

## **PARISH MEETING TUESDAY 26 JUNE**

Twelve were present at the Meeting held in the Day Chapel at 1900 Tuesday 26 June 2001.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

The Parishioner who had questioned the Parish's implementation of the Archdiocesan 5-Year Plan was not present, but reported, through the Parish Secretary, that the request for further information on this matter had not been carried out.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Father Gordon reported that the following had agreed to serve on the Parish Finance Committee, Pat Bennett, Kath Hastie, Anthony Hitchen and Sheila Ward.

### **MILLENNIUM PROJECT**

Father Gordon reported that he had hoped to implement some of the Millennium Committee's proposals in May only to be advised by the Surveyor that the Parish did not yet have the approval of the Historic Churches Committee for any works. Accordingly the Historic Churches Committee will hear applications from the Parish, on 12 July, for conversion of Oil heating to Gas, the erection of 13 Lighting Bollards from Lancaster Lane to the School, the erection of 500 Watt Floods in the Church (Nave and Aisle). The installation of two Radiators in the Cellar Room, which with the removal of the Oil Tank could then become a Room for Meetings and the Children's Liturgy. If approval is given the above works should commence in mid August.

At the same Meeting application is being made for work to be carried out in 2002. This is for the extension of the Sanctuary using the existing High Altar at the front of the Sanctuary instead of a second Altar. In addition the removal of the Altar from the Day Chapel back to the Lady Chapel, the conversion of the Day Chapel into a Meeting room with Tea and Coffee making facilities which can be used not only at meetings but also after Masses.

Father Gordon asked if there were any questions

A request was made for better lighting for the Car Park. It was felt that a very powerful Flood on the side of the Tower should replace the existing Lamp, which was totally inadequate for the Car Park.

A question was asked concerning the proposed path in the Northern area of the Cemetery. Unfortunately due to the Box Hedge which the Sisters had placed around their Burial plot (in our Cemetery) any such path could only be made with the moving of the Box hedge.

A question was asked concerning the implementation of a Garden of Remembrance for Ashes. Father Gordon replied this was currently under investigation. The main question was positioning. Three areas were suggested, the North side of the Church, the South Side of the Church or the NorthEast corner of the Cemetery.

Discussion arose concerning the colouring of the tarmacadam for the Path from Church to School. Dark rust would be more visible at night compared to black, which easily turns to green with weed.

Father Gordon commented on the Throne over the Tabernacle. He reported that God may decide its removal for us since sections of the Throne, which were only Plaster work, are currently dropping off.

A question was asked, on behalf of an absent Parishioner, as to why there were no Hymns sung to the Sacred Heart, Our Lady, Saint Patrick, Faith of our Fathers. Father Gordon replied that each Saturday evening in May there had been a Recessional hymn to Our Lady and we did sing the Hymn to Saint Patrick on Saturday 17 March. He emphasised that Hymns sung at Mass must be in conjunction with the Readings of the day and the theme of the Mass.

Concern was expressed about the proposal that Children who had made their first Holy Communion be present throughout the whole of Mass. The view was expressed that the Children should be instructed by their Parents to understand the Mass rather than to opt out. Father Gordon said some Clergy felt the decline in Vocations could be due to children losing out on the Mass. Children who had made their first Holy Communion would not be excluded from the one Children's Liturgy Group that would run from September. Perhaps some of the Year 6 Children could work as assistants? Father Gordon hoped that when the Sanctuary had been extended there would be more scope for involving the Children and the Youth at Mass - hopefully at least once a month.

Appreciation of the rung Angelus was expressed. It was proposed that the Saturday Mass Reader would lead the Congregation in the Angelus before the opening Hymn. Angelus cards had been produced by a Parishioner and Father would produce more.

The Meeting concluded with a Prayer and Blessing at 2020