

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES**

**HARPENDEN**

**MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**7.30pm**

**UNDERCROFT**

- Canon led the Opening Prayer.
- 1. Welcome & Apologies – Sarah (work), Fernanda (family)
- 2. Minutes of last meeting –
  - amendments: item 4 – second bullet point – full stop after ‘9.45 Mass’, then – ‘discussion re. restarting children’s Masses. Lucy will circulate the ‘how do’ document that was produced in 2020.’ Sixth bullet point – ‘and other local churches,’ rather than only Bethany Church.
- 3. Matters Arising – covered in agenda.
- 4. Family & Young People Project –
  - Proposed scheme: Roles: leaders for 4 different age groups (pre-school; 6-11; 11-16; 16+.)
  - Knowledge of safeguarding important.
  - 4 step process – prepare for launching (May); communication to parishioners (first half June, including ‘You Said, We Did’ link to Parish Survey etc.) and invite people to come forward (second half June) and formation of groups (July); execution (July) – 4 different age group leaders come up with initiatives to start in September. This plan was approved.
  - Need to liaise with comms group – Victoria Johnson and Rachel Lee especially (and Alison for Parish Survey.)
  - Canon will provide Tony with contact details.
  - How we give family support is also crucial, not just to the young people themselves.
  - Tony will circulate a summary of his and Fernanda’s proposals. This has been done. Thanks were expressed to Tony and Fernanda for their work.
- 5. Follow up to Synodal Pathway & Parish Survey –
  - Lucy will check with Fernanda as to progress.
  - Combined Diocesan response to Synodal Pathway is on website (link in newsletter.) It was suggested that Canon announce this at Mass.
- 6. Ukraine –
  - Methodists hosting 4 families, with parish support. St. Nicholas has a support group ready. Support group for Ukrainians in Luton.
  - We discussed the importance of being proactive on major issues – e.g. support for those who have decided to host families in the parish, and linking up with the Methodists.
  - It was suggested a message go in the newsletter saying we will be working with the Methodists, and for parishioners to let the PPC know how we can support parishioners hosting a Ukrainian family.

7. Holy Week & Easter –

- Numbers were up (c. 1,000 over the Triduum.)
- The work of the choir was much appreciated.
- There was a general sense that the week was joyous and moving.

8. Any other Business –

- Canon – Children's Liturgy has happened twice. Lucy will email the school and ask them to put the dates of the CL into their newsletter.
- Website 'draft' will be shown at the next meeting. The link will be circulated before the meeting.
- It was appreciated that it may take some time for people to want to get out and see other people again and that some people will probably not come back to Mass. There are various reasons for this.
- The Welcome team is a welcome initiative, especially the young people.
- The altar servers' situation has improved.
- Jon: steps down to Undercroft need cleaning (potentially dangerous in bad weather) – there is an ongoing issue with the steps; status of Parish Environment Policy – Paul D. to resend to Canon; has Diocese been approached re. the need for a handrail by the ambo? Canon will approach the Diocese.
- LGBT Community – needs to be a standing item on the Agenda. The issue was mentioned in a number of the Synodal meetings. There are links on the diocesan website – Lucy to send.

9. Date of next Meeting – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 p.m. in the Undercroft.