

CATHOLIC PARISH OF GUILDFORD
Minutes, Formation Team Meeting, Wednesday 19th February 2020

Attendees: Janet Burr (**JB**) Peter Charlwood (**PC**), Una Corning (**UC**) Chris Richardson (**CR**), Fr Roy Waters (**FRW**),
Apologies: Tina Nichols (**TN**) Sinclair Webster (**SW**)

Circulation: as preceding plus Mgr Tony Barry (**MTB**), Fr Sebastian Paul (**FrSP**), Fr Roy Waters (**FrRW**), Susie Ball (**SB**), Sandy Hunt (**SH**) Parish Secretary, plus Zelma Braganza (**ZB**), Aseel Gilbert (**AG**)

ACTIONS ARISING: Initials in BOLD

1. Welcome

- Chris Richardson opened the meeting with a Reading and Prayer

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 11.12.19

- Approved without amendment

3. The God Who Speaks

a) Review of Initial Activity: Focus on Matthew's Gospel across the whole Parish for three Sundays from 26th January 2020

Comments as follow:

- Celebrant announcement/affirmation of the following of Matthew's Gospel had been very positive in securing Parishioner interest/attention from start
- Co-ordinated homilies led by our Priests added to the sense of impact, synergy and impact across the Parish
- First Sunday had the most powerful impact of the three nominated Sundays, particularly with the procession of the Book of the Word in all Communities at the beginning of Mass
- Second Sunday coincided with Candlemas
- Third Sunday was the monthly Family FHC Mass, where the homilies were more directed towards the children attending
- More proactive co-ordination might have helped of the distribution of the associated booklets supporting this after Mass in some Communities, though most Parishioners had found these/made the suggested contribution

b) Where do we take it from here?

i) Restart Focus on Matthew's Gospel ideally from 8/3/20, which is also the Transfiguration of the Lord

- FRW to discuss above proposal/timing etc with Mgr Tony Barry **FRW**
- CR/FRW to meet to discuss themes early week commencing 24/2/2020 **FRW/CR**
- Publicise
- in Newsletter/Priests Notices/Website (deadline for next newsletter is 2/3 for publication on 7/3) and remind Parishioners about the associated books/link on website **FRW/CR**
- Note that the next monthly FHC Family Mass is scheduled for 15/3 (second Sunday) **FRW/CR**

ii) Bible In A Day Course

Starting from March 2020, Mauro Iannicelli will be offering parishes *'The Bible Timeline Seminar - The Whole Bible in One Day'*.

The seminar imparts the **big picture of the Bible** from start to finish through the worldwide-famous Bible Timeline Study System developed by Jeff Cavins. Salvation History is divided into **12 color-coded periods**. This helps in making the complex simple. It will be clear how the many characters and events in Scripture relate to each other in one unified narrative leading to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The seminar is not only informational but transformational, as it equips the guests with the frame and the tools to embark on a life of fruitful Bible reading. The seminar is run typically on a Saturday, from 8:45am to 4:30pm.

- The total amount of teachings is **5 hours** (not including the coffee and lunch breaks), all delivered by Mauro through **live talks**.

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- During the teachings there is some interaction among the participants (a 2-3 minutes discussion of a question in pairs every 20 or 30 minutes of teaching, which is great to keep the attention alive).
- Mauro's speaker's fee is £25 per person. He suggests that this should come from the guests and not from the parish, as he believes that when individuals pay for something, they will have a greater drive to learn.
- A suitable venue for the seminar should have a capacity of 100+ guests. It was thus suggested that the best venues for a Saturday would probably be St Mary's and St Pius X due to parking issues at St Joseph's and lack of capacity at St Edward's
- Agreed that this would be a good and different Formation opportunity for Parishioners, even with cost at £25pp
- Initial Target Date if available to run would be Saturday 28th March at St Mary's **FRW**
- PC to check availability of dates for leader and for Hall at St Mary's with SH **PC**
- Publicity would need to start in next newsletter (deadline 2/3 for publication 7/3) **PC**

iii) ALPHA

- PC gave a very helpful and positive overview of the ALPHA course, how it provides a great way to evangelise in the local Community
- It helps encourage attendees in developing their potential faith in a very supportive and welcoming way
- It was acknowledged that ALPHA was very effective in bringing people into the Home Groups
- It would be good to build on this by helping this programmed become more rooted in the local Catholic Community
- perhaps linking through into the RCIA programme or similar activity which gives that some continuous development for participants into the Catholic Faith

iv) Next Steps

- CR suggested that it would be good to map out a programme of different formation options moving forward. **CR**
- To progress this group's activity more effectively it was agreed it needed to meet on a more frequent basis
- Additional Meeting dates were agreed as Wednesday 25th March and 29th April **ALL**

4) Adult Confirmation

- carried forward to next meeting

5) Welcoming

- carried forward to next meeting

4. NEXT MEETING 7.30pm Wednesday 25th March and 29th April 2020