

Minutes of meeting of Pastoral Council for Parishes of Blessed Carlo Acutis (St Michael, SS Peter & Paul and St Bernadette). Held on 10 April, 2021 at 1500hrs (Zoom online)

1. Opening Prayers: PPC meeting started with an opening prayer which was offered by Fr Mark at 1508hrs.

Attendance

Msgr. Mark	Percy Nduka	Catherine Arthurs	Cecilia McCamphill
Sr. Lydwin	David Spinks	Denise Cresswell	Ugbomo Rumen
Diane Welch	Steve Callow	Fr. Sean Gough	

2. Apologies: (a) Julie Collins (b) Gerard McCrae (c) Alan Swinnerton

3. Minutes of last meeting: The minutes were accepted by the Council as the correct record of deliberations at the last meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council on 13/03/2021. There were no objections, corrections or amendments.

4. Matters arising No matters were brought forward under this heading.

5 Actions taken since last meeting

i. Response from the appeal for more volunteer cleaners: In discussion about the Monday Cleaning team, an idea was raised that the Keralan community should possible form a team but it was decided that as they use the fogging machine regularly, we would work to form two teams from within the parish.

ii. Annual Report: In respect of this heading, Fr Mark observed that there were views expressed and recorded in the draft of the annual report as plans which were not fully actioned. He advised the Chair to clearly show what was actually done and possibly what are still in the process or those not done at all.

Following question raised by the Chair, Diane, arranged with Fr Mark to redraft the report and publish it.

iii. New Church Signs: The Council deliberated on the script of the Church signs as presented by Fr Mark. The views and opinions were expressed regarding the '*dates*' on the signs and where such information as the '*Parish of Blessed Carlo Acutis*' or the Church's name could be placed if considered as necessary elements of the design. Fr Sean, however support the idea that the name of the church was crucial element which could come on the first line at the top of the sign board.

Fr Mark said he had listened to all the views and will review the script with the aim of making the script more acceptable in line with the views expressed at this meeting.

iv. Telephoning support for parishioners: Although, Denise reported that considering the present situation it was difficult to contact more parishioners but Fr Mark reported stating that Bryan Thomas has a copy of an old St Bernadette's database to help with the updating of the full Parish data base.

Brother David Spinks in his own report stated that he has been able to contact several parishioners by telephone, adding that about 18 of the number were handed the parish letter which they could return to the Church through St Michael addressed to Sr. Lydwin.

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v. Our Lady's Chapel: Fr Mark reported that the delay in progress of this work on Our Lady's chapel was due to the architect's decision to have the drawing published first.

According to Fr Mark, the Chapel is expected to be in a suitable location within the church – St Michaels, where parishioners could visit for adoration without the need to heat up the entire church. Following the observation of David regarding the number that could be accommodated in the space, it was clarified that the plan does not show the exact number that could fit into the space as projected on shown.

6. Feedback on Easter Services: Regarding the Easter services, the activities throughout the period were noted very successful as they were almost like normal without the Covid-19 limiting restrictions even while keeping to all the rules. Bro David and Steve expressed thanks to all the Priests in the parish for their hard work and the opportunity provided for parishioners to attend confession during the period. Fr Mark noted that the logistics for the Masses were difficult but commended the assistance of the Priests, the stewards and cleaners and some behind the stage who helped to make the Easter season a huge success.

7. Online Rosary initiative: Speaking on this topic David suggested that the Parish should introduce an online Rosary session to be led by any of the priests. On a second thought and following the views of Fr. Sean in relation to the same matter, David agreed that the rosary lead could be anyone else but queried how the Rosary session could commence.

Fr Mark reminded the house that there have been Rosary sessions at SS Peter & Paul before the Covid-19 restrictions, adding that this could be reactivated once a week after the relaxation of these restrictions as early as in May 2021 depending on conditions allowable.

David called on the priest to count on the preparedness of the Knights of St Columba to help if their support is required in the arrangement and leading of the Rosary sessions.

8 Painting of the front door of SS. Peter & Paul: This point according to Fr Mark is being actioned.

9. Parish Council membership renewal: Reflecting once more on the fact that this Council has supposedly overstayed its tenure, Diane the Chair repeated her call for new elections following the guidelines we adopted when we set up the pastoral council. Although she also announced that she was stepping aside as chair of the council, she clarified that she was only relinquishing her role as a Chair but could remain as a member of the council.

Fr Mark while acknowledging the expressed position of Diane stated that the elections cannot be organized during the Covid-19 situation and are best left until the regulations are relaxed.

Closing: Fr Mark offered the closing prayers at 1606hrs. The date of next meeting was agreed for the **08 May, 2021 at 1500hrs.**