

## Parish Gathering – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### Chaired by Fr Nicholas and Nigel Anstead – Notes by Sue Anstead - 25 parishioners present

#### Mgr Sean's presentation

A highly successful gathering. A thank you from Mgr Sean is in this weekend's newsletter.

#### Social Committee

- a) Monthly Drop In Centre started again with more people coming in. Next Drop In is Thursday 2nd December.
- b) Golden Friendship Club has started again. Every Thursday 2 till 4. Christmas lunch Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.
- c) Afternoon Vintage Tea. Last Friday each month (Except December) starts again on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November.
- d) Christmas Draw Raffle Tickets. Now available. We need to sell 5,000. Everyone please help.
- e) Christmas Fayre. Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December from 1 till 3. Draw takes place at 3pm.
- f) Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal. 15 shoeboxes. Thank you all who donated. Last collecting day is 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov

#### Guest Speaker. Helen from St Michael and All Angels Church

Invited the parish to join the community Carol Singing event on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Meet at St Michael and All Angels church, Barford Avenue, at 7pm. Walk around the area ending at the Bull for supper. Supper is £4.50 pp. All welcome. Details on the St Michael Facebook page.

First Holy Communion – BK reported 54 enrolled for 2022, divided into 2 groups. Thanks to Hilary Wrack for helping with the teaching. 8.45 mass each Sunday conducted by Fr N in hall for FHC children and their families followed by classes at 10am. This eased the pressure on 10.30 mass. FHC children attend class once a fortnight. First Holy Communion masses booked for May 22<sup>nd</sup>. May 29<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Minibus – NA reported positive use since the minibus became available in July. 10 trips booked up to December.

Pope Francis – Synodal Church – Sr Dympna and Liz Duggan briefed us. The Pope has asked every church in the world to consider our Synodal Church i.e. travelling the road together focusing on Communion, Participation and Mission. Encouraging quiet to let the Holy Spirit guide us for any size group from couples to large gatherings. Encouraging any established church group to set aside time in the meeting for quiet reflection and to listen to others and their ideas. It was suggested a stone was put out and anyone wishing to speak picked up the stone and was given complete silence while they said their piece. Nobody speaks unless they are holding the stone and can then challenge or discuss what is said. All groups of any age and ability should be included. Meetings could be online, face to face, zoom etc. Sr D handed out forms asking for input.

#### Welcome Pack

A review was discussed last time. The pack is on the parish website and all are invited to comment on it. No comments received so far.

Gardens – Martin Kay was again thanked for his tireless work, especially with the hedges. Any voluntary help always welcome at any time to suit you. eg Trish has been pruning the roses.

Financial Report - current report available at the back of church

#### Altar Servers

Trish has checked with all returning servers and needs to buy 1 cassock. Unused items going into storage

#### Curtain Behind Altar

Trish asked for help to change the curtain on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm. NA and Kevin Q offered to help.

#### Diocesan Risk Assessment

NA went through the risk assessment as required by our diocese every 3 months. A copy can be viewed on request.

#### Volunteering and Vaccination

Liz Duggan brought up an email setting out suggested vaccination requirements for all volunteers – C/F to next month

The meeting closed with a prayer and blessing from Fr Nicholas.

Next meeting – Sun 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021 @ 11.45am.