

Blessed Hugh Faringdon
PPC Meeting 17th February 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 (Chair), Lorraine Brabin, Clare Cottingham, Audrey Curnock, Nicole Kamugishan, JP Crilly, Kathleen Thomas (Minutes)

Apologies; Andrew Chell, Mary Hughes

Opened with a prayer lead by Fr Claro.

Ash Wednesday, Lent and Easter

- It was agreed that there will be a Mass t 10.00am and 6.00pm at Blessed Hugh on Ash Wednesday.
- Lenten activities to raise money for Cafod were discussed. The Cafod Family Fast Day is scheduled for 11th March and Fr Claro has received the donation envelopes. JP has proposed that the Parish takes part in the in the Cafod Walk Against Hunger. This can be done in two ways, individuals can commit to walking 5K per day during Lent and raise funds for Cafod through sponsorship or we can do a Parish walk from Faringdon to Buckland. The Parish walk will take place on 2nd April, JP to look into the best route.
- We will discuss the Easter arrangements at the next PPC meeting. The confirmation candidates will be involved in the whole Triduum reading, serving etc as part of their preparation for confirmation.

Confirmation

- Nicole reported on the Confirmation meeting held last night. Candidates and parents will meet once a month at 9.00am on a Sunday and on other Sundays they will arrive at 9.45 on time to get their robes on.
- They are getting more involved in the Mass doing bidding prayers and taking part in welcoming soon. It was suggested that some of the existing welcomers mentor the candidates to train them in welcoming.
- Audrey is kindly organising a simple breakfast for them when they have to arrive at 9.00.
- Faith Cells are being arranged which are small community groups of candidates and their families who will meet in each other's homes to pray, practice faith and have Lenten discussions in order to both help the candidates prepare and get to know each other.
- Nicole will run some team building sessions to give them the confidence to discuss their faith openly with each other.

First Holy Communion

- The first meeting took place after Mass on Sunday 13th Feb and there will be 7 further sessions with the last one on 15th May.
- The sessions will be led by parents following the I Belong preparation course and they will be assisted by Clare, Kathleen, Lorraine or Audrey who have been through the course before.
- The First Communion date is set for 12th June.
- It was decided that the Reconciliation date will be on Saturday 11th June. Clare will contact the parents to ensure that this date is suitable.

Ministry to the sick and bereaved.

- The Mass for the sick last Sunday went very well with lots of positive feedback. As well as the Wednesday morning meetings Fr Claro has been visiting the sick and taking them to local coffee mornings when they are able to give them some social interaction. Fr Claro will go through our team of Eucharistic ministers to renew and he will give training to new volunteers. Happily, Helena and Nicole have volunteered to take on this role. Arrangements were made for Kathleen and Lorraine to regularly bring Communion to two parishioners in Southmoor.

Synodality Process

This document was discussed at the previous PPC meeting and was distributed to the parish for comment. Audrey is very busy working hard to collate all of the feedback to get it ready to send to the Diocese.

AOB

- JP reported that during his online Cafod meeting other parishes reported that the return to Church was slow post Covid and that it was difficult to get the young people back. However, we have a very different picture at Blessed Hugh and we are very grateful for that.
- St Patrick's Day was discussed, it will be celebrated in Mass on 20th March. We will bring some food and arrange for some Irish hymns. Kathleen to contact Sjoerd.
- With the sad loss of Mairead our "rota queen" and the growing number of ministries and volunteers, the need for all rotas to be coordinated was discussed so that no one ends up doing two things at once.

The meeting closed with prayers led by Fr Claro.

Next meeting : 24th March at 8.15pm.