

# Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish

## Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Saturday 9 December 2023

Present: Fr. Mervyn, John Guy, John Kirwan (Chair), John Hanlon, Shalini Lalvani, Marc Lafferty, Ruth Kennell, Sharon Taylor, Anna Brooke, Sr Marie-Anne, Maureen O'Neill

1. Opening Prayer

2. Apologies for absence: Edwina Vernon, Sula Wiltshire, Nick Kenworthy-Brown. Anna Brooke was welcomed to her first meeting.

3. Minutes of last meeting – 9th September 2023 (approved)

4. Matters arising from the minutes:

JK had noted the need to consider staggering appointments to the PPC in future and that some comments from the Word Cloud feedback process could be considered in due course.

5. Working Together as a PPC:

- Discussion on shifting meetings for realignment to fit liturgical calendar, with PPC dates agreed for 2024.
- Approval for a Parish Guide defining relevant roles (eg training Altar Services, compiling Readers lists, etc), who is responsible for those roles and other useful information. ML will coordinate the list and JG will design it to share on the Corpus-OLL website.

6. Vision & Mission - launching of Vision & Mission statement

- It was agreed that the vision statement and Word Cloud would feature as a poster on the CC and OLL notice boards, in the newsletter, Church Hall and website. JG to create and JH to produce, aiming for the weekend of 13/14<sup>th</sup> Jan.
  - On weekend of 13/14<sup>th</sup> January (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday OT) JK to briefly speak after masses about the PPC & Vision/Mission/ Word Cloud poster.
  - SL will continue to put up key Parish dates on FB/Instagram and JG on the Parish website
  - Parishioners will be offered the opportunity to suggest items for the attention of the PPC, in advance of future meetings. This would most likely be by way of a newsletter reminder 3 weeks before (JG), a 'suggestions box' monitored by the office and also an option to e-mail MON as PPC secretary, with deadline a week before the next meeting.

### Co-responsibility (incl. Synodality & Leadership)

- i. Synod update Oct 2023 – JK shared a summary note of the Synod Synthesis Report. The full report can be accessed at [General Assembly Synthesis ReportDownload](#) The second session of the Synod will take place in October 2024
- ii. Parish renewal approaches – (a) Divine Renovation – 3 Keys to unlocking parish potential; (b) Called & Gifted discernment of charisms process.

After viewing two short videos on Divine Renovation and charisms, the PPC discussed how we might approach exploring these areas. JK to further research Divine Renovation/Called & Gifted and to share information arising.

**a) Evangelisation & Formation** (welcome, 'Good News', faith development)

- ST reported that the Journey in Faith meetings are well attended with a core of regulars and others joining in.
- CaFE - Joy of Hope sessions. JK reported that these had attracted a number of parishioners, with several from other parishes joining in too.
- Engaging young people. SL commented on the engagement of young people with the running of the Christmas Fete, the pizza gathering and summer fete. Family trips, like in this past year to Bournemouth, have also proven very popular ways to engage our youth. It was agreed that, to some extent, ideas and events have to emerge organically and also at the request of younger parishioners.

**b) Liturgy & Worship** (inc. prayer, sacramental preparation, ecumenical fellowship)

- Year of Prayer 2024, Jubilee Year 2025 - Fr Mervyn wants to build on the focus of prayer this liturgical year, in preparation for next year's Jubilee Year which commences in Advent 2024.
- JG suggested CAFOD reflections from around the world as a prompt.
- ST and JH will explore running a Parish Reflection Day in Lent, liaising with Sr M over venue availability and provision for young people.
- Fr Mervyn mentioned that useful resources for the year of prayer were available and JK highlighted the prayer page on the Archdiocese Office for Mission's website <https://www.vocations.org.uk/year-of-prayer-2024>

**Ecumenical engagement**

- AB reported on the recent history of Churches Together in Headington (now Headington Churches) and JG observed that there is also active ecumenical activity in Wheatley.
- AB reported a recent decision of Headington Churches to focus on the church's involvement on the Environment. [Eco Church](#), for example, which has a checklist of ways to engage in developing a church's environmental rating.
- One issue mentioned was the Headington water runoff that goes into the Lye Valley, causing problems. The Lye Valley Association will present a plan of action around this at St Andrew's on Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm. AB will get more information to share.
- Fr Mervyn thanked Anna for taking on this important liaison role.

**c) Social Outreach** (incl. J&P/Action for a Fairer World; support for those in need)

- Justice and Peace (Action for a Fairer World) update: minutes of the meeting on 29 Nov, including the care for creation mtg at St Andrews, were noted along with actions (see Ecumenical update above and Finance section below).

- Bereavement Support Group: a report was received from Edwina Vernon, who has facilitated the Bereavement Support Group (BSG) on a monthly basis, since October 2022. The BSG meets for 1 hour on the first Saturday of the month after morning mass in the church hall. There have been regular attendees of those recently bereaved alongside others affected by longer term bereavements. Collectively the group meets to offer emotional support and guidance within a confidential setting.

Edwina would now like to open the group out further into the local community to people of faith and non-believers and the PPC gave full endorsement to this suggestion.

Fr Mervyn thanked Edwina for creating the Bereavement Support Group and for her offering to extend its reach.

#### 6. Finance Council update – (finance, building & resources)

The PPC approved a request from the J&P group to use some funds from the Christmas fete for a donation to Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) and left a possible donation to the Salvation Army to Fr Mervyn's discretion.

Fr Mervyn observed that consideration of the installation of Photovoltaic panels on the roof of the Church in Headington was ongoing.

7. PPC Meetings in 2024 will take place on the following dates from noon – 13:30 in the Church Hall.

- 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024
- 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024
- 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dates for the Parish Reflection Day, the Summer Fete and future celebrations will be discussed via email.

9. PPC Membership – full complement at present, to be kept under review.

The meeting closed with a prayer.

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT

<b>Member</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date to be determined to enable staggered reappointments</b>
Fr Mervyn	corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk	17 Sept 2022	
Sr Marie Anne	mapriory@yahoo.co.uk	17 Sept 2022	
Anna Brooke	<a href="mailto:anna.brooke@live.co.uk">anna.brooke@live.co.uk</a>		
John Guy	johnjguy@gmail.com	17 Sept 2022	
John Hanlon	johnandrewhanlon@googlemail.com	17 Sept 2022	
Ruth Kennell	Ruthie97@live.com	17 Sept 2022	
Nick Kenworthy-Browne	nick@nickthecomposer.com	17 Sept 2022	
John Kirwan	Johnkirwan1a@gmail.com	17 Sept 2022	
Shalini Lalvani	Shalini_francis@hotmail.com	17 Sept 2022	
Mark Lafferty	Marc@thelaffertys.co.uk	17 Sept 2022	
Maureen O'Neill	Maureen@maoneilloxford.com	17 Sept 2022	
Sharon Taylor	Ladystay202@btinternet.com	17 Sept 2022	
Edwina Vernon	evvernon@yahoo.co.uk	17 Sept 2022	
Sula Wiltshire	sulawiltshire@gmail.com	17 Sept 2022	