

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Parish Liturgy Committee Christ the King Parish, Thursday June 1st 2023 at 7pm in P D Room.

Fr Dariusz led us in the Opening Prayer.

Present : Fr Dariusz, Nigel Anstead (chair and minutes) , Liz Duggan, Trisha Baxter, Jon Foster, Teresa Williams, Sr Dympna, Teresa Lovell.

Apologies for Absence: Celia Robb, Rosemarie Langley.

Opening Remarks: Fr Dariusz was asked to clarify the question about Sunday mass start time. This will remain at 11am until Fr Richard arrives. Fr R is expected on 20th August. Fr D also confirmed that on receiving the offertory gifts he would respond with a simple bow.

Matters Arising: Nigel ran through the last minutes as a guide for initial discussion.

1. Teresa W again asked if Childrens' Liturgy would re start. As summer holidays are almost upon us it was left for Fr Richard to decide when he arrives.
2. 2 new readers have joined the Sat eve team.
3. The carrying of the Gospel Book by the reader of the day has ceased.
4. It was felt that recent events went reasonably well. Palm Sunday, Easter Triduum and Pentecost. Fr R's guidance on these important days welcome.
5. Upcoming events FHC and Confirmation. Details of dates and names of recipients will be given at monthly meeting on Sun 4th June.
6. Future Feast Days: Corpus Christi, Feast of The Assumption.
7. A late request for a collection for Easter flowers went well.

Other Items:

1. Bidding Prayers: This should be added to the agenda. Nigel said he wrote these for Saturday 6pm and Sunday 11am but cribbed much from files handed over by Barbara Kay. However, BPs were regularly updated according to local, national and world events. Nigel emphasised that any reader of BPs has the opportunity to use their discretion and add/amend/delete BPs as they see fit. When Fr R arrives he may have something to say about that. But for the moment Nigel will continue to write them.
2. Stewarding at Communion at 11am Sunday Mass: Stewarding has carried on since the Covid era. It has positive and negative points. It was decided this should carry on for now until Fr R arrives and seek his opinion.
3. Music at Midweek Masses especially Holy Days: Sr Dympna asked about playing hymns and other music at mass other than Saturdays and Sundays. Jon F offered to teach Sr D and Teresa L how to use the gizmo and explained that any hymn can be played over the speaker system. This took place after 6pm mass on Saturday 3rd June.
4. Church Cleaning: Again discussed. I have deferred this as more fruitful discussion was had at the monthly meeting on Sunday 4th June. Please see those minutes.
5. Confessions: A regular slot of 11am til noon every Friday by Fr D was welcomed.
6. Church Security: Not particularly a Liturgy question but an important point. Occasionally, the outside door by the church toilet has been left open overnight. This had happened before and Nigel wrote a guidance sheet on locking up and this is posted by the light switches in the Sacristy. No decision was reached on who could/should be responsible but please could midweek mass goers please be aware of locking ALL doors.
7. Bedford Pastoral Area Council Afternoon of Prayer and Reflection at Christ The King on Saturday 1st July: Liz D drew attention to this important event. This is being led by 2 amazing priests from The Congregation of The Sacred Hearts. ALL WELCOME.
8. Eating in Church: Fr D's view was that NO food should be brought into church. Sometimes, it appears that small picnics are brought to "keep children quiet". There was some sympathy for parents trying to keep childrens' attention and keep them quiet during mass. You can't search people for food as they come into church. It was agreed that parents should be asked to tidy up after their children and not leave crumbs, packaging etc. Note to go in newsletter and notices and past on to Latin Mass goers.
9. Books of guidelines for Baptisms, anointing of the sick etc: were taken by Fr Nicholas to his new ministry at Milton Keynes prison. Jon has ordered a number of these publications and has started handing them to Fr D as they arrive.
10. Fr Dariusz 30th Jubilee: Some discussion on this. Very little time for us to arrange anything special as Fr D is so new to us. It was felt money could not be taken from church funds. It was agreed to ask Teri Lopez to make a cake. (It now transpires that Teri is away) Sue A is now organising a cake and suitable decoration. Jon has arranged a framed certificate to give to Fr D after Sunday mass. Nigel will arrange a fruit basket (Fr D is diabetic) Teresa W will arrange flowers.
11. Future Liturgy Committee Meetings: None planned. Await arrival of Fr R