that Adult Formation should become a repeating item on the agenda.
Chris Chapman will be providing talks on Praying Scripture, and Tom Herbst on Lenten gospels.

6.0 Dates of Future Meetings.

AGM	Sunday 15th March 2020	12.15	Hall
PPC Meeting	Monday 30th March 2020	6.00pm	Presbytery