

Notes of St Joseph & the English Martyrs Parish Pastoral Council
Wednesday, 28th June 2023 at 7.30pm at WCC

Present: Fr Peter, Fr Antonio, Martin Dillon, Alison Jones, Tim Mills, Bertie Napier, Marie Rhodes, John Tomkinson

Tim Mills and John Tomkinson welcomed as new members of the PPC

Church / Finance Update

Fr Peter advised that while numbers continued to recover post Covid collections were still down. Change within the parish reflects new families moving in but leaving for numerous reasons. Diocese keen to have a planned giving campaign in Autumn with focus on new arrivals with an opportunity for others to amend/reduce existing arrangements. Diocese anxious parishes should build reserves.

MHR - SBW quotes being obtained for paintwork. Some issues with condensation (largely due to blower heaters with no vents in windows) but no smell of damp. SBW covers outgoings with no contribution to central services.

HC - MH Quinquennial survey flagged north aisle roof will need repair and architect to draw up plans. SJ&EM Parish has a liability for 40% of capital repair costs but anticipated Friends of St Andrews will cover costs of this work.

SJ – BS – Fr Antonio appointed as Parish Priest at St Teresa of the Child Jesus in Harrow and being replaced by Fr Marco Lazzaron (ordained on 24.6.23 at Westminster Cathedral). Relevant events to mark Fr Antonio's farewell to be organised in due course. SJBS engaging new parishioners with strong sacramental preparation programmes ie 74 FHC and 30 confirmation candidates. Good Catholic educational provision also key - St Joseph's now 2 FE (was 1.5FE)

WCC

Fr Peter had met Church Wardens of St Michaels on various issues including an ongoing leak in their area and an issue with the roof gully for which quotes had been obtained. These had been considered alongside that from the Diocesan surveyor. It had been agreed to proceed using the option proposed by the Diocese.

The failure in the glass results from an unknown issue with an ingredient used in the glass manufacture resulting in no insurance claim being payable. Catholic Mutual working with the Diocese on an alternative claim strategy. It will also be a requirement that all new glass windows be filmed to reduce any risk. Plan to film when new glass fitted.

Audio system completely replaced and upgraded – great improvement according to History Society who are regular hirers.

Huge H&S requirements in terms of monitoring facilities including emergency lighting etc which are currently thoroughly and competently by undertaken Joe Black to whom thanks are due for his ongoing involvement.

GDPR – legitimate interest

Discussion took place on restrictions imposed by GDPR legislation on providing contact information to rota volunteers to aid finding replacements. Fr Antonio noted very few rota volunteers had responded and agreed to share their contact details when invited to do so and none had been shared to date. The matter will be explored further via A the Diocesan Data Protection Officer.

Volunteer response/post-Covid parish reset/CTBS

Fr Peter had reported the encouraging volunteer numbers to the deanery at a time when many churches in the deanery and CTBS were struggling to find volunteers post-Covid

A guidance sheet for readers had been prepared by AJ and provided to FrP who suggested a group to consider issues relating to readers/rotas, (comprising Bertie Napier, Tim Mills and John Tomkinson with AJ to minute).