

Minutes of the PPC Meeting

Wednesday 11th February 2026 at St John's Wallingford

In Attendance

Fr Dominic, Edwin Samu, Camilla King, Cecilia Wheeler, Sue Hunt, Brian Doyle

Apologies

Anne-Marie Bromley

Minutes of Previous Meeting

St Johns – Tables/Chairs and Repairs

The selection of chairs situation ongoing, a meeting will be held. This is hoped to be resolved by the next PPC meeting. (Action – Sue/Cecilia)

Repairs – A meeting is being arranged between Geoff Hassett, Richard Cutler and Richard Chadwick to sort out what can, and cannot, be done. A timeline for these is expected by the next PPC.

Young Readers

As we seek to expand our pool of young Minsters of the Word further, the PPC would like to particularly thank Chioma Anika, for working with the young readers to practice for each Children's Mass.

St Amand's

Since the costs of buying/running a minibus to transport children from Didcot to St Amands are prohibitively expensive, Fr Dominic has had the idea to contact "Driving Miss Daisy", the transport firm which currently has an arrangement to park vehicles on Church property. They may be able to provide term-time transport from Didcot to St. Amands, using English Martyrs as a pick-up and drop-off point. This will need further discussion with the company and the school itself which the parish Office will keep us apprised of.

The parish currently has a fund for this sort of project of approximately £10K, made up of donations and endowments from Parishioners.

Other steps to promote the school further are forthcoming. Such as promoting it more frequently during Mass, to remind parents that it is an option for their children.

Sunday Mass Times

Given the impact swapping the Sunday Mass times between Didcot and Wallingford would likely cause, it was felt that the best next step would be to conduct a survey at both Parishes after Easter to gauge responses. We can announce the survey a week before the survey is carried out, to allow parishioners to give it due consideration rather than hurrying them into a decision.

Disability Access to Toilets at EM

The Diocese approves of the approach previously discussed, and Brian McNamee is taking it further, the PPC will assist in any way it can.

The Minutes were signed into record

Any Other Business

Parish Registration

The Diocese has recently introduced a new, online registration form for parishioners and children. This completely replaced the previous version, with no data migrated from one to the other. As such our database will have to be constructed from the ground up

Father Dominic has mentioned it several times at Masses and included it in the Newsletter to encourage parishioners to re-register their information.

Canon Peter's Health

Father Dominic gave the PPC the good news that Canon Peter had been released from hospital, and is now back home, with carers coming to look after him four times a day, though he remains unable to receive visitors at the present time.

The PPC expressed the Parish's prayers and good wishes for Canon Peter's continued recovery.

Cover for Father Dominic when he on business elsewhere

As Canon Peter will not be as available for cover as before, a new approach to cover is being looked at, given the demands on Father Dominic's time.

When Father Dominic is on Church business the expense of cover for saying Mass can be re-charged to the Diocese.

When he is not (such as during his holidays) it must be paid for by the Parish directly.

An arrangement is being set up with the Carmelites at Boar's Hill to provide cover for when Father is on Diocesan business.

A friend of Fr Dominic, Fr Vincent of Winchester is prepared to provide cover too, for other situations.

However, in the event of no priest being available, it is possible to continue to satisfy requirements with only the Word and the Eucharist, which Readers and Eucharistic Ministers can carry out between them.

A procedural list for this will be provided for all Ministers of the Word and Eucharist, so all are prepared in advance should the situation arise.

CCTV in Churches

Following the realisation that the CCTV in both churches does not record footage, which reduces it's effectiveness with regard to both safeguarding and security, it was proposed that research should be carried out into the cost and resources required to store CCTV footage in an offsite location for an agreed time, obeying all data protection legislation.

This service can be provided by Churchservices TV, who have experience in this area and options will be investigated. (Action – Fr Dominic / Brian Doyle)

Livestreaming

This led into an expanded discussion about setting up equipment within the Churches to livestream our Masses, which seems like a good idea for both the members of our parish who are unable to attend, and for anyone else who might wish to

The price of equipment and the services required will be looked into further and updated at future PPC (Action - Brian Doyle)

Activities for Lent/Easter

- I. 6:30am Mass will be held on Tuesday and Thursday's during Lent at English Martyrs.
- II. The Area Reconciliation Service will be held at English Martyrs during Lent. Date TBC
- III. We will have three adult initiations into the Church at our Parishes at Easter

First Communion

This will take place on the Feast of Corpus Christi, which is 7th June this year.

Significant Wedding Anniversaries

It would be a nice gesture to collect the dates of Parishioners who are celebrating a significant Wedding Anniversary, so that we as a parish can celebrate and thank God for those whose love and commitment to each other has stood the test of time. (This is not to overshadow the Bishop's Celebration Mass at Portsmouth, but an opportunity a more local celebration)

Next Meeting

Wednesday 25th March, 7.30pm at English Martyrs, Didcot.