

Leigh Deanery Priests meeting.

2.00pm on Wednesday 9th January at Sacred Heart, Leigh.

Present:

Fr Paul Seddon, Dean. St John Rigby: St Richard's, Atherton & Sacred Heart, Hindley Green.

Fr Paul Grady, St Margaret Clitherow: Holy Family, Boothstown & St Ambrose Barlow Astley.

Fr Kieran O'Grady: St Edmund Arrowsmith: Sacred Heart & St Joseph's, Leigh.

Fr Gordon Abbs: St Catherine & All Saints, Lowton & Golborne and St Lewis, Croft.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting (22nd Nov.) were looked at.

Matters arising:

E mail addresses. St John Rigby: need to contact James Bainbridge to get address changed over. St Margaret Clitherow have there's up and running as does St Edmund Arrowsmith. St Catherine & All Saints with St Lewis already functioning under the new address.

Safeguarding Audit. All Parishes have completed the audit and returned it to LACE with the exception of St Margaret Clitherow who are just about to submit it.

Identity cards. Fr Paul Grady and Fr Gordon Abbs have one now.

Building work within the Deanery.

Holy Family. The diocese has instructed Fr Paul to resubmit his application for the rebuilding of the Parish Hall: this will be done shortly. The church is showing signs of vibration damage from the work around the building: plaster dust and cracks forming in the church. St Gabriel's hall is about to be completed. The land has been sold to a housing developer.

St Richard's church: with the completion of a new roof the interior needs redecoration: probably this summer. The porch has been repaired and roof sealed.

Sacred Heart: dry rot identified and priced; the go-ahead from the Trustees has been given.

St Joseph's: Hall. The electrical work has been approved by the Trustees.

All Saints: Club. New roof is complete; next phase is refurbishment.

Lay Funeral Ministers. The Deanery has a number of them. Liz Casey has been added to their number. Hoping to get them together to meet in the future as well as using them across the whole of the Deanery.

New Eucharistic Ministers course. Saturday 1st February 2020 beginning at 10.00am with mass at St Ambrose Barlow church. Numbers attending to Fr Paul G by the Wednesday before, please.

Deanery Novena. Fr Paul S. suggested a Novena for the new year as a way of bringing the relatively new Deanery together. Eight masses not nine (one in each church). Thursday looks a good day. Fr Paul to look at a timetable and also invite other clergy from the area to celebrate.

Social activities: Sacred Heart & St Joseph's to work on developing the current Christmas Fayre committee into something wider: awaiting agreement. St Richard's looking to run another trip to Stratford in June for Comedy of Errors which the deanery is again invited to join. St Margaret Clitherow have a pantomime at the end of January for a week; also a Burns night supper on 17th Jan.

Health and wellbeing. Priests on a night away Tuesday 21st January in order to get to know each other better. Will also try to meet for Sunday lunch at least once a month.

Date of next meeting for Priests and Deacons: has been changed to 2.00pm on Thursday 30th January 2020 at All Saints, Church, Golborne.

2. **Parish Councils.** St John Rigby have been meeting regularly already. St Catherine & All Saints with St Lewis had their first one 6th Jan. St Edmund Arrowsmith and St Margaret Clitherow looking to get started shortly.
3. **Deanery Forum:** will look to get this up and running in a couple of months. The first meeting back should be an open meeting. After that: each Parish should look to provide four reps. for the forum.
4. **St Catherine & All Saints with St Lewis** are exploring the possibility of tweaking the Sunday mass times: St Lewis slipping to 9.00am and All Saints to 10.30am: nothing yet decided.
5. The meeting concluded at 3.15pm.