OUR LADY OF LOURDES

HARPENDEN

MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

TUESDAY 24th January

7.45pm

UNDERCROFT

MINUTES

- Opening Prayer – said by Canon.

1. Welcome & Apologies – No apologies.
2. Minutes of last meeting –
   Jon to send minutes of previous meetings to Lorna at Comms. Canon has also sent them to Melanie.
3. Matters Arising –
   Warm Spaces has started – small numbers as yet. Same at other churches. Canon has a meeting coming up with our helpers to discuss the situation. Suggestion is to end the scheme. 28 helpers came forward: few new people and generally older people. The Sign-Up sheet was thought to be helpful for attracting support.
   Children's sheets – need to be 'publicised' in the absence of people to hand them out. A notice will be placed in the Newsletter by Canon.
   The Welcomers scheme will need developing in the coming months. Prayer intentions book has arrived – Canon will put a notice in the newsletter.
4. Family & Young People Project
   Reflections on Christmas Family Mass – Feedback really positive – some said best Christmas Mass ever. Canon very positive.
   Next Steps – Tony will email via PPC email potential volunteer parents for primary school outreach (mostly parents with primary school age children.) Eddie will assist with a meeting. Sign on Reconciliation Room to be changed – suggested name – Reconciliation and Children's Room.
5. 'Live Simply' Environmental Policy –
   was praised by the PPC. LiveSimply to suggest a priority for next three months. Specific times of year for particular actions? Suggestions: pop-ups on noticeboard; newsletter comment telling people policy is on website. Deadline – April for amendments and comments to the policy by PPC (next meeting of LS Environment Group.) Diocese have conducted an energy audit of the Presbytery. Canon will ask for the feedback.
6. Coming Year (discussed after Matters Arising):

   Further four PPC members – existing members to send names to Canon. 9.45 attendees needed. Young people (Year 12?) Split PPC into groups to deal with different areas?

   PPC areas of work – which groups in the parish need attention? Missionary Discipleship including Social Action and Outreach and culture change in the parish are important themes for us. Things like a Mothers' and Toddlers Group are valuable as 'vehicles' for community outreach, getting new people introduced to the church and the parish. Appetite among teenagers for activities – they could create their own group, guided and overseen by adults. Follow up to FLAME with non-Confirmation candidates? Canon will speak to Anne P about supporting those in financial difficulties who would like to go. Youth Friendly Mass. Noticeboard for families and young people. Jon will liaise with Sister Regina about use of the LiveSimply noticeboard.
7. Suggestions from PPC email –

   Jon checked at the w/e but no new emails. Training is needed for readers who cannot be heard very well – microphone training.

8. Any other business –

Rail by ambo, steps to Undercroft: these are ongoing issues which Canon is continuing to press with the Diocese.

PPC priorities for environmental action? LS Environment Group ideas to tie-in with families work of PPC:
Involve young people in the parish in environmental initiatives – e.g. - Wednesday Walks; get children to hand out information at Mass – FairTrade week etc.); competitions – design for a compost heap; gardening (grow your own) – get children to hand out seeds at Mass/put pictures of what's grown on social media to spread the word.

9. Date of next meeting – Tuesday March 7th. 7.30 to end at 9.00. Six-weekly meetings.

J.V.Newham

Secretary

24.1.23.