OUR LADY OF LOURDES

HARPENDEN

MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

TUESDAY 13th June 2023

7.30pm

UNDERCROFT

MINUTES

- Opening Prayer – said by Canon.

1. Welcome & Apologies – Sarah, Mark. 7 present.
2. Minutes of last meeting – Ed spoke to All Saints – they do not have a paid parish assistant. St George's to be visited Wednesday 14th about mutual support. Joint meetings with Comms team – we will try and have at least one rep at each meeting. Choir – they would like a PPC member to attend their events and possibly speak. School reps to be actioned for the start of the new school year – notice in newsletter.
3. Matters Arising – covered in agenda.
4. Taking Forward suggestions from Parish Survey – Top suggestion – Youth Club. Other items to be taken forward at future meetings.
5. Children's Involvement in Family Mass – Leaflet – thanks to Lucy for her excellent work on this. Comments on this are still encouraged; the general opinion was that the leaflet is very good as it stands. Volunteers needed to run the different elements of the service. These would not be onerous tasks. Team(s) were proposed to organise events for children (for attenders at 9.45) and young people (for attenders at 6.00 p.m. Mass) – to be publicised at Mass and through the newsletter, to start in September. We have a list of potential volunteers from the pizza night who might be approached. Lucy will put together a rationale for the teams. Canon will review the leaflet and consider who might be suitable as a co-ordinator for the 9.45 Mass. Additional comments from PPC members by July 1st please. Paid youth worker - fixed term part-time contract: 4 members agreed with this. 2 abstained. This vote was advisory for Canon.
6. 'Youth friendly Masses' & Youth activities – Post-Confirmation. Youth friendly Masses once a month is the aim, followed by a social activity in the Undercroft (could be the germ of a youth group) – parents needed to assist with this. Fernanda is willing to help co-ordinate. Comms Group need to be involved in constantly promoting it.
7. Sacramental Preparation
   - *First Communion* – there is concern about attendance at Mass post-First Communion. Parents will need to see Canon for a conversation beforehand rather than fill in a form. No-one will be refused, but some might be told 'not yet.'
   - *Confirmation* – same concern.
   - There was acknowledgement in the group that the world had changed, and that less emphasis had to be placed on duty and obligation, which would no longer be automatically followed. Therefore, various changes would probably need to be made to the sacramental preparation programmes, with more involvement of parents and children.
8. Suggestions from PPC email – nothing further at this stage.
9. Any other business – Additional PPC members: Canon believes he will have the 4 names ready by September. MDT/Comms Group Meeting – 8.00 p.m. in the Undercroft. July 19th. Lucy can attend.
10. Date of next meeting – Monday 17th July 2023 @ 7.30 p.m. One item – paid worker.

J.Newham

Secretary 13.6.23