

Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Lourdes

Parish Pastoral Council

Saturday 14 January 2023

Apologies: Nick Kenworthy-Browne, Chezarina Kirigua, Marc Lafferty, Shalini Lalvani, John Guy, Edwina Vernon

Present: Father Mervyn, Sister Marie Ann, Sula Wiltshire, Sharon Taylor, John Kirwan, John Hanlon, Maureen O'Neill, , Ruth Kennell,

- 1. Opening Prayer**
- 2. Minutes of the last meeting** (19 November 2022)- Approved
- 3. Matters Arising (not on Agenda)** – none raised
- 4. Report back from sub-groups/individuals about areas of focus**

EVANGELISATION

Sharon Taylor had contacted Paul Northam regarding Evangelisation to discuss resources. In the spirit of Evangelization, two options may appeal with a) CaFE Courses for catholic hour-long discussion programmes and b) Sycamore (<https://www.sycamore.fm>) offering excellent video/discussion resources offering a Catholic alternative to the Alpha Course. The idea of a Parish Retreat focusing on Faith and Prayer was offered, with all materials to run a day-long programme available on the Sycamore website.

In the following discussion, it was decided to hold the retreat on the 18th March at the Priory, inviting the PPC and members from different groups within the Parish (e.g. the Justice and Peace Group, the Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, etc) to attend. Sharon is to announce the format of the retreat at the end of each mass in the run up to the retreat outlining the format.

The Aim of the retreat would be to hold one every lent and advent giving participants an opportunity to discuss scripture passages, share reflections or just offer quiet contemplation

FORMATION

John Kirwan, John Hanlon and Nick Kenworthy Brown had met several times to explore the nature of what might work within our parish. They had concluded that given the overlaps between evangelisation and formation it would be helpful to include Sharon Taylor in further discussions (Sharon was agreeable to this). John gave an overview of various approaches that have been successful in the States and the UK, as well as some other resources supporting formation and evangelisation (both circulated to PPC members prior to the meeting). As the conversation continued the importance of leadership and having appropriate structures in place was recognised. Attention was drawn to the helpful document 'Co-responsibility in Unfolding God's Plan' produced by the Diocesan Co-responsibility Group (available at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/our-vision-co-responsibility>). It was suggested that further thought be given to what a vision and mission might look like at parish level and perhaps terms of reference for the PPC. As with school assessments, it might be valuable to work in notions of "Intent, Implementation and Impact". It was acknowledged that this all required discernment and was a work in progress. In Lent a five week evening Café course 'Belong and Believe' would be offered, and other formation programmes would

be considered in the light of feedback. It would be important to keep in mind that different members of the parish might want to participate in varied formation opportunities.

JUSTICE AND PEACE

Celia Deane-Drummond and Edward de Quay of the Laudato Si' Research Institute spoke to the group about how best to integrate the parish into Pope Francis' environmental message within the parish by having a Lenten Film night to screen "The Letter" [Official Trailer | The Letter: Laudato Si Film - Bing video](#).

Given the Birmingham Diocese has said that they are committed to Net Zero by 2030, the J&P group also looked to support sustainability projects such as solar panels. Fr Mervyn suggested that we invite Robert Eyles in to discuss feasible ways forward to have Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Lourdes be a positive example within the Guardians of Creation project.

LITURGY AND WORSHIP

Sr Marie Anne highlighted the Family Fast Day.

Sr also spoke of the Vienna International Religious Centre that translates weekly readings into over a dozen European languages: <https://www.virc.at/unit/virc/en/virc>. Sharing the link with the weekly readings can help those preferring to read the lessons in their own language.

EDUCATION

Following up with John Guy's suggestion of putting PPC minutes up on the website, it was also agreed that other group minutes would be added, and in particular, the Justice and Peace Committee minutes.

5. Leaflets for Churches (Welcome and Gift Aid etc)

John Guy sent the welcome leaflet written and an outline of the needs prior to the Pandemic. Shalini has offered to assist in updating it with John.

6 . CHANGE OF DATE FOR NEXT MEETING (Due to the Retreat now taking place on the 18th March)

Saturday 1 April 2023 12 noon Parish Hall

Future meetings will be on the 1st July 2023 and 9th September

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE SUMMER FETE: The Parish Fete will take place on the 25 th June.
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