

SFOAO Parish Liturgy Group
Record of Meeting 19 NOVEMBER 2024, 7 p.m., Parish Office

Present: Fr Gerard, Fr. Alfred, Margie Crook, Solomon Concessio, David Dobson.

1. Sacristans' meeting (postponed due to ill health): A new date has not been set but will be arranged shortly. The aim is to have this meeting before the end of the year. The meeting will welcome interested parties, as well as those already in the Ministry.
2. Nativity Scene: Work has begun on this, liaising with those previously involved in setting up the crib. It is proposed to have the crib in place by the first week of Advent and adding figures as appropriate as the Season progresses.
3. Because of the constraints of space and liturgical activities which may require space, the Advent Wreath and the Crib will be used this year, but the Jesse Tree will not. A suggestion was made, that symbols normally used for this tree be hung across the sanctuary wall.

(3) December 2024:

1. It was suggested that invitations be extended to various Ministries to offer a representative to light the candle on the Advent Wreath for the eight (Vigil/Sunday) Masses of Advent.
2. If symbols are hung across the sanctuary wall, the painting of St Francis of Assisi will be removed. The removal of this picture was discussed, and it was agreed that it is time for it to be respectfully and permanently placed in a location other than the centre of the sanctuary wall.
3. December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (but is transferred to the Monday, as the 8th is a Sunday.) On the Sunday, there is likely to be a Baptism and a farewell to Joe Green, who will finish his work in the parish on December 13th. There will be a morning tea following Mass on this day.
4. December rosters are in hand: Fr Alfred is providing oversight. There needs to be some clarification of co-ordinators for these Masses, especially the Christmas Eve Masses which are preceded by carol singing.

(4) January 2025:

1. It was noted that volunteers are invited to serve various ministries at Mass in January. These are generally 'shoulder-tapped' from those at Mass on the day.
2. January 1st (Solemnity of Mary) will be celebrated with a Mass at 9am.
3. Fr. Gerard celebrates 40 years of priesthood on Jan. 19th. It was suggested that this could serve as a celebration for the whole parish – a get together to both thank Gerard and to look forward as a parish to 2025, the year of Jubilee. It was thought wise to hold this celebration on 26th January, as people may be away for Wellington Anniversary weekend the previous weekend.

General Business:

Retained 'live' in the Minutes:

1. Posting of Minutes on the parish website: in hand.
2. In Lent 2025, because the parish has Catechumenates, readings will be Year A, not the designated Year C.
3. Training of Ministers: There have been technical difficulties with the Bridgeman videos.

New:

1. Is it time for a review of the Tuesday evening Mass time?
2. Should "refreshers" be considered for the various Ministries?
3. It was noted that the parish has a Facebook page.

Next Meeting: 28 January 2025.