

A Report on the Meeting of St Lawrence's Parish Pastoral Council

held on 13th January 2011

Overcrowding at 11 am Mass

Overcrowding at 11 am Mass continued to be a serious issue - every free space inside the church was taken up with worshippers; parishioners were crammed into the porch and often had to stand on the forecourt! Congregations were increasing at all the Masses although the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses could still accommodate more parishioners. Those who were now finding the Sunday morning Masses uncomfortable might like to consider coming to Mass in the evening.

Parking

A shocking incident had occurred shortly after our last report when a parishioner had been run over on the forecourt and injured. Parishioners are once again asked to use extreme care and consideration, both if dropping people off on the forecourt or parking in the school car park.

Children's Liturgy

We are extremely grateful to the adults who lead the Children's Liturgy, which now attracts large numbers of children at all the Masses but they desperately need more help! Training and support will be offered to all new volunteers and you will never be asked to do more than you feel confident. If you could help, please speak to Fr Chris or Sister Mary.

Bereavement Support

Setting up a Bereavement Support Group had been identified by parishioners as one of the priorities for the parish. A preliminary meeting was held on 10th January 2011 and we are now looking for a few more volunteers to join this newly-forming group. There will be a training course over four consecutive Saturday mornings in the parish centre starting on 26th March 2011 before the group is actually launched. If you feel you may have a gift to bring to this gentle ministry, please speak to Fr Chris or Sisters Mary or Katherine as soon as possible.

Parish 80th Birthday Celebrations - 2012

St Lawrence's Parish will be 80 years old in 2012 and an Open Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th March 2011, 7.30 pm - 9 pm in the parish centre to form a co-ordinating group for a Parish Mission which will take place in June/July 2012 and to organise a programme of other Birthday Celebrations. Everyone is most warmly invited to come and contribute their ideas.

Membership

Members of the PPC are: Graham Baker (Chair), Bridget Brinkley, Claire Cowdery, Chris Holland, Lie-Wah Johnson, Michelle Moore-Saxton, Patti Owen, Tanya Webster, Alice Danladi, Mervyn Rosario, Miles Hamlin, as well as Fr Chris, Sister Mary and Joanna James, the Parish Secretary.

The next meeting will be on 24th March 2011. If you have any issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Parish Pastoral Council, please write a note to the Chair of the PPC and post it into the Presbytery.