

# South Bucks Area Pastoral Council Meeting - Notes

## Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 – 7.30 pm at St Teresa’s, Beaconsfield

1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	ACTION
	Joan welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	PRAYER AND REFLECTION	
	Mgr Sean led the meeting in prayer on behalf of St Teresa’s Parish. He focused on the reading for the Feast of the Presentation.	
3.	PASTORAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS	
	<b>3.1</b> <b>Schedule of Meetings for 2026</b>	
	Dates for forthcoming meetings in 2026 and prayer leads are as follows:- Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March                      St Peter’s Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June                        St Aidan’s Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> September                Immaculate Heart of Mary Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> November                John Henry Newman	
	<b>3.2</b> <b>Clergy Meeting</b>	
	<p>The next meeting of clergy will take place on <b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>. They will consider arrangements for Lent and Easter.</p> <p>Joan reminded everyone that the Diocesan statistics were due last week. Parishes please check these have been submitted.</p> <p>Fr Sean asked how parishes were managing with Caspar.</p> <p>Deacon Peter reported that Harry Trasler had been to IHM to explain the system. Each parish has its own QR code to access the system. It was noted there was a reluctance by parishioners to sign up to Caspar as they did not wish the diocese to have access to their personal data. Without parishioners' buy-in then parishes are not getting the full benefits of Caspar.</p> <p>Caspar does provide parishes with a “management tool” and has the facility to be used as a parish database which would allow parishes to send out newsletters and announcements to parishioners.</p> <p>Deacon Gerard said Neil Roseman had sent an email to parishes as to how they should manage information on their websites. Deacon Gerard had raised some questions with Neil and is awaiting a response.</p> <p>There has been no formal meeting of Chairs and Deans in recent months. Joan and Veronica Corben had discussed with Avril the possibility of them organising a meeting of Chairs of our PACs in Winslow in the not-too-distant future to maintain communication. It was noted that some information regarding our PACs is incorrect on the diocesan website and having this corrected would be discussed at the meeting of chairs of PACs.</p> <p>Preparations for the Diocesan Assembly have been put on hold.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Clergy</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Clergy</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Dcn Gerard</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Joan</b></p>
	<b>3.3</b> <b>Easter Booklet 2026</b>	

	<p>Copy for our Easter booklet, should we go ahead, would need to be provided <b>no later than Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b> so that the booklet could be signed off at our next meeting of the PAC on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. The booklet would include details of services for Holy Week, Easter Week and our services of Reconciliation. It was noted that someone needed to speak to Fr Richard about arrangements for Polish Community.</p> <p>Later in the meeting we agreed to also include times of Eucharistic Adoration currently taking place in our parishes.</p>	<p><b>Clergy</b></p> <p><b>Clergy</b></p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>DAY FOR CATECHISTS and CHILDREN’S LITURGISTS</b>	
	<p>Deacon Peter reported that Georgia Clark, formerly the Youth worker at the parish of St Elizabeth of Portugal has now taken up a new role with Alpha as Head of Strategy and partnerships for the Catholic context in the UK.</p> <p>She has however, agreed to lead a day for Catechists and Children’s Liturgists on <b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March at St Teresa’s</b>. She has wide experience in running youth initiatives and their parish had developed their catechesis formation through these initiatives with children receiving the sacraments only when they and their family is committed.</p> <p>Deacon Peter will see her at the <b>Alpha training day being held in Luton on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b> and hopes to arrange a Zoom meeting with a small sub group to discuss plans for our day with Georgia. We need more time in the day to share our experiences and materials.</p> <p>It was stressed that the focus should be how to engage young people in catechesis and children’s liturgy and not be an occasion to promote Alpha.</p> <p>The following offered to form a sub group to assist Deacon Peter in setting up the day: Margaret Van Dyvenbode and Christine Cornwell. Maria Cox offered to find a representative from St Teresa’s Parish.</p> <p>Deacon Kevin said the situation regarding Catholic education was of great concern in Marlow with the forthcoming closing of St Peter's School. Canon John and Deacon Kevin had recently met with parents to consider the way forward for the Catholic education of their children. He suggested these parents be invited to a pre-meeting with our group prior to the catechists day so they could air their views. There is no Children’s Liturgy group in St Peter’s. Joan offered to speak to our Children’s Liturgy team which is well established and may be able to offer advice/resources to people interested in starting children’s liturgy in St Peter’s Parish. IHM parish also offered to share their experience.</p> <p>Deacon Peter will prepare a “Save the date” notice for parish newsletters once he has met with Georgia Clark.</p>	<p><b>Dcn Peter</b></p> <p><b>Dcn Peter</b> <b>Margaret</b> <b>Christine</b></p> <p><b>Dcn Kevin</b></p> <p><b>Joan</b> <b>Dcn Peter</b></p> <p><b>Dcn Peter</b></p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>ADORATION/ADOREMUS 2026</b>	
	<p><b>Adoremus 2026</b> will be on <b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October</b>. Canon John will be the lead for our Diocese. The day would be in two parts - a Eucharistic Procession in London from Southwark Cathedral to Westminster Cathedral and a meeting open only to invited representatives from parish organisations. It was noted that not all parish organisations are mentioned in the diocesan directory and they too should be considered.</p> <p><b>Eucharistic Adoration - 40 hours</b> - We had hoped to hold this during the Carlo Acutis Festival in October 2025 but this had been deferred to 2026 following the delay in the</p>	<p><b>Canon John</b></p> <p><b>Canon John</b> <b>ALL</b></p>

	Canonisation of St Carlo Acutis. It is hoped to hold a longer period of Eucharistic Adoration during the Carlo Acutis Festival in October 2026.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>DAY FOR COMMUNITY OF COMMUNITIES</b>	
	<p>It is proposed to hold a day <b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>. The intention would be to invite people from different nationalities across our pastoral area to bring them together to celebrate the richness and diversity within our community. This could be an ecumenical event. Maria Cox proposed a morning of celebration with music, singing and people telling their life stories. The morning would end with an ecumenical celebration followed by a lunch with people bringing their typical national dishes to share.</p> <p>A sub group is needed to help organise the event. Maria Cox and Mgr Sean offered to help. Deacon Gerard will discuss this at their Parish Council Meeting in February and ask for volunteers to help. All parishes were asked to consider if they had parishioners who could assist in organising the day and to put them in touch with Mgr Sean/Maria.</p>	<b>Maria Cox Mgr Sean Dcn Gerard ALL</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>REPORT ON JUBILEE OF HOPE 2025</b>	
	<p>Christine had pre-circulated a summary of the events we had managed to organise across our pastoral area to celebrate the Jubilee of Hope. Events had been well attended and Joan expressed her thanks to all who had organised and supported these events.</p> <p>Deacon Gerard was asked to provide the presentations given on the day to celebrate the Jubilee of Prisoners as there had been some interesting suggestions as to how we might work more closely to support those assisting with prison ministry.</p>	<b>Dcn Gerard</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>SAFEGUARDING</b>	
	<p>Safeguarding Training is being arranged across the Diocese for clergy. The day for our pastoral area is <b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May at St Teresa's, Beaconsfield.</b></p> <p>In Spring 2024 the Catholic Church of England and Wales had published its report <a href="#">The Cross of the Moment</a> on the clerical abuse situation in the Catholic Church. The report had highlighted a number of areas for further engagement. A new three year project, initiated by the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University, <a href="#">Conversations, Culture and Communion</a> aims to explore these areas.</p> <p>The survey for young people aged 11 to 18 regarding safeguarding is still running and can be found <a href="#">using this link</a>.</p>	<b>Clergy</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>OUTSTANDING ACTIONS</b>	
	<b>7.1</b> <b>Emmaus Contributions</b> - Further contributions towards running the Emmaus series had been received. Fr Sean will check how many contributions we have received.	<b>Mgr Sean</b>
	<b>7.2</b> <b>Youth Worker</b> - This position in the four cluster parishes is still vacant.	
	<b>7.3</b> <b>Catholics in Recovery</b> - Fr Sean will pursue this with Philippa and Peter.	<b>Mgr Sean</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>ROUND TABLE</b>	
	<b>8.1</b> <b>Lenten Prayer Group</b> - Joanna Hale will run morning prayer sessions on weekdays during Lent from 0740-0815. She will be using daily resources on St Matthew's gospel <a href="https://www.onlineprayer.net/l26m/">https://www.onlineprayer.net/l26m/</a> . Flyers were distributed and will be	<b>ALL Joanna</b>

		circulated by email. Please contact <a href="mailto:joanna.hale@northamptondiocese.org">joanna.hale@northamptondiocese.org</a> for the link to join these sessions.	
	<b>8.2</b>	<b>Dilexi Te</b> - Scott Albrecth, who runs the Catholic Workers Farm, will present five sessions on <b>Thursdays @ 7.00 pm</b> in Lent commencing on <b>22<sup>nd</sup> February</b> to study Pope Leo's document <b>Dilexi Te on Love of the Poor</b> . These will be held at St Joseph's Parish in the first committee room. All are welcome.	<b>ALL</b>
	<b>8.3</b>	<b>The British Shalom Salaam Trust</b> - Fr John McGowan has invited Naomi Wayne, a peace activist from this charity to speak to us on the situation in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel. This will be held on <b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February from 1100 am to 12:30 pm at St Joseph's Parish</b> . All are welcome.	<b>Fr John Mc ALL</b>
	<b>8.4</b>	<b>Pastoral Ministry Office Lenten Retreat</b> - The Diocesan Lenten Journey has <b>weekly</b> small group sessions using St Beuno's Outreach Prego resources to pray and reflect on Scripture for the coming Sunday. Sessions will be offered at various times during the week. <a href="#">Click here to register</a> .	<b>ALL</b>
	<b>8.5</b>	<b>Carers Bucks</b> - Rahat from Carers Bucks had contacted Mgr Sean regarding the services they offer to support hidden carers. She is keen to raise awareness of their services. Mgr Sean suggested inviting her to give a presentation to the PAC. It was agreed that he invite her to attend our June meeting to give a short presentation on their services.	<b>Mgr Sean</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Wrap-Up and Closing Prayer</b>		
	Joan thanked everyone for attending.		
	Fr Sean closed the meeting with a prayer and blessing.		

**ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES**

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Church/es and Schools</b>	<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Present</b>
Great Missenden	Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church	Fr Mirek Misiura Deacon Peter Collins Tony King	<b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b>
Chesham Bois	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Catholic Church	Fr Roy Karakkattu Margaret van Duyvenbode Bridget Harvey	<b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b> Apologies
Little Chalfont	St Aidan's Catholic Church	Joanna Hale (Exec) Peter Kirk	Apologies <b>Yes</b>
High Wycombe	St Augustine's Catholic Church	Fr Jonathan Hill Fr James Evans Deacon Brin Dunsire Raheel Nadeem	Apologies <b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b>
High Wycombe	Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church St John Henry Newman	Deacon Paul Priestley Maria Plummer	<b>Yes</b> Apologies
Chesham	St Columba's Catholic Church	Fr Mirek Misiuria Deacon Gerard Felix (Exec) Lewis Canning	<b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b>
Bourne End	St Dunstan's Catholic Church	Deacon Brent Adonis Jeff Wellington	Apologies <b>Yes</b>
Gerrards Cross	St Joseph's Catholic Church The Most Holy Name Catholic Church	Joan Barham (Chair) Christine Cornwell (Secretary) Fr John McGowan OCD Fr Bob Davies OCD Fr Jerome Ituah OCD Fr Theophilus Nyamali OCD Fr Deepu Daniel OCD	<b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b> Apologies <b>Yes</b> Apologies Apologies Apologies
Marlow	St Peter's Catholic Church	Canon John Udris Deacon Kevin Ryan Marie Lou Stephenson	<b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b> <b>Yes</b>
Beaconsfield	St Teresa's Catholic Church	Mgr Seán Healy (Dean) Fr Kamil Kawiski Maria Cox	<b>Yes</b> Apologies <b>Yes</b>