

Weekly Message from Fr William for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 2023

Dear People of St Mary's, this Sunday falls within the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18th to 25th January. You'll find loads of information about this via two links on the bulletin for this Sunday. In Knaresborough we're marking it, as we usually do, with a 'pulpit exchange' this Sunday between the ministers of the Christian communities in the town (CTiK – Christians Together in Knaresborough). This year we are welcoming Rev Lisa Holland from the Anglican Ministry group who will be preaching at each of our three Sunday Masses after the Gospel.

As detailed in last Sunday's weekly message, we're preparing for elections to the Parish Pastoral Council. The task this Sunday is to make nominations to me by 12 noon Wednesday this week, following the guidance below, either by email to my pp address, or in writing.

I've received no notification of amendments or additions to the ministry lists since last Sunday. So now, have a look again at the two lists on the Atrium noticeboard and, if you wish to do so, make nominations for election. Remember to check with the person you're nominating that they are happy to be nominated. There are two positions to fill on the PPC this year – the representative for our Liturgy ministries, and the representative for our Interaction ministries, as detailed last Sunday.

The constitution also makes provision for electing to the PPC a member of the parish who does not have a role in any of the five ministry groups: Liturgy, Outreach, Support, Formation, Interaction. This option is available when one of the *appointed* members of the PPC finishes their term, as is the case this year. So if you wish to nominate a candidate for election to the PPC who has no specific ministry in the parish you may do so.

Someone elected to the PPC would normally serve a three year term on the council. They have some responsibility for representing in council the other ministries and ministers within their ministry group, but are also called upon to give me their opinion or advice on any matter that is raised in council for consultation. PPC meets four times a year, usually on a Monday evening. I strive to finish each meeting of the council within the 90 minutes allotted though it sometimes runs over as there is always a lot of business to get through. The last one ran over by 15 minutes.

Then next Sunday, the Fourth of Ordinary Time, I'll inform the parish those who have been nominated and will provide you each with the opportunity to vote on the nominated candidates. Voting will be online as last year. Provided your current email address is on the parish database you will receive an email with a link to the voting platform. If you don't have a current email address on the parish database talk to me after Mass this Sunday or send me a message via someone who can email me.



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, 22nd January 2023