

## St. Teresa's Pastoral Council – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017

### Present

Douglas Lamb (DL)	Sue Clarke (SC)
Fr. Martin, President, ex officio	Mark Hayes (MH), Chair, Finance ex officio
Janet Wallbank (JW)	Kathleen Gregor (KG)
Michael Potts (MP), Chair	Tony Ingoe (TI)

Apologies – Kelechi Dibie, Andrea Hayes, Norma Kennedy, Rayson Thomas, Vinny Turner  
With 7/12 lay members present, there was a quorum.

In attendance: John Byrne (Deputy Chair, Finance), Anne Grant (Sacristan)

Agenda item	Owner
1	The meeting began at 11.00 am
2	<b>Opening prayer</b>
3	<p><b>Clergy changes and implications for masses</b></p> <p>Fr Martin had originally called the extraordinary meeting at the Bishop's request to consult and inform the Council about the changes to the masses in the Partnership following his appointment to St John Vianney and the appointment of Fr Mariadass to St Teresa's.</p> <p>All Parishes in the Partnership had voted to retain their Sunday morning masses so that there would no longer be any Vigil Masses within the Partnership. The last in St Teresa's would be today, 25<sup>th</sup> November, and 16<sup>th</sup> December at St Aidan. A Vigil Mass would continue at St Dominic and St Charles and a Sunday evening mass at St Dominic and Holy Name.</p> <p>John Byrne asked what would happen if anyone who had not heard about the changes turned up for the Vigil Mass. Janet volunteered to be at the church at the normal time of the Vigil Mass on 3<sup>rd</sup> December to ensure they were made welcome.</p> <p>John asked whether a Eucharistic Service might continue in the place of the Vigil Mass. Fr Martin explained that Bishop Seamus had ruled that a Vigil Eucharistic Service could not substitute for the Sunday Mass and in any case the Bishop wished parishes to congregate around a single mass where possible. Tony explained that Vigil Masses were a relatively recent innovation (only 35 years ago!).</p>

**JW**

4	<p><b>Fr Martin's departure and Fr Mariadass' arrival</b></p> <p>Fr Martin would leave and Fr Mariadass arrive on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Anne Grant would be available to welcome Fr Mariadass and show him the ropes.</p> <p>Mike Potts would speak after masses on 25/26 November to express thanks to Fr Martin for his service to the Parish. There would be coffee after each mass and also after the 10.00 mass on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December to bid farewell. There will be a collection after mass on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017 together with a card available for signature that day.</p> <p>Mike would arrange for him and Mark to meet with Fr Mariadass soon after his arrival to introduce themselves.</p>	<p><b>AG</b></p> <p><b>MP</b></p> <p><b>MP</b></p>
5	<p><b>Role of the Pastoral Council</b></p> <p>Fr Martin emphasised the importance of the Pastoral Council in taking initiative and ensuring continuity when ministries within the Parish become vacant.</p> <p>He believed Fr Mariadass would welcome the continuation of the Pastoral Council in its present form, although technically it dissolves upon departure of the previous incumbent. He believed this would especially be the case because Fr Mariadass is part of a religious community (Discalced Carmelites) and would need to spend time with his two brethren – who have been appointed to other parishes – and also would be a hospital chaplain for the Freeman and RVI. Indeed Fr Martin believed that the need to cover the hospitals was the main reason for the speed of the changes.</p> <p>Fr Martin thought Fr Mariadass would be quite happy for the laity to continue taking responsibility and initiative and asked the Council to continue their support. Mike would also take advice from Fr Campion.</p> <p>Kath Gregor stated that the Council must take more responsibility for the Summer and Christmas Fairs as the burden on particular individuals was becoming excessive. Mike agreed this matter should go on the next agenda.</p>	<p><b>MP</b></p> <p><b>MP</b></p>
6	The meeting concluded at 11.25	