

December 2024

Dear Parishioners

Brief feedback of the main points from the recent PPC meeting which took place 12th December 2024 at NM and was well attended.

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) is a group of people from St Mary's Marple Bridge and the Annunciation, New Mills, who are appointed by the Parish Priest and meet four times a year to discuss matters concerning the Parish. Members of the PPC include - Father Emmanuel, Denise Ead (Chair) Fionuala Boucher, Jim Howell, David Mellor, Nick Reynolds, Anne Winders, Catherine Anderson, Joseph Harvey, and Jo Barber who attends in the role of Safeguarding.

- 1) Safeguarding - Catherine Anderson is the Safeguarding Lead for Marple Bridge, Jo Barber is Safeguarding Lead for New Mills. Both Safeguarding Representatives have recently completed training. Nottingham Diocese is "Very Good" in regard to safeguarding. Posters are now displayed at both churches and contact telephone numbers are available in the Parish Newsletter if Catherine or Jo need to be contacted.
- 2) Finance Officer vacancy. There has been interest in the position and hopefully it will be filled soon. There is still a vacancy for a Caretaker which is currently being advertised.
- 3) Property Maintenance - Structural work is still being undertaken at both churches. There is ongoing work at NM regarding a Beech tree that requires emergency tree surgery. Stone Walls repairs at MB to start soon. Lighting at MB (near Priest House) is being repaired. An outstanding issue is the lack of lighting for the steps leading from the upper car-park. Window repairs at the Old Church Hall MB under discussion. New kneelers at NM - work to be carried out at a later date.
- 4) New Website - The new website is almost ready to launch. Once up and running it will contain a lot of information useful to Parishioners. Everyone will be informed when it goes live.
- 5) School Liaison - Children from our schools will come to mass (noon at St Mary's on 2nd February 2025 and 9.30am mass on 16th March at the Annunciation Church NM). Jubilee Year 2025 ('Pilgrims of Hope'). This will be a whole year of Discipleship - more information to follow re what we as a Parish can do.
- 6) Churches Together - Service at St Mary's MB 4.00pm Sunday 26th January 2025. Joseph Harvey will be Installed as Chair at this service. Refreshments available in the Old Church Hall. All welcome.
- 7) Change of Saturday evening mass time at MB from 6.30pm to 4.00pm (During winter months) now in place and appears to be going well.
- 8) Spiritual and Social. Thanks given to those who organise events in the Parish. A special thank you to Ann and Gordon for organising the Parish Christmas meal which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

If anyone in the Parish would like to raise an issue then please contact Denise or Mrs. Brennan.

The next PPC meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd April 2025.

Regards. Denise Ead. Chair, PPC