

Minutes of Pastoral Team Meeting held on Thursday 8th February 2024

- **Youth Ministry:** Gerard Gallagher suggested we employ someone, give it another try: advert into Irish Catholic and The Tablet (Religious magazine covering Ireland and England) Run the advertisement again and see what the response is
- **John Paul II:** Up and running: get the young people involved as much as can. Parish group – involve in Palm Sunday. Encouraging them to work in both Churches. Opportunities during Holy Week
- **John Bennett Report:** Audit of skills and of how to identify skills in the parish. Enhance what goes on in the parish. Where are the gaps? Forms – promoting ministries. Form to be updated and thought put into what we want
- **Lent 2024:**

Alpha

- Going well, really good Tuesday night. Average 40 people. Young people turning up. We are currently doing 7 weeks of an 18 week programme
First effort to bring Churches together – going well so far

Stations of the Cross: Next year make sure organised properly – know who is going each week. Next year one Church on one night. Bigger effort to attract more people. Music- Theme each night, eg, for young people, for the sick, for the bereaved

- **St. Peregrine Novena:** End of April / beginning of May: 28th April to 1st May. Sunday – Oisín McConville. Monday – Noelle McAlinden. Tuesday – Fr Seamus Quinn. Wednesday – Conor McBarron. Sub-committee or previous mission committee?
- **St. Patrick's Day:** it's a Sunday, also Children's Mass and. Blessing of babies baptised over last year. Two families – St. Mary's and Holy Cross

- 4 generations of a family to be presented with the shamrock. Dancers at offertory. Traditional Music to be organised.

AGENDA

- **Easter**

Palm Sunday: blessing of Palms: top car park in St. Mary's; at the skip in Holy Cross. Children to dress up and lead the procession to Church doors, ushers at the road. John Paul II pupils to give out palm crosses at both Masses.

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Road and safety: Ushers. Ushers in blue jackets, direct people up to top car park in St. Mary's and move people to the skip for procession in Holy Cross. People to gather for procession rather than going straight into Church

Penitential Service on Palm Sunday at 6.00pm

Holy Thursday: Faith and Light top present. Exposition Altar of Repose in St. Mary's. Feedback from last year: Holy Thursday Mass at 7pm. Exposition in St. Mary's only. Decision for this year: quiet time 8pm-9pm, led holy hour 9pm-10pm. Create Altar of Repose – side Altar at baptismal font with a Wooden backdrop, arch **and** stained glass in middle

Good Friday: 3pm Holy Cross and 7pm St. Mary's (lay led). Everyone to go to one cross for veneration

Holy Saturday in Holy Cross: Procession of congregation holding lit candle. Procession in front or behind Canon Jimmy. Proper candle – candle and holder Spreading the light from the paschal candle: 4 people to take light from Paschal candle. Church in darkness. Paschal candle lit first. Ring the bells during Gloria and then lights come on. Children's gifts given at vigil Mass: Deirdre to organise chocolate bunnies

Easter Sunday: 9.00am St. Mary's **and** 11.00am Holy Cross

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 11th April 2024