

**Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge**  
and **Our Lady of Lourdes, Sawston**

Please join in our next:

# Parish Forum

Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010  
7:30pm, in the Parish Centre

Points for reflection and sharing:

- **The Parish Centre:** a resource for building our community
- **Financial Report & Update**
  - Annual report
  - Finance Committee updates
  - Fund-raising (e.g. group events, talents, etc.)
- **Ministry of Welcome**
- **Diocesan Council of Laity Update**
- **Food Bank**
- **Bir Zeit Links**
- **News from other Communities, Groups & Activities**
- **Agenda Notes & Matters Arising** (not already covered)

The Parish Forum, organised and animated by its Steering Committee, is the instrument that our Parish has chosen to enhance the participation of all groups, communities and persons in our large and complex Parish, in the process of decision making. Not just tackling the challenges that we face, but trying to “dream” together our future at the service of all the people around us. It is important that all the groups and the varied communities that form our parish family: OLEM, Sawston, Ditton, Bar Hill, Cambourne, send participants to the Forum to make their needs and projects known.

We hope that gradually there will be greater involvement of everybody in the “building up of Christ’s body” to carry together Jesus’ mission of “bringing the good news to the poor and proclaiming God’s year of favour”.

The Steering Committee

Notes on Agenda Items – for the Parish Forum Thursday, 20th May 2010 is online at:  
<http://www.theseconnote.com/olem-olol/OLEM-ParishForumInvite-Notes-20100520.pdf>

... or via e-mail: [ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com](mailto:ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com) (. . . or ring 01223 690089 for details)

## Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge and Our Lady of Lourdes, Sawston

### Notes on Agenda Items – for the Parish Forum Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010

To provide a permanent record of matters to be reported at the meeting, and also to permit more time for discussion, the following notes have been prepared on some of the items on the Forum's agenda.

**Matters arising** (*partial*) – from 11<sup>th</sup> February Parish Forum <http://www.olem.freeuk.com/Forumminutes.htm>

- **The Parish Centre** – The safeguarding issue has been resolved for parish catechetical groups by either using the music room for catechesis, or giving access from the Hall to the Music Room toilet for the Saturday First Communion class.
- **Ministry of Welcome** – two introductory meetings were held on Monday 10th May
- **Mass for the Bereaved** – this is planned for Saturday 3rd July at 3pm
- **Parish Centre Manager** – Richard Peroni has taken up this part-time post. He will be guided by the Hall Management Group and will liaise with the Forum, e.g. to update on snags. (see more notes below)
- **English Liturgy Text Changes** – many pointed out the petition at <http://www.whatifwejustsaidwait.org/>
- **Sound system** – there remains a need to involve the Parish Tech Group, the consultants, and to repeat the Readers' training sessions
- **Church Lighting** – this was improved by a complete change of the bulbs, which will now occur regularly

**The Parish Centre** – report from Richard Peroni <[olempcm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:olempcm@yahoo.co.uk)>

With the appointment of a Centre Manager, and a Management Committee, current activity is focused on attracting potential users to the Centre, to ensure that it becomes the heart of Parish Activities. The Parish Centre comprises a Hall with Kitchen, Music Room with Kitchenette, and two Meeting Rooms, also with small kitchen. We want to make sure that as many Church and Parish groups as possible use these spaces, so have equipped the Hall with projection equipment, and stage lighting rig, for example.

The Centre Manager, Richard Peroni, is available at the Centre on Monday and Thursday afternoons, 1.30 - 5.30 or by appointment. He can be contacted at any time by email: [olempcm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:olempcm@yahoo.co.uk). The Centre Management Committee meets once a month. Its Chairman, Neil Emery, can be contacted by email [nemery500@hotmail.com](mailto:nemery500@hotmail.com). Other committee members are: Rae Byrne, Mike Keohane, and Mary Nathan.

Current activity is focussed on attracting potential users to the Centre, to ensure that it becomes the heart of Parish Activities. With the Diary filling up, it is important that anyone who wants to use the Centre at any time discusses their plans with Richard or a Committee member as soon as they can.

Committee members:

Neil Emery (Chairman) <[nemery500@hotmail.com](mailto:nemery500@hotmail.com)>

Mike Keohane

Rae Byrne

Mary Nathan

Richard Peroni (Secretary) <[olempcm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:olempcm@yahoo.co.uk)>

**Soulfood** – report from Sandy Hobson <[johnandsandyhobson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:johnandsandyhobson@yahoo.co.uk)>

Soulfood, as far as we know, is the only Parish Based Charismatic prayer group in the Cambridge Deanery. It has been running in OLEM now for about 18 months. It is not only a vibrant and up lifting prayer group which worships, praises God and prays, but also one which is inspired to 'Do'. It is a prayer group, with its own musical support, which has organised and brought to the parish and Deanery two Life in the Spirit Seminars and a Day of Spiritual Renewal, with a further Day of Renewal planned for November 27th this year.

Days of Spiritual Renewal provide the opportunity to share in a good drenching in the love and mercy of God. It is a day of speakers, Holy Mass, Reconciliation, healing, music and contemplation. Soulfood have also started an ecumenical based outreach with the Cambridge Street Pastors, an Ascension Trust organisation which works in conjunction with the police and emergency services. We provide rostered support based in St Andrews Church rooms about once or twice a month between 9.30pm till 4.00am. One group prays while the other is out on the streets providing help and care to those in need. As Soulfood grows other paths will open up before us and we look forward to the challenges which await us.

**5Alive! Music** – report from Joe Caprani <[joe.caprani@btinternet.com](mailto:joe.caprani@btinternet.com)>

5Alive continues to provide the music for the 5 O'clock Mass on Sundays and is a diverse group of currently 38 members of 18 nationalities. As ever, new members are always welcome, both singers and instrumentalists of all ages & abilities even if your time in Cambridge is not very long. The ability to read music is desirable but not a necessity.

**HCPT - The Pilgrimage Trust** – report from Fabio Galantini <[fgalantini@deloitte.co.uk](mailto:fgalantini@deloitte.co.uk)>

The Cambridge HCPT group travelled to Lourdes for Easter week with a group of 6 local disabled children and 10 volunteer helpers. A wonderful time was had by all, aided by the dedicated preparation put in by all involved, beautiful weather, and the prayers and support of Our Lady and all our friends back home. We are particularly grateful for the immense financial support provided by the parishioners of OLEM and Sawston at our annual appeals - our pilgrimage would not have been possible without you and you were gratefully remembered in our prayers in Lourdes.

**Luncheon Club** – report from Bernard Townshend <[bernardandhanna@hotmail.com](mailto:bernardandhanna@hotmail.com)>

The committee has been strengthened. It comprises chairman, deputy, treasurer and seven members. The club returned to the Parish Centre for its April lunch. 60 members plus Fathers Chris and Rex attended. WinterComfort staff catered.

A comprehensive review has resulted in the committee deciding to use The Park Restaurant at the Cambridge Regional College at Kings Hedges as its new venue. A request was made to move Mass to 11am and to start the lunch at the earlier time of 12.15. Both were agreed. The club has 100 members who come from local parishes including St Ives, Newmarket and Buckden. Two outings are planned for the summer. There is a wish to start a Film Club and volunteers are being sought to run it.

**10:45 Coffee Makers** – report from Phil Hardy <[philip.hardy@btinternet.com](mailto:philip.hardy@btinternet.com)>

Betty & I are involved in the running of the 1045 Mass coffee rota (and indeed taking our turn!). The 'coffee after Mass' has had an interesting start in the new kitchen, with the dreaded dishwasher giving a few people headaches, but we are getting there! We are extremely grateful for our team, but needless to say we are always looking for new volunteers to spread the load. We are convinced that it forms a valuable and important part of parish life, giving as it does, a chance for people to meet informally; discuss the sermon; have a pot at our priests; attack the Vatican etc, rather than to just duck into Mass and disappear home immediately after. Long may it continue.

**School-Parish News - St Albans' Works** – excerpt from St. Albans <[office@stalbans.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@stalbans.cambs.sch.uk)>

During half term and for the two weeks afterwards we are having major work done to replace pipe work underground to resolve a problem with the school drains. ... While this work is being done the contractors will have to dig up the area in front of the school and for this reason it will not be possible to access the school or the parish centre using the route that passes between the school and the presbytery. ... Access to the presbytery will be from the car park on Hills Road and access to the parish centre will be via the door and alley that goes from the Hills Road car park. ... After the third week of work, restricted access will be made available to the school, church hall and presbytery via the route that passes between the school and the presbytery. Please note below the key dates outlined above;

Phase 1 Replacing pipes and Prep.

June 1st            Work begins  
June 22nd        Work completed

Phase 2 New entrance

June 22nd        Restricted access to the school  
August 31st     Work completed

**Parish Tech Group** – report from Ronald Haynes <[ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com](mailto:ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com)>

At the last Parish Forum we agreed to form a Parish Tech Group, to lend a hand with some of the more hi-tech aspects of the Parish, including the delicate (and expensive) new sound system, and the new A/V and network equipment in the Hall. Previously, we formed a small Computer group, which has helped handle some tech areas, however it would be good to expand the idea to include some additional talent in the Parish, and to help use our tech talents in the service of our fellow parishioners. If interested, or if you have any questions, please contact Ronald Haynes (01223 690089 / [ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com](mailto:ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com) ).

**News from Sawston** – report from Nick Ash <[nick.ash@ntlworld.com](mailto:nick.ash@ntlworld.com)>, Sawston Pastoral Council

We are pleased to report that we have finally received our Premises Licence for the Church Hall. This has taken ages to sort out and involved a lot of paperwork and even a hearing at South Cambs District Council. It is meant to be made easy for Churches but that was far from our experience.

Father Raf is running an excellent series of Pastoral Lectures. Not very well supported by OLEM but a good strong contingent from Sawston.

Forthcoming events include:

Summer Barbeque on 26 June (6.30pm to 7.00m). OPen to all. See Bulletin for more details.

Summer Outing to Wicksteed Park on 10 July (9.00am start). Great for the kids and the family. Subsidised costs.

Can we finally ask for the bulletin to change slightly. On Page 3 is "This Week in the Parish", but this section NEVER includes activities in Cambourne or Sawston. It only covers activities in OLEM. Can we not include ALL parish activities in this section and add an extra column to indicate where (like the front page).

Any news on coaches for the Pope's Visit?

Any discussions on the future Liturgy changes?

**Diocesan Council of Laity** – report from Ronald Haynes <[ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com](mailto:ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com)>

The Council on 8th May focused on promoting vocations, with a special look at vocations to the priesthood. Bishop Michael shared a key scripture passage: "You did not choose Me; No, I chose You" (John 15.16). Bishop Michael's notes from the meeting, as well as related materials, are available at:

<http://www.theseconnote.com/olem-olol/>

(Please do get in contact if you want a copy or have queries.) As a parish, we are invited to discuss these matters, and to implement examples of good practice. The following is a sample of the discussions:

Bishop Michael introduced the topic by stressing that everyone has a vocation - a personal calling - from God, to some special service. Above all, we each have the call to proclaim the Good News to all creation, to be together the living Gospel for all to hear. This includes the particular role of lay people to transform society from within, including at home and in politics, business, education, etc. We need a greater 'culture of vocation' within the Church. Do we bring up our children at home, school and parish to ask themselves: 'What does God want me to do with my life? How can I best serve God and his people? How can I use my God-given gifts in love for God's people?' Special callings within the family of the Church include the sacred vocations to marriage and parenthood (the Council's focus in May 2008); to being a single person who leaves his or her mark on the world; to the religious life; to the diaconate.

Could local parishes, or clusters and deaneries, have their own vocations teams and representatives? Discernment resources need to be developed. Local areas could also organise vocations events, perhaps in liaison with the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. David Bagstaff. Fr. David picked up on the discussion and shared some thoughts on vocations, including that they are nurtured in an atmosphere of prayer and love in the home, school and parish. He distributed publicity cards (available in the back of church) for Invocation 2010 at Oscott College from 2nd - 4th July 2010. Various examples of discernment were given including information on the national vocations website. Fr. David concluded the afternoon by encouraging each parish to 'Grow your own priest' - for the service of the diocesan family. It is from our local Catholic communities that vocations to the priesthood must emerge.

Keeping in mind the uniqueness of our local community, our Forum meetings are part of how we participate in and help to develop our parish pastoral life and planning, including by reflecting on and discussing the topics for the Council of Laity. The topic for November will be "The New Role of the Laity".

Council of Laity Reports, Minutes, Constitution, plus the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, are online at <http://www.catholic-eastanglia.org/> – Contact Ronald Haynes (01223 690089 / [ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com](mailto:ronaldhaynes@yahoo.com) – OLEM) or Nick Ash ([nick.ash@ntlworld.com](mailto:nick.ash@ntlworld.com) - OLOL) for questions or further details.

**Parish Forum Steering Committee** – members include:

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Roberta Canning <[angliacatholic@aol.com](mailto:angliacatholic@aol.com)> (Forum Secretary)

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