

Minutes for Open Meeting at St Clement's November 3rd 2024 After 10.30 am Mass

Agenda Item	Comments	Actions
Prayer	Led by ALS	
Review of Parish community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging comments made re changes that have happened in the Parish since ALS joined us in July. Sermons are more engaging, open church and A-Z of Catholicism, daily Mass and the Rosary. Social committee make a huge contribution to the community arranging monthly events. However, there is very little for the youth of the parish. Everything stops for the youth after Confirmation. Pizza evening with training for Altar servers already arranged. Could something similar be arranged for the Youth, discussions plus pizza. Could a neighbouring youth group be encouraged to come to St Clément's show the youth what it could be like. ALS currently building relations with the uniformed groups and they will be present at the Remembrance Mass. Discussion concerning screens and whether they were viable. Consensus was that they took up a lot of time to set up and were expensive. ALS suggested our Facebook group was an electronic notice board, however a Parish Instagram account is needed and a Parish What's app group was also suggested. Comments made re audio system in Church but this would be expensive to replace and ALS suggested that we continue with this system for now and encourage readers to enunciate more clearly when reading. Rod Artis agreed to move aerial which should improve the system. Suggestion made to investigate youth group with the diocese what do other parishes do? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ask teenagers directly or through other contacts eg parents, what events they would like. investigate other parish youth groups Rod Artis to move the sound system aerial Christmas wreath making event to be organised (Anne Marie) Invite lapsed parishioners to return

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could the youth develop a fundraising project for Lent for example? • Several suggestions for pilgrimages were mentioned. Walsingham, Aylesford, Canterbury, Church of Blessed Carlo Acutis, Philip Howard's cell in Tower of London, Retreats. It was suggested that maybe we should start off in a small way and move onto bigger pilgrimages. • We need to improve name recognition of the church, footfall and then people will come. • Could the Sunday sermons be clipped and put on social media on a regular basis? • Table top sales and craft fairs will encourage non parishioners to find the Church. • Invite people that we know who have stopped going to Mass since COVID to come back. • Consensus is there is a big chasm between the school and the church. A monthly / termly Mass for school children and they come in their school uniform 	
Review of Liturgy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we improve the music and singing. Suggestions included seeing how other parishes arrange music and singing. Invite other external groups to help. Find out in the parish who has musical talents. • If the school etc come to Mass we do need to be hospitable and open to change 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage parishioners including the youth to join the choir/play an instrument 2. Allow the youth to lead one Mass a month 3. Christmas singalong and meeting to discuss known hymns 4. Invite St Clement's school children to sing in the choir, and discuss a termly Mass, however Ofsted is looming.
Review of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the past, people have been chosen for groups and this has left others feeling 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial reports to be put in

organisation	<p>excluded. ALS confirmed this is an open and transparent parish and volunteers are welcome as long as their intentions are good.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter is a great improvement especially alongside the Facebook group which has nearly 300 members. • We could have reports from Parish groups in the newsletter 	<p>the newsletter</p> <p>2. Quarterly meetings after 10.30 Mass in school term time</p>
Bishop's Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Clement's has only been involved since September when the clergy met and there is no news to share. There is a core group meeting on the 12 November at St Andrew's school with other deanery core groups. • There is and A and B volunteer forum zoom meeting on 9 11 24 which AP has said he will attend. • ALS suggested that probably in the future there will be floater priests but hopefully there will be a priest in this parish for the foreseeable future. Finance groups will probably join but this can cause issues. • Confirmation and Baptism preparation groups may join in 1 or 2 centres rather than in each parish as at present. • ALS feels the moderated parish will be a slow organic process . 	
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding training will be held in the Tivey room at 11 am on 6 11 24 • How much money is available in the parish account? • ALS said finances were stable but the £100 k in the account is considered to be a reserve ie a year's income. Presbytery now refurbished. There are building and repair projects that are ongoing. • ALS is happy to use funds for liturgical and social events. • Request for a PA system for the next meeting as it was difficult for some people to hear all the discussions. • There is difficulty in obtaining missals for the new Lectionary at present. Hopefully the missals will be available at the Christmas Fair. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We need to discuss safeguarding at each meeting. 2. Discuss finances at next meeting 3. Robin Hannan to provide the PA system 4. Arrange next quarterly meeting after Sunday 10.30 Mass
Closing prayer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led by ALS 	