

ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY AND ENGLISH MARTYRS.
MINUTES OF JOINT PARISHES PASTORAL MEETING 11/7/2022.

PRESENT; Fr Gerry (Parish Priest); Tony Sharpe (Vice chair, St Augustine`s; Simon Hall(Vice chair, English Martyrs); Nikki O`Neill (Secretary, English Martyrs); Jeni Gardener; Ufuoma Bakpa, Liz Tomkins; Veronica Hollingsbee(Secretary, St Augustine`s).

APOLOGIES; Anne Kinghorn; Will Pearce, Karen Dinsmore.

Meeting chaired by Tony Sharpe, minutes taken by Veronica Hollingsbee.

1. **Opening prayer.** This took place in the Church, as per recommendation of Bishop Declan in a similar way to the Synodal Conversations. This consisted of a reading, short prayer, silent reflection, followed by a further reading.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** 9th May 2022 accepted as correct.
3. **Matters arising;**
 - 3.1.Website Darius has updated the Parishes` website, which is now much improved. Minutes of meetings, once approved, can be placed on notice boards, on the website, and copies in porches for parishioners to take. It was decided to display photos of committee members on noticeboards only.
 - 3.2. Karen was arranging to speak to Mandy Baker about participants and adult helpers regarding the proposed Youth Club. Karen not present, therefore action is ongoing.
ACTION; Karen to speak to Mandy Baker re participants and adult helpers.
 - 3.3.Will was arranging to speak to EM H+S representative to ascertain risk assessments for setting up of a Youth Group. Will not present, therefore action ongoing.
ACTION; Will to speak with EM H+S rep as regards risk assessments in setting up a Youth Group.
 - 3.4.Anne Kinghorn to ask St Augustine`s Visiting Group if they are willing to visit EM sick/ disabled parishioners. The Visiting Group are committed, and feel they cannot undertake additional visiting duties.
 - 3.5. JPPC membership. Fr Gerry has enquired if a Syro- Malabar member would like to attend this meeting, as they did prior to lockdown. Fr Gerry awaiting to hear from Fr Augustine. Things have changed now the Community have their own Priest.

4.Synod Report. “Listening with the Heart”. This was presented to those parishes’, schools and communities present at an evening liturgy at Clifton Cathedral. Fr Gerry attended with two lay people from English Martyrs`. The report has been emailed to those who have chosen to receive the newsletter in this way. It is also available as a pdf for reading or downloading at <https://cliftondiocese.com/synod>

The Bishop covered most of the areas in the report and provided a good summary of all the points raised. He also apologised to those feeling hurt due to various reasons. He emphasised a greater focus on prayer. There are certain points to look at which can be the basis for future discussion. We can also seek the views of younger parishioners. Nikki pointed out that it would be easy to overlook the targets already agreed for each parish. This report should be seen as a supplement.

ACTION; JPPC members to read report and email suggestions for discussion by August 25th to Fr Gerry.

5.Discussion on Synodal report topic-volunteering. This is ongoing and we need to continue to encourage new helpers. St Augustine`s “Helping Hands” leaflet is undergoing an update at present. This gives a brief synopsis of what each group undertakes, plus a point of contact. These were originally available in the Church porch, in addition to the welcomers` distributing copies to parishioners. The point was made that we don`t overload people with information. Liz suggested we could put photos and point of contact when functions are coming up-for example the fete, BHC programme, flowers near Christmas and Easter. It was felt the “Helping Hands” leaflet was sufficient.

ACTION; Fr Gerry to email the updated “Helping Hands” leaflet to Nikki.

6.Childrens Mass. How can we involve the children more? It was agreed that in principle that a monthly children`s Mass on the first Sunday of the month at the 9;00am Mass. Consideration of this idea was first raised at the Synodal Conversations at EM earlier in the year. The homily would be directed to the children, as would the music. Fr Gerry pointed out we can only use Children`s Eucharistic prayer when the majority of the congregation are children. Perhaps we could have a children`s Mass one Sunday at EM`s, and one at St Augustine`s another Sunday. We could link this with FHC Masses.

7. Newsletter. We have been trialling a different newsletter for a number of weeks, following a comment that additional space was needed for notices. The Sunday readings and responses, are on the front page. The cost works out at £5.20 a copy per annum. Some members felt it was fine, others said the picture helped focus on the Gospel. A further comment was made that we should listen to the readings; others found it helpful to be able to follow the readings. Some parishioners follow the readings on their phone. Tony reported the FHC parents liked the format. As there are a number of copies left at EM, Fr Gerry will reduce the number of copies from 150 to 120.

NEXT MEETING=THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH AT ENGLISH MARTYRS`.

Signed;

Fr Gerry, Parish Priest.
Augustine`s.

Date;

Signed;

Tony Sharpe, Vice chair St

Date;