



## SSPP LINCOLN - PPC MEETING 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

### Parochial Administrator's Report

I will strive to keep this as succinct and to the point as I can! I have divided the report into several headings, however, there will more than likely be some overlap.

- **Pastoral/Catechetical:**

- **Sick & Housebound.** Since the last meeting I have commenced making visits, at request, to the sick and housebound of the Parish. I have asked Linda Heaver to provide me with an up-to-date list of the Sick and Housebound of the Parish. I have written to 25 Nursing/Care/Residential Homes within the boundaries of the Parish to introduce myself and asking if they are able to let me know of any Catholic residents who have not been visited by a priest or eucharistic minister to enquire whether they would like a visit or not.
- **HMP Morton.** Since the time of Msgr. McGovern, Fr John O'Donnell has been the Catholic Chaplain. Fr John has asked me to take on this role which I, the Dean and VG have agreed to. I commence security clearance on 29<sup>th</sup> September.
- **Baptism.** My thanks to Kathryn and James Clarkson for facilitating the Baptism course for the Parish; we have had one course in recent months a further course is planned for 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
- **Confirmation.** My thanks to Steph and Aggie for fixing a date with Bishop's House for the Sacrament of Confirmation to be celebrated on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 12 noon, by Bishop Patrick.
- **First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion.** My thanks to Fran Cook of St Hugh's School, Stan Davis of the Parish, and their respective teams for the preparation of the children and celebration of those respective Sacraments, also for assisting those children whose reception of FHC was postponed from last year due to the pandemic. It was agreed that in future the celebration of FHC would be spread over two Saturdays. It was felt two smaller groups was of benefit for all concerned, not least the children.
- **Footsteps.** My thanks to Mary Moore and helpers for preparing to re-start Footsteps – it is planned to recommence on the First Sunday of October.
- **RCIA.** My thanks to Eleanor Neale and Sue Mitchell for agreeing to continue to run the RCIA programme for the Parish. Potentially we have three candidates to be prepared for Baptism/FHC/Confirmation.
- **Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.** My thanks to Linda Heaver for continuing to co-ordinate our Ministers and to all Ministers who have recommenced their regular visits to the sick and housebound. Whilst the reception of the Precious Blood continues to be suspended, I will give consideration for Ministers to assist in the distribution of Communion at weekend Masses. During my vacation a Service of Word and Holy Communion each Wednesday morning at 9.30am

- **Spiritual**

- My thanks to Aggie and members of the Parish Prayer Group for their continued prayers for the Parish and wider community.
- My thanks to the members of the Response Group for their continued activity within the Parish.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation continues to be made available on Saturday mornings and evening in the Lady Chapel.

- From the First Friday of October there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11.00am to 11.50am and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 11.00am to 11.45am, followed by Mass at 12 noon.
- At the suggestion of Patricia Davis, and in response to the situation in Afghanistan, prior to the 7.00pm Mass on 17<sup>th</sup> August there was 30 minutes of silent prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. I have asked Linda Heaver to ask the Eucharistic Ministers as to whether they would be willing to form a rota so that this could happen on a more regular basis.
- Sometime during the Autumn, I would like to make an area of the church available for private prayer/visits throughout the day. Currently I am of the mind that this could be achieved by leaving the Lady Chapel open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays – times to be determined. The Chapel would be emptied of any moveable objects and the link doors between the main body of the Church and Chapel would be secured. Sanitisers would be available as well as sign in sheets.
- **Liturgical**
  - My thanks to Daniel, Stuart, Malcolm, Mavis, Stan, and the respective choirs/music groups who have continued their service to the Liturgical Life of the Parish throughout the Pandemic. I am sure you are pleased we are now able to sing at Mass, though a little muted because of the facemasks!
  - My thanks to Steph for re-grouping the young people who serve for Mass – I think you will agree it will be great to see them back again!
  - My thanks to all the readers of the Parish and to Chris Scanlon who co-ordinates them.
  - My thanks to Aggie who co-ordinated the young people throughout the lockdowns to record the Prayers of the Faithful for our weekend Masses.
  - My thanks to Steph for sourcing and producing the Prayers of the Faithful each week.
  - From the first Sunday of October and on each first Sunday of the month at the 9.00am Mass we will have the Asperges (Sprinkling of Water) instead of the Penitential Rite.
- **Mission and Outreach**
  - Currently it is the intention of the Bishops of England and Wales to restore the Sunday and Holyday Obligation from the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent. With that in mind I had a conversation with Michael Borman (Parishioner) regarding the potential of a mail drop throughout the Parish to all residences, advertising we are here, open and what we have to offer. I am awaiting Michael's response. I have discussed this with Fr Eddy and there is potential for this to be a city-wide project.
  - Four quite large boxes of redundant items from the Sacristy have been sent to the Diocese of Harare via the Crowns of Thorns organisation; potential a fifth will be despatched this week.
  - We continue to collect for the Food Bank, and I am aware there has been a very good response to appeal for the Apostleship of the Sea.
  - My thanks to Graham and Judy McKirdy for the work they do on our behalf for the Red Mission Boxes.
- **Schools**
  - My thanks to staff and students at both schools
    - I celebrated an end of academic year Mass at St Hugh's School; also, First Reconciliation for the children who had been prepared through the School.
    - SSPP: the Parish has donated a full set of vestments and frontals for the School Chapel.
    - At the time of writing SSPP School Assemblies will recommence at the start of the Academic Year in the Church.
    - I have informed the Acting Headteacher and School Chaplain that I am willing to celebrate School Masses and Liturgies – awaiting a response.

- **Parish Activities +**
  - **Stewards.** A vote of thanks to all our Stewards for what they have done these past 18 months. I am aware that those who attend Mass appreciate their welcoming presence. We are need of a few more Stewards as one has had to drop out and another will be leaving the City during the Autumn. In particular Stewards are needed for the 6.00pm Saturday Mass, 7.00pm Tuesday Mass and the proposed 12.00 noon Friday Mass.
  - **Parish Centre**
    - Sunday Teas and Coffees will recommence during September as will Wednesday morning Teas and Coffees
    - Provided we get volunteers light refreshments will be provided after the 12.00 noon Mass on Fridays.
    - Bookings for the Parish Centre are being taken from September onwards.
    - The church cleaning firm are now cleaning the Parish Centre on a weekly basis, and I have asked Tom Hynes to resume his duties, which has agreed to. I am meeting with the cleaning firm, tomorrow evening, (2<sup>nd</sup> September) to walk through what they have to do.
- My thanks to Alan and Christine for their work in the Repository.
- My thanks to those who arrange the Flowers for the Church – this is appreciated and highlights the Liturgical Year.
- CAFOD/Live Simply Group. My thanks for their work and activities and for raising our awareness of those who are less fortunate than ourselves and of the responsibility we all have for the Earth and our environment.
- My thanks on your behalf to Pauline Allnutt who has decided to step down as Parish Co-ordinator for Faith Families after many years. I will write to her on your behalf. My thanks to Tina McCarthy who has agreed to take up this position.
- **Of a more Practical Nature**
  - External CCTV to be installed during September
  - New Signboards will be erected during September and hopefully illuminated
  - A major test of all electrics around all four properties has been undertaken and PAT of all electrical equipment will be undertaken towards the end of September.
  - A new photocopier will be installed at 2a early October which should obviate recent problems.
  - PA System is now up and running. Simon Greenhough of Keystone will be at the 9.00am Mass on 5<sup>th</sup> September and would welcome feedback/comment.
  - Health & Safety. All assessments have been brought up to date and submitted to the Diocese. An appeal through the newsletter has been made for a parishioner with the necessary qualifications and experience.
  - My thanks to those who have assisted me in the Sacristy these past months – with linens and other areas. Especially to Ted Coatsworth who amongst many other things has proved himself to be an excellent creator of pigeonholes now erected in the back sacristy and for adept picture hanging in the sacristies and church!
  - My thanks to Alison Guz for her work with the website and WhatsApp Group.
  - A good proportion of items sent away for refurbishment should have been returned by the end of September.
  - An Aumbry, Display Cabinet and Candle Ledges are expected to be insitu by the end of the year.
  - An audit of keyholders for Parish properties is underway; to date 15 parishioners have come forward. If you have a key for any of the four properties, please let Tina know. I do not wish to go down the path of changing all the locks when there is no need to do so.
  - My thanks to Michael Borman and Ted Coatsworth for attending to all things 300 Club wise; I understand that at least 252 of the 300 numbers have now been allocated, only 48 to go!

- I have continued with Fr Eddy's initiative of shopping for housebound members of the local community and collecting and delivering prescriptions.
- Following a chat with Tina McCarthy, Tina is now working 3 days (9am – 5pm); I am sure this will prove to be of benefit to the Parish and I appreciate Tina's commitment.
- Finally, my thanks to you the members of the PPC and to those of the Finance Committee.

My thanks to all for the support that has been given to me since I was appointed in February. When I first arrived at SSPP October of last year I was not in the best of health or spirits. I am most grateful to Fr Eddy for allowing me time to recuperate and to ease myself back into active Ministry. I am very happy to be here. I have many fond memories of my previous times in Lincoln. When Bishop Malcolm was appointed as the Bishop of Nottingham, he was asked what his vision was. His response was I do not have visions, but I do have aims. I take the same view. I will work hard for this parish and its parishioners with an aim that it continues to be a vibrant Christian community whose Mission is to reveal the Gospel Message.

Canon Geoffrey  
2 September 2021/Revision 7