OUR LADY OF LOURDES

HARPENDEN

MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MONDAY 22nd JANUARY 2024

7.30pm

UNDERCROFT

MINUTES

PRESENT: Canon Anthony, Eddie, Jon, Liz, Jane, Lucy, Mark, Katie,

1. Opening Prayer – said by Canon.
2. Welcome & Apologies – Dom, Sarah, Fernanda, Caroline, Dennis.
3. Minutes of last meeting – Accepted.
4. Matters Arising – none (other than those on the agenda.)
5. Reflections on Christmas celebrations/arrangements – very crowded 10.00 Sunday evening Mass. Right decision to cut number of Sunday Masses. Nativity, Travelling Crib (all dates were filled), and music were praised. Carols by Candlelight on Friday – good idea (well attended, great variety of music, streaming a good idea.) Canon pleased with how the Christmas celebrations went. Thanks to Katie for the work of the choir. Suggestions for 2024: Two Travelling Cribs. 9.45 – children wear homemade Nativity hats.
6. Taking forward suggestions from Parish Survey -

   Given the volume of responses, how can we do, approach, this?

   - Taking forward suggestions from Parish Survey – a small sub-group will be formed to follow up these issues before next meeting (Canon + 2 volunteers) **Let Jon know if you are interested in joining this group**. Parishioners need to be kept up to date with developments so that they are aware of what has been done (newsletter / Comms Group.)
7. Goals/Hopes for PPC in coming year – (**Fernanda to recirculate her PowerPoint about the Parish Survey**.) Announcements at Mass to try and reach out to those not already involved, to take part in parish activities. PPC to work more closely with LiveSimply to embed it more fully in parish life. Every family to contribute something to parish life. Need an altar server co-ordinator (adult) – learn on the job with senior altar server?
8. Parish Family/Youth Worker – Canon wishes to see how existing work develops to take a view on what support is necessary for those who already take a lead in this area. Review in a year's time. There is a sense of a need for a Parish Co-ordinator to 'join all the dots' in parish activities. A job spec needs to be drawn up in time for next year's review.
9. Any other business -
   - *9.45am Mass involvement – A Co-Ordinator has been appointed: Caroline Gladkow.*
   - *Church Notice Boards – There needs to be a rearrangement of the boards so they are all visible.*
   - *Defibrillator – Catenians may be prepared to fund one. Jon will enquire at the next Catenian meeting.*
   - *Heating of Presbytery – secondary glazing now put in. Boiler will be replaced.*
   - *Better communication needed when there are heating problems. Heaters available in the church.*
   - *Noodle Box needs to be advertised (hot meal for those with limited means.)*
   - *Water needed at back of church during services.*
   - *Handrail by ambo – architect has drawings ready which need to be approved by Historic Churches. This will be an item for the next agenda.*
   - *Let Jon and Eddie have items of AOB a week in advance of the meeting.*

10. Date of Next Meeting – Monday February 26th at 7.30 p.m.

JON TO CHECK PARISH EMAIL!!!