

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

HARPENDEN

MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

TUESDAY 14th June

7.30pm

UNDERCROFT

AGENDA and MINUTES

PRESENT: Canon Anthony, Alison (website), Fernanda, Jon, Tony, Mark, Eddie, Lucy, Liz.

- Opening Prayer – said by Canon Anthony.
- 1. Welcome & Apologies –
 - Sarah (work.)
- 2. Minutes of last meeting –
 - The April minutes (corrected version) needed to be sent to Canon for publication.
- 3. Matters Arising –
 - Welcome Team needs support (more people needed.)
- 4. Parish Website –
 - Alison presented the new Parish website in its development version.
 - Necessary preparatory work had been interrupted by Covid.
 - It is designed to reflect the recent work done following the Parish Survey etc., and to appeal to different groups.
 - The idea was not simply to be factual, but to give a sense of the vibrancy of the parish and its work, and to encourage participation.
 - A feedback form might be included.
 - Hoping to go live next week.
 - Alison was congratulated for the excellence of her team's work.
 - Suggestions from PPC: Resources should be moved to a different section; PPC should have an email address (this was agreed); how do we keep in touch with those without computers? Hard copy newsletters is one way.
- 5. Family & Young People Project –
 - Need to communicate plan at Mass and through social media.
 - Fernanda and Tony were willing to speak at the end of Mass, possibly after a fortnight's awareness raising.
 - The Comms Team would be approached for advice.
 - Volunteers before summer a possibility.
 - Fernanda would email another document that she had produced on the project.
- 6. Follow up to Synodal Pathway & Parish Survey –
 - LGBT – the issue was more about acceptance by the Church as an institution, rather than people feeling not welcomed at a parish level; the PPC discussed whether more could still be done at a parish level to ensure that LGBT people were welcome; the importance of ensuring that people had a clear view of what the Church actually taught was stressed; it was also understood that communication in general was important.
 - Fernanda presented her PowerPoint on consolidation of the Synodal Pathway and Parish Survey.
 - 6 areas had been identified to expand discussions:
 - a) Children, Youth and family/Involving and nurturing the young
 - b) Greater parishioner engagement /A sense of community and belonging
 - c) Guiding and supporting our spiritual journey/A supportive parish
 - d) Welcoming and inclusive of everyone
 - e) A vibrant, growing and evolving parish/An outward-looking parish
 - f) A Church we are proud of telling about to others

- Fernanda raised a number of questions / issues that needed to be followed up: people like the church but perhaps there is something missing in their experience; this may be to do with the need for deeper spiritual interactions and faith understanding, and how the church approaches issues of inclusion; in particular people are wondering what the next step after the Synodal Pathway might be; the importance of 'quick wins' where possible was stressed, e.g. resources for faith development listed on the website; another issue raised was how to support those who still had concerns about historic abuse; Faith Development needed its own group.

- Thanks were expressed to Fernanda for her work.

7. PPC Terms of Reference –

- The review of this would be held over until the autumn.

8. Agenda items –

- Canon invited contributions from the PPC to the monthly agenda.

9. Any other Business –

- Stairs to Undercroft – John Saliot has cleaned them; handrail by ambo – Canon will follow up with Diocese.

10. Date of next Meeting –

- Tuesday July 12th at 7.30 in the Undercroft.