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**St. Michael’s and St. Bernadette’s Parish Pastoral Team**

***Meeting Minutes***

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| **Meeting:** | Monthly Meeting |
| **Date & Time:** | 2nd February 2023 |
| **Location:** | St Michaels |

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| **Attendees:** |  |
| Laura Doyle (LD) |  |
| Maura Green (MG) | Rachael Scully (RS) |
| Clare Barnes (CB) | Kirsty Seaborn (KS) |
| Roxanne Moran (RM) | Gillian Howarth (GH) |
| Father Steven Parkinson (Fr S) |  |
| Julie Greene (JG) |  |
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1. **Short prayer**
2. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were recorded for Andrea Reid, Amila Thomas and Helen Sivills.

1. **Matters Arising**
* Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
1. **Introductions**
* The PPT welcomed Maura and Roxanne to the Team 😊
* Kirsty kindly accepted the call to be Vice Chair and her appointment was wholly endorsed.
* Gillian kindly volunteered to act as Deputy Secretary and her appointment was wholly endorsed.
1. **Parish and PPT Update**
* Fr Michael remarked on how welcoming and thriving our Parish community seems and would be delighted to return. Fr S reminded us of how resilient our Parish has been in recovering from the Pandemic and the contribution the PPT has made to that recovery.
* New Team Members are still desired- Andy Holt is a potential new Member
	+ *NB. Breaking News- Mark Brandon, who attends 6pm Mass kindly agreed to join our Team and will attend the next meeting- thanks again and welcome Mark!*
1. **Christmas 2022 Review**
* The Advent and Christmas period were reviewed and agreed to have been a success- for the first time since 2019, it was agreed the Services and wider Parish activities had provided a lovely experience- feeling like “normal” Christmas.
* The Christmas Eve Crib Visits at St Bernadette’s were a huge success and will be retained on the Calendar this year.
* The introduction of a 7pm Vigil Mass at O.L.O.G was felt to have been a success for the wider area. The attendance at our 6pm Vigil Mass was almost overwhelming and endorses the selection of St Bernadette’s for this Mass for 2023. The 8pm Vigil Mass at St Michael’s will remain also. Christmas Day Mass times and locations will also be retained.
* Music at all Services was much appreciated.
1. **Lent**
* Ash Wednesday Mass at 7pm at St Bernadette’s.
* Stations of The Cross experience will be offered on Tuesdays at 7pm at St Bernadette’s
* Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament will be available on Wednesday mornings at St Michael’s- Fr S will invite one class across for 10 minutes each week.
* Lenten Promise Mass at 7am on Fridays will be offered at St Michael’s and we will look to promote it more effectively.
* Fr S will investigate the possibility of a Retreat/Time for Reflection at Wardley Hall- likely to take place on a Saturday/Sunday afternoon. We need to assess levels of interest amongst Parishioners.
* We will ask Chris Duffin to lead a “Stations of The Cross” experience for Children after a Sunday Mass during Lent.
* The Easter Triduum will be at St Bernadette’s
	1. We will seek volunteers to transport those who Worship at St Michael’s.
	2. 8pm Maundy Thursday
	3. Altar Repose until 11pm
	4. Good Friday 3pm
	5. 8pm Vigil
	6. 9.30 and 11am Mass Easter Sunday.
1. **Warm Bank Update**
* Moving the “Warm Bank” to Thursdays (from Friday) and re-positioning it as a Social Space, convened after 9.30am Mass has been very successful- especially in attract those who live alone. The initiative will continue accordingly.
1. **Parish Team Priorities**
* The PPT should consider what our focus areas for 2023 will be and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.
* COP 26, reflecting communications from Bishop John is an opportunity
	1. What can we as a PPT do to help change behaviours/impacts
	2. How can we engage the Parish more widely. First thought ideas include
		1. A “Tip of the Week” to be included on the Newsletter and Website.
		2. Establishing a “Parish Planet Champion”
		3. Focus activities during the Childrens Liturgy e.g. Planting
1. **Parish Youth Engagement**
* Following discussions with young Parishioner representatives (Anton, Olivia and Luke), we will host a social event for Yr 8+ Parishioners- an Afternoon Bowling Event is planned- with interested Parishioners meeting at St Bernadette’s with transport provided to Bowling in Bury. We will return to St Bernadette’s and offer Pizza. The purpose is to create engagement and provide social aspect within our Parish.
1. **AOB**
* Food Bank
	+ Updating the Schools as to how our Food Bank donations are managed and the role of Red Door (Bury)
	+ Schools to be advised to prepare 2 “Emergency Bags” for families in urgent need
	+ Schools also to be informed to direct those in need to SVP or Fr S for referral for regular Food Bank supplies.
		- MG and PPT to provide a reminder of ideal donations for Food Bank, especially Instant Foods (Hot Water), Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Long Life Milk and Cereals, especially Children’s favourites.
* Confirmation
	+ The date for Confirmation, led by our Bishop, in our Parish this Year is 11th May- Stewards will be needed

**Next Meeting**

* The next PPT meeting will be held on Thursday 9th March **at St Michael’s at 7.30pm**