

## SS ALBAN AND STEPHEN RC CHURCH

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

#### Report from the meeting on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2018

- **Fr Sandy:** Prayers were said for Fr Sandy whose funeral will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> April at 10am, with reception into church at 7pm on 4<sup>th</sup> April.
  
- **Strategy Groups:**
  - **Liturgy:** The services for Holy Week and Easter have been agreed. After Easter, there will be a review of Mass times now that we have only 2 priests in the parish.
  - **Mission:** A 'mini-mission' based on the Spirituality of the Sacred Heart is being organised by Sara. This will include a weekend for the Lay members of the Chevalier family in June, and a weekend for the whole parish in Autumn. A prayer booklet is being collated by Ian and will be available at the back of church. Upcoming AFF events are listed below. The level of interest in running an Alpha course in the parish will be established.
  - **Parish Friends:** A coffee morning with music is planned for St Patrick's Day. A film show (Murder on the Orient Express) is planned for Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> April, and a strawberries and cream tea party is scheduled for Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June. It is also hoped to have a summer outing.
  - **Justice, Peace & the Integrity of Creation:** The soup and film evening in aid of CaFOD held after on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> February was very successful and raised £400. St Albans Sustainability Week will be marked with a bread making session in the parish hall on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April.
  - **Youth:** The Children's Reconciliation services have taken place. Scheduling these in Spring rather than December has worked well.
  
- **Support for Funeral Preparation:** People who may be interested to help families prepare for funeral services will be invited to contact the presbytery.

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- **Upcoming events:**
  - **Stations of the Cross:** held on Saturday mornings at 9.30am in Lent beginning on 17<sup>th</sup> February.
  - **Let it Be:** CaFE course on Our Blessed Lady will run on 5 Thursdays at 11am-12noon starting 22<sup>nd</sup> February and will be repeated on the same Thursday evenings at 8-9pm. The 2<sup>nd</sup> session, 'The First Disciple,' which some people missed due to bad weather, will be repeated on 19<sup>th</sup> April.
  - **Finding Silence Retreat:** at Worth Abbey is on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April.
  - **A Biblical Journey Through the Mass:** by Brian Purfield, will begin on Tuesday evenings from 1<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May
- **Social Committee:** A meeting has been arranged for 21<sup>st</sup> March for volunteers to help organise future parish social events.
- **Health and Safety:** A recent inspection has highlighted a number of items that require attention are being followed up. Safety film has been fixed to the glass panels in the porch. Warning signage has been updated around the church and parish centre. Superfluous chairs have been removed from the organ gallery.
- **Fire Practice:** The practice evacuation delayed from March due to bad weather will be held at all Masses during a weekend after Easter.
- **Global Data Protection Regulations:** These come into force in May 2018. The implications for the parish are being investigated with the Diocese.
- **Next PPC meeting:** Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> April