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| **Looking ahead - Some key forthcoming dates** |
| 30th June 10am: One Mass at Sacred Heart for the feast of the Sacred Heart  4th July, 7pm or 13th July 2pm - Defibrillator training at Sacred Heart  20th July: Justice & Peace Commission Annual Review at Sacred Heart: 9.30-4  27th July: Guild Retreat Day at St John Stone: 10-4  3rd Aug: Living Christ breakfast at St John Stone: 10-11.30  **SUMMER MASS TIMES**  During AugustSunday mass will only be available as follows:  **Saturdays at 5.30pm** in Sacred Heart (but not Sat 10thAugust due to painting)  **Sundays at 10.30am** in St John Stone  The usual mass times return in September: i.e. Saturday eve 31st August and 1st Sept  10th September: Deanery Priests Meeting 2pm at St Joseph's - Health and Safety  14th Sept: End of Life & Bereavement talk by Queenscourt’s Dr Karen Groves at SH 2pm  12/13th Oct: Irenaeus Come & See Conference at Christ the King School  15th October: Deanery Priests Meeting 2pm at St Joseph's - Safeguarding  20-22nd Nov: Scargill Ecumenical Retreat, Yorkshire  7th Nov: LACE Safeguarding support meeting at Sacred Heart: 7-9pm  8th Nov: Presentation of cheques to Parish Chosen Charities during Social at SJS  9th Nov: Archbishop Malcolm will talk\* at St Joseph’s Prayer Centre: 10-3  **\* Feedback requested about what you want to hear Archbishop Malcolm talk about outside this meeting. AP17** to [heartstoneparish@btconnect.com](mailto:heartstoneparish@btconnect.com) |
| The meeting closed in prayer at 9pm |

We now focus on Pentecost 2021, the time when the Archdiocese will

be implementing Synod decisions, and we in HeartStone will be implementing our revised Mission priorities

*Our Parish Vision Statement*

*Jesus Christ is uniting our community of HeartStone in its Vision and Mission*

*so that all might find a place of welcome, prayer and loving outreach*

*when in need*

***Record of HeartStone’s Parish Open Forum, 20th June 2019***

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| **Feedback since last Parish Forum (Nov 2018)** |
| **Vision Team Matters:** Anne Pickup, Vision Team Chair, makes a record of each Vision Team meeting available in the church porch for all to read.  **Question Time** had a very good attendance. Feedback was so very positive that it will happen again in the future. There was a report about this event, with photos, in the Catholic Pic.  **Complaints Process** was requested at the last Forum. The Vision Team put together an outline process. It isn’t a legal document; it is for everyone to feel safe, valued, with a voice. We may have conflicts but we want a prayerful way to restore good relations. The principles are transparency, dignity, equitability, respecting confidentiality, acknowledging it is a voluntary activity for all involved, there should be mutual accommodation and forbearance. This is separate from any existing Archdiocesan policy relating to clergy, employees, or safeguarding.  Please feed back from this text:  **Parish Complaints Procedure**  ***Purpose:*** *To enable prayerful and gentle restoration of good relations and, where possible, reconciliation in an informal manner. To live out being a loving, inclusive Christian community where every individual feels safe, is valued and has a voice. To encourage transparency, equity, the dignity of all parties, confidentiality, respect for the voluntary (rather than contractual) nature of relationships, mutual accommodation and forbearance.*  *To be distinct from any diocesan disciplinary policy with regard to clergy and also distinct from diocesan policy with regard to complaints by and about diocesan employees.*  *To be quite separate from issues relating to safeguarding.*  ***Personnel:*** *Any two members of the Vision Team will work together on any complaint (alternatively a parishioner with mediation experience should be sought)*  ***Time Scale:*** *Each complaint should receive an initial response as soon as possible and certainly within 2 weeks. The first meeting should take place as soon as is convenient, preferably within 2 weeks. The timing of the second meeting will depend on the nature of the complaint and whether it is necessary to carry out research or seek advice.*  ***Process:*** *The first meeting will be to listen carefully to the complaint, to feedback succinctly and calmly what has been said and to find out the outcomes the complainant seeks. Mediators should remain sufficiently detached while conveying respect. This is an information seeking meeting, not a discussion. If the complainant agrees, notes may be taken, but destroyed at the end of the process. The mediators will then meet in a similar way and listen to the person(s) about whom a complaint is raised, who has a right to know of and respond to the accusation. The second meeting will be to feed back to the complainant and to attempt resolution and reconciliation.*  ***Place:*** *The complainant should have the choice of venue. It could be at a place of their choosing, in the office at Sacred Heart, or in the Red Room at St John Stone.*  *Note: Anonymous complaints would not be considered if they are about a person, but if they are about a parish practice they will be discussed by the Vision Team.*  The question was asked whether there is mediation training available to Parish Vision Team – chair didn’t know at this time.  **From the Suggestion Boxes:**  *(We have yet to find a way to feed back to parishioners about suggestions, especially anonymous suggestions)*   * A very useful discussion helped Fr T change his mind about general “absolution” and he thanks parishioners * Fr T decided to keep the 3 minute gong before SJS Sunday Mass to enable preparative private prayer time. * Bank Holiday Monday Mass is now changed to 12 noon. |
| **Parish Priests Report** |
| **Additions**:   * Youth: we are trying to extend our Pastoral Associate’s contribution to the youth in CtK School, and have offered 5 hours of her time to work with the school Chaplaincy. * The Schools Trust evangelical music group comes to CtK on 8th July, and youth are invited to the Sonfest festival on 13th July in Southport. Anne Pickup is involved * Eleanor suggested that she does the admin for Yr 7’s Faith in Action (like Duke of Edinburgh award) * Would it be possible for the CtK music group to go to each Parish? * Do CtK have a Youth Club? Eleanor doesn’t think so, but there is “Impact Xtra” on Wednesday in Ainsdale. * Sexual morality guidance for youth was asked for, as very mixed messages via media, school lessons, government guidance about trans-gender. Response: Fr T acknowledged this concern, and as a Governor he will check out the sexual education policy and with the relevant teachers. * For T asked for volunteers to do more with young people, providing a welcome to young people: Gina Steed, Joe Benton volunteered; Gerard Lavin is open to learning more before committing to this. Fr T will outline specific needs for volunteers.   **Finance**:   * It was previously established that no item will be received on the Agenda if the proposer doesn’t attend the Forum * Gerard L asked for HeartStone’s current financial position, and projection for next 2 years * Fr T apologised that he failed to provide a statement of finances at beginning of Lent because of pressure of other matters. The bank balances, which are as follows, and accounts are available in full on request.  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Money in bank at 1st Jan ’18: SJS £123,491, SH £146,217 **TOTAL: £269,708** | | | Income: 1st Jan – 31st Dec 2018 | £92,698 | | Expenditure: 1st Jan – 31st Dec 2018 | £128,319 | | Money in bank at 1st Jan ‘19: SJS £121,762, SH £148,291 **TOTAL: £270,053** | |  * Accounts are complicated as we use SJS cheques to pay joint bills (e.g. supplies ordered in bulk to keep costs down). We do a “fair share” division * In the last section of the PPs report (plans for the future), Fr Tony is looking at having a Finance Committee so that finances can be more transparent. * Finances can be a question for the Synod. * Fr T has no projection for the next 2 years. Whilst income may go down in the future he feels there is enough money in the bank to remain financially healthy. * Fr T realises that we may have to upgrade our office technology. |
| **Pastoral Associate** |
| EL outlined her learnings in her first 6 months with the Parish. She said the Parish has been so welcoming and feels very blessed to be in a parish used to discerning together, and committed to collaborative teamwork.  Priorities for next 6 months are   * Adult formation in the parish. RCIA, Come & See, Sharing the Good News. Planning an event to attract new faithful. Is attending Alpha, attended Cursillo, shared scripture during Lent, collated responses to Listening Events for Synod. * Youth: wonderful links with CtK and Sefton Coach, Schools Workers Trust, working with Chaplaincy/staff/parents/families to strengthen home school parish partnership. * A surprising priority is education in Liturgy. EL has undergone Eucharistic Minister training.   Chair asked for feedback for her 6-month review that she must undergo. It was asked how we can develop the faith of existing parishioners. It is important to hear the opinions and feedback of parishioners, critical or supportive. Feedback can be put forward outside this meeting: to Fr T, to Parish Vision Team, to EL or email to [heartstoneparish@btconnect.com](mailto:heartstoneparish@btconnect.com)**.** Gerard L asked to minute that Eleanor has put in a very positive 6-month start. Pat E has heard questions on how EL will bring in new faithful. Those not in attendance at the Forum can continue to be give feedback. Fr T made clear that this is a **big** question for all nand we are all researching HOW to bring in new people. |
| **Sacred Heart** |
| Lesley Mc updated that the church will be painted in August, and asked for volunteers to unscrew pews so that they can be moved on Sunday 4th Aug; time to be decided.Anne P happy to help. Work starts Monday 5th Aug when the church will be closed for 2 weeks. Sacristy carpet will be cleaned. Colour scheme not yet finalised. Stations of Cross and Statues will be taken down on 1st/2nd Aug.  Masses in August are reduced again this year to: 5.30 Saturday evening at Sacred Heart, 10.30 Sunday morning at St John Stone.  Fr Tony thanked the SH Church Team very much during Mike Thornber’s stress. Special thanks to Anne Bradshaw as deputy leader of SH Church Team, for the installation of the new water heater, the defibrillator fundraising with marvellous community involvement. Volunteers in a parish are crucial to a church’s viability and sustainability. |
| **Faith Development** |
| 1. What next after the LCRs? 2. Feedback from Bill Huebsch visit? 3. Is there interest for a twice monthly prayer group? 4. Next retreat will be Lent 2020 due to so much happening with Synod. Feedback has in the main been extremely positive, and evaluation forms were used at the last LCR for the first time. We are looking for ways to improve, adapt or widen our delivery. Follow-up support activities are  * GIFT, which is currently once a month * Quarterly LC breakfast * On 27th June everyone is welcome to come to Fr Chris Thomas’s retreat starting at 10am after 9.30 mass. Bring a packed lunch. Do come.  1. Bill Huebsch was the architect of the LCR, he didn’t have suggestions for developing it further, but he talked about the Art of Accompaniment. There is a recording of his talk <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/index.php?p=1856> Fr T will look into how the talk on accompanying people links in to LCR. 2. On the question of a twice monthly GIFT meeting. Fr Tony would ask those who regularly come to the monthly GIFT prayer group, but suspects there is no appetite to increase frequency. The LCR team are thinking about ways for deepening faith, e.g. a regular retreat day. |
| **Synod Update** |
| A question was received that “in your PP report you refer to the decision of the Synod becomes Church Law. Surely any new law must come from Rome, and not from a particular Diocese/Archdiocese.”  JS clarified that this was an error, and should have said *those issues which are in the remit of the Archdiocese the Archbishop has committed to implement, and also committed to take to Rome any issues that are out of his remit.*  Fr T apologised for the inaccuracy. He should have said “policies of the Archdiocese”, not Church Law. Contradictory advice can become an obstacle to following the faith.  Whatever the Synod outcome, we will still have the issue of conflicting teachings of Canon law and local priests.  We are being invited by the Archbishop and Pope to engage in a new way of being Church. Listening to each other and the Holy Spirit, honestly and prayerfully.  This is more adult, and naturally uncovers disagreements (like in a modern marriage), but instead of sweeping them under the carpet, this can often lead to real change.  Those present reflected and fed back on the question: *“What topics you would like to see on the Synod 2020 Agenda?”* This will help us locally to hear what you really think, and so that we can be realistic.  **Feedback on topics for the Agenda of Synod 2020** |
| * Shortage of priests * Women priests * Women playing a bigger role (serving Mass) * Which rules are the Church going to be willing to flex to enable a completely inclusive Church (whether married, divorced, gay, male, female, trans) * Concerns for mental health, especially young * Communications – Diocesan, Deanery and Parish * Voting on Diocese financial priorities (eg extra allotment to refugees/youth work) * LGBT * Church and politics: should the church be a moral compass, commenting on national and local policies? * Does the church have effective internal monitoring systems on its use of power? * If internally our Church is not transparent about its use of authority, then whatever we say about what is right or wrong in the wider world is wrong. * Our role in politics: any Christian must be involved in the wider world * Evangelisation * A new RE curriculum in Catholic Schools – some don’t feel it is being taught (both primary and secondary) * How is the shortage of priests going to be approached * Bishops and all Clergy should be appraised.   The above input will be submitted to the Synod Coordinators. |