

Minutes of Ennis Pastoral Council meeting held

Tuesday 25th October, 2011.

Present: Benjy Mba Ibeozor; Seán Mc Dermott; Jomon Joseph; Maurice Griffin; Fr. Tom O’Gorman; John Tunney; Fionnuala Moran; Noel Howard; Tom Hogan; Sr. Anne Boland & Fr. John Mc Govern

Apologies: Dan O’Connell ; Fr. Ger Fitzgerald; Canon Pat Taaffe; Mary Hanley & Fachtna O’Reilly.

Draft Mission statement was discussed:

2 view points discussed

1. A sharper, crisper and clearer statement i.e. leave out middle section.
2. Use it as presented – need to spell out the ??? mission of the church.

Decided to leave for further reflection at November meeting.

Parish Team report:

Abbey Cluster:

- Visit of the Bell October 22nd & 23rd.
- Training for Bereavement group in Milford on 17th November - 4 people.
- Megan Mc Kenna 1st November in St. Flannans – Year of St. Mark
- Listening ????
- Faith Friends:
- Ennis National coupled with Transition Year students from St. Flannan’s and 4th year.
- Gaelscoil in school with Gael Coláiste Transition year students.
- Ecumenical Service for visit on 16th November of Moderator of Methodist Church.
- Remembering the Faithful departed on 2nd November, at 7.30pm.
- Faith friends for Holy Family school on November. 15th; 22nd & 29th.
- Remembering Little Ones on Remembrance Sunday 13th November at 10.30am
- Harvest Liturgy on Saturday 29th October at 6.30pm

Welcoming & Belonging Report: Sr. Anne & Seán Mc Dermott.

Examined the Brazil Community in the Parish and how they were coping.
Brazilian Mass on 3rd Sunday of each month in Poor Clares – Sr. Anne & Seán will attend.

What was your experience when you came as a visitor. Someone who comes new – they like to ???? . if anyone new will you come and say hello. Meet and greet – come forward for a blessing – would be very inclusive to ask people to recite The Lord's Prayer in your own language.

Benji's experience was one of welcome. They had the English language and it helped the integration.

Most of the Nigerian people are not Catholic and are not being honest when they request Baptism in the Catholic Faith.

African Mass in Cloughleigh was very good, but there was tension between integration.

Catholic Church in Nigeria has adapted to meet the challenge from the Evangelical churches so now they have loud music, dancing and drums.. we need to have more vibrancy in our Liturgies. Benji suggested the an African Priest be invited to celebrate one of our existing Masses.

Need to re visit this issue.

Question was asked - do we need a welcoming team

A questionnaire was presented to the meeting - we should be seeking not to lose a single person.

Child Protection:

A check list of the things that need to be in place – a paper trail is in place. If an Audit was to take place we don't know if Ceremony of Reconciliation - this is unfinished business from May. John Tunney and Sr. Anne to make contact with the sub group.

Next month: to look at "Evangelisation" . John Tunney & Dan O' Connell.

How can we encourage young Irish people to attend Church.

Next meeting: November 29th at 8.15pm.

December meeting changed to December 13th.