

Blessed Hugh Faringdon
PPC Meeting 13 January 2022

Minutes

Mission Statement

1. To go out and Mission to Everyone;
2. Support and Strengthen the Community;
3. Prayerful and Committed to the Faith;
4. Outreach to ethnic minorities;
5. Outreach to key workers;
6. To Nurture the young people and youth of our parish to ensure they feel valued members of our community

Present: Father Claro Conde, Kathleen Thomas (Chair), Lorraine Brabin, Emmanuel Boakye, Clare Cottingham, Audrey Curnock (Minutes) Andrew Chell, Mary Hughes, Nicole Kamugishan, JP Crilly. (Members of the steering committee were also invited).

Papers tabled : Diocesan guidelines for the PPC (2010).

1. We began with an **opening prayer** lead by Loraine.
2. **Introduction & Welcome:** Fr Claro outlined the role of the Pastoral Council. Our role is one of support to the Parish Priest, appointed at his discretion. Supporting the pastoral needs of the parish is key and this is what we need to focus on in all we do. Our role is one of **Synodality** – literally this means together - journey. The church uses this term to describe the process of fraternal collaboration and discernment that bodies such as ours are created to express.

-In the recent past we have focussed too much on Finance and Maintenance but now Fr Claro has established the new committee for this, we can now focus solely on pastoral needs of the parish of Blessed Hugh. Fr Claro outlined his ideas for the committee structures – as yet he has to determine the overall memberships. There will be some re-organisation of people's roles. Some new members of the PPC will be in apprenticeship. Fr Claro will call a meeting of the New Steering Committee to consider memberships overall.

ACTION: Next meeting of the Steering Committee to be set, by Fr Claro for February.

-JP Crilly has been asked by Reggie Norton to take over the role of Cafod Representative. The parish thanks Reggie for his many years of service.

ACTION: JP to be the CAFOD representative.

3. **Mission of the Parish:** Fr Claro outlined his priority is develop our Parish mission statements. We looked again at these, reflected on them and there was some discussion. We agreed they were still current.
4. **Sacraments and Ministries within the Parish.**
 - a. **Confirmation**

Fr Claro would like all candidates to have training for all the various roles that are available, such as altar servers, readers, etc. There are about 14 candidates. Helena Boakye and Nicole Kamugishan are taking on the role of leading the Confirmation Group, and we warmly thank them for this important work. As always, parents will play an important role in teaching these young people about the Faith. A few of the candidates are working and are unable to attend the 9am Sunday instruction sessions, so they will have YouTube videos and online instruction from Fr Claro.
 - b. **Music Ministry and the Youth**

Lyn Williamson & Clare Cottingham are actively preparing for young people to be involved within the music ministry. For example, learning the keyboard. This would require some commitment from the young people, but with our support and practical help, this can begin; this is how we will build our church for tomorrow. Bidding Prayers for young people – CAFOD have some good resources that we might use.
 - c. **Ministry for the sick and housebound** - we are pleased that Zoom masses continue (in real time with some participation) where the housebound and sick or those shielding can still worship with us and be part of Parish life. This has been so important at times during this pandemic.
 - d. **Ministry for Bereavement** – Wednesday morning group –this now regularly meets at 10am in the church hall, it is hoped there will be a day of Retreat at Boar’s Hill with the Carmelites. The provisional date of 23 February is yet to be confirmed.
 - e. **Supporting the Youth of our Parish**

The Oratory in Oxford host a monthly meeting for the 18-35 age group. It is hoped we might take a group of young people to this, the next meeting is Friday 21st January at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. The question for discussion is “How do I hear the voice of God?” There is also a Young Oratory group (11-16’s) that meet Tuesdays at 5pm.
 - f. **Ethnic Minorities Support** – Fr Claro encourages this within our Parish. At Christmas we had an African component to our Christmas Eve service which was very well-received and we thank those who enabled this. Continuing in this theme, Fr suggests we can have ethnic components to our liturgy (African, Filipino etc or Gaelic liturgy), and possibly hold an Irish evening on March 17th. Helena and Nicole will alternate attending the PPC to represent some of the ethnic minorities within the parish.
 - e. **First Communion Programme**

Clare Cottingham is leading this team, and she outlined that only one family has signed up so far although several others have said they are planning to do this. Possibly they have not seen the newsletter. Consent forms for attending Children’s liturgy are also required.

ACTION Mary Hughes to bring Consent forms to Church and also put some in the Children's liturgy register.

5. The meeting closed with prayers especially for Mairead Boyce who has just passed away. May she rest in peace.

Next meeting : Tuesday 17th February, at 8.15pm on Zoom.

Chair = Lorraine, Minutes = Kathleen. Zoom link = Audrey.