

Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Saturday 9 September 2023

Present: Fr. Mervyn, John Guy, John Kirwan, John Hanlon, Shalini Lalvani, Nick Kenworthy-Brown
Maureen O'Neill

1. Opening Prayer

2. Apologies for absence: Marc Lafferty, Ruth Kennell, Sula Wiltshire, Sharon Taylor, Edwina Vernon

3. Minutes of the last meeting (1 July 2023) modified and approved

4. Matters arising from Minutes – none

5. Purpose, Vision & Mission -

- The proposed Vision and Mission statement was discussed again, resulting in the following agreed vision statement “A welcoming and dynamic Catholic community, with the Eucharist at the centre, reaching out to all.”
- In reviewing the Word Cloud list generated by JG, it was noted that while the comments were mainly very positive a few were somewhat negative in tone and Fr Mervyn observed that it might be helpful to follow these up (if possible, as responses were anonymous).
- It was agreed that putting up an A1 size of the Word Cloud image incorporating the newly agreed vision would be useful. Further consideration needed to be given as to the best way to introduce the parish to the full Vision/Mission framework, so that a shared understanding was developed.
- One area for development highlighted in discussion was involving teenagers and exploring family life. The question of how we enliven the young of the parish and give an element of responsibility and ownership to them was considered. Initial ideas were finding an event linked to World Youth Day, or potentially sending a contingent of young parishioners to the Jubilee Celebration in Rome in 2025 (if we can find a way to fund that). One young parishioner, Joe, had attended the World Youth Day celebrations in Portugal and had then spoken to the parish about it (this might be put up on the website) and in future a section might be developed focusing on opportunities for engagement for the young people of the parish. This might include involving younger parishioners in the bidding prayers for Christ the King. Giving ownership to younger parishioners for organising the Christmas Fete or another social activity was also suggested. Action – the above to be followed up in the context of the mission statement key areas. JK to update the Vision/ Mission statement and circulate to PPC.

6. Working together as a PPC document

- Minor amendments to the document had been made following the discussion at the last meeting and these were all accepted. Fr Mervyn offered that he needn't be Chair so nominations were made and it was agreed that John Kirwan would now take on this role. An agenda and papers would be circulated in advance of future meetings. Action – JK to circulate updated working together document.

- Future meetings will include decisions on rotation terms of office and inclusion of broadening representation within the membership, to include co-opting members for specific initiatives.
- The Justice & Peace group had met on 6th October. It was reported that the 'Fix the Food system' letter signing had achieved over 400 signatures from the parish. Forthcoming parish events included:
 - A Quiz night in aid of Friends of the Holy Land was being held in the parish hall on 10th Sept.
 - CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day, on 6th October, will include a soup dinner at 6:30pm in the parish hall

7. Future dates: 6th October CAFOD Fast Day and soup dinner, Café – 'Joy of Hope' evening discussion sessions (x 4) starting 2nd November, Sunday 26th November Parish Christmas Fete, Saturday 2nd December Parish Advent Day of Prayer. SL requested these be added to the website.

8. AOB - none

9. Date of next meeting - Sat 9 December 2023, 12.00, in Parish Hall