

Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Lourdes

Parish Pastoral Council Draft Meeting Minutes

Saturday 1 April 2023

Present: Fr. Mervyn, Sister Marie Anne, Sula Wiltshire, Sharon Taylor (via Zoom), John Guy, John Kirwan, John Hanlon, Edwina Vernon, Shalini Lalvani, Maureen O'Neill

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies for absence: Nick Kenworthy-Brown, Chezarina Kirigua, Mark Lafferty, Ruth Kennell
3. Minutes of the last meeting (14 January 2023) modified and Approved
4. Matters arising from Minutes – none raised
5. Ongoing discussions about Diocese and Visions
 - Café **Belong and Believe** constitutes five Informal café style discussions exploring how our Celtic past can help us live the Christian life today. Themes: 1. Building welcoming communities; 2. Growing in faith together; 3. Being renewed in the Holy Spirit; 4. Caring for God's creation and 5. Evangelising with love & action.
<https://faithcafe.org/collections/belong-and-believe> **Attendance:** varied from 6 or 7 – to 12 across the sessions. Most people found the early evening timing good (7.15 for 7.30pm), with about an hour for each session being fine.
 - The Retreat Day was reviewed. Sharon had provided three pages of proforma to guide in the organisation. The set up with video displays (special thanks to Sister and Sharon's family). Those who attended from the PPC were very happy with the entire day reporting that it built on the Parish in several ways. There was a good mix of different people from the various mass times. Having a creche allowed for younger couples to attend and focus. It made participants think of what their faith means, particularly when held in Lent. There was a presence of the Holy Spirit in the sharing discussions. Use of a film in short extracts to keep people's attention along with the music assisted in the learning to pray. Having the Priory allowed for use of the chapel and with better weather, the garden. The review looked at where do we go from here, with the possibility of offering other models, involving prayer (and not just talking about prayer). Young mothers suggested revisiting the "bring and share lunch" in the Priory dining room. The idea of a Day of Prayer/Reflection to take different scripture passages to allow people to reflect on the meaning of the Gospel and take advantage to the priory chapel with the presence of the sacraments. The day might even end with a mass.
 - Another idea mentioned was a model based on Jesuit Campion Hall focus on deepening spirituality (and not necessarily building on community).
 - There was an eagerness to explore what we do for the younger age group, perhaps after confirmation with an appropriate speaker.
 - A further possibility for parallel programmes on the same day by combining the Baptist Church and the priory, perhaps focusing on altar servers and younger members would require more organisers but might allow for a wider participation to focus on family and the Parish.

6. Constitutions of The Parish Pastoral Council

FORMATION

Fr Michael Glover leads the Diocese Group "Unfolding God's Plan) which runs for 90 minutes.

What groups do we want to build on or begin and what do we need to foster. Planning a Eucharistic Minister meeting for 6th June in Priory Chapel from 7-8pm

'**Light of Truth**' website created by the Dominican Sisters in Lymington offers a range of short formation courses for individuals and groups, as well as for schools. <https://www.lightoftruth.uk>

Parish readers are considering attending their course for readers in June <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/readers>

EVANGELISATION

John Hanlon reported that there were a few ideas shared in the prayer group around the synodical pathway regarding mission and vision. They aim to make more headway to integrating into other groups. The need for a framework came up with wanting to define the terms of engagement. What are the needs, purpose, vision and mission as well as the framework between lay and clergy. There are discussions coming from the Diocese.

In future meetings we need to discuss how the PPC, not unlike a school governing body, will allow the subcommittees to have authority to do the work. We need to determine each's expectations. John Kirwan offered to draft guidelines of how we function. Shalini Lalvani offered to put up a board of who a parishioner can go to with specific details. John Hanlon will draft a working group model. It was thought we could look to other parishes for shared resources. There was also a hope that we will meet across different committees to lead to a broader reach within the Parish community.

JUSTICE AND PEACE

There are plans in the 20th April meeting to refresh reach to Parish with the ambitions of the group of sustainability, climate concerns, how we might imbed mission more strongly within the Parish and engage broader communities. Part of the Parish's commitment is to have an energy survey to get a baseline. Ideally we could ask the Diocese to do this as a pilot to try and respond to what all Parishes need to commit to.

SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

Parish Communications have John Guy overseeing the Parish website and weekly newsletter. Shalini Lalvani had created a Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091058601413>) and Instagram (<https://instagram.com/corpuschristiheadington?igshid=YjNmNGQ3MDY=>) presence to include events for parishioners to mark their attendance. She will also set up a Parish WhatsApp Group. She has also created a Google calendar for the parish to be shared soon. Also creating an excel sheet is possible.

The idea of a Parish Diary for scheduling purposes was raised. This is to better understand what is going on in the Parish throughout the year. The idea of compiling a diary through the office to determine dates for Liturgical, Social and preparation purposes. The suggestion was to create a Google Calendar to provide an overview for the year that includes Parish Group/Life and is linked on the website and also shared in hard copy on the newsletter to give parishioners a list of "dates for your diary".

Saturday 22nd April - Diocesan Vision meeting
Sunday 30th April 12:00hrs - Father Mervyn's 45th Ordination Anniversary celebrations
Sunday 28th May 12:00hrs - International Mass and Bring and Share lunch
Tuesday 6th June 7-8pm Eucharistic Minister's meeting
Sunday 25th June 12:00hrs - Corpus Christi Summer Fete
Saturday 1st July 12:00hrs - next PPC meeting
Saturday 29th July - Parish day trip to Bournemouth
After October half term - Next Cafe course
Sunday 26th November 12:00hrs - Corpus Christi Christmas Fete
Saturday 2nd December - Retreat - Day of recollection (tbd)

John Guy offered that instead of a PPC email address, we create a link on the website email with PPC in the Subject field.

LITURGY

We have four completely different liturgies but agree that all work successfully in different ways. It is nice to have the welcome greeting and discussed if we might consider having those going for Confirmation to committee to greetings.

Fr Mervyn will be going to the Deanery Meeting on the 22nd of April. He will look for two parishioners to join the meeting.

7. AOB A suggestion was raised to hold a possible Friends of the Holyland Quiz night in September. Also Annaliese Dodd had been invited to visit the Parish.

8. Next Meeting: 1st July 2023 at noon in Parish Hall.