

Blessed Hugh Church Faringdon

PPC Minutes 27th April 2023

8.15 p.m.

Mission Statement

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

Attending: Fr Claro Conde, Paul Padley, Kathleen Thomas, Aude Echaliier, Lorraine Brabin, JP Crilly, Nicole Kamugisha, Helena Boakye, Friar John Bosco & Maria Costa.

Apologies: Mike Lubienski

Opening prayer

Items

1. Matters arising and actions from the last meeting

Action	Person Responsible	Outcome?
Share summary of Clergy Area X meeting.	Fr Claro	Fr claro has distributed.
Print off some more Direct Debit forms for Closer to Christ	Andrew	Actioned by Andrew 23 rd April
Set up a Young Families group	JP, Aude and Michael	Ongoing
Look at dates when there is a Saturday market in Faringdon to ensure that we have it on a busy day.	Kathleen	It is on weekly
Check with Mary Hughes if there is anything we need to do with Tianie regarding safeguarding and DBS checks.	Kathleen	Thianie now has the necessary forms
Arrange a planning meeting to organise the schedule for the Triduum.	Paul	All went well
Get some more details on Churches Together Holiday Club	Paul	Paul will email church community to explore desire for a holiday club.

2. Youth group update

The Youth group is going from strength to strength thanks to Nicole and Helena. They have now moved to the Church hall and there were 20 in attendance last meeting. Friar John Bosco will come to the next meeting to give a talk and lead a discussion. There will be other talks planned in the future. Nicole also mentioned that they want to plan some fun activities and Fr Claro has already been in touch with the finance to ask that a fund is set up for Youth activities as they are a priority in our Parish. It was also suggested that our youth could use the facilities at the Carmelite Monastery at Boars hill for outdoor pursuits.

3. Children's liturgy update

All going well, sessions started again for the new term on Sunday 23rd.

4. Young families group update, no new news.
5. Website resources- should we have a page with links to useful resources for people to learn more about the faith?

All agreed that this was a good idea. PPC members to send useful online resources and podcasts to JP to curate for the website.

6. Charities update

Cafod Big Lent walk monies being collected.

7. Evangelisation- update on evening "Court of the Gentiles" talks. What news of the new noticeboard in front of the church?

First three talks were well attended and two more are lined up. More volunteers to talk are needed to fill a schedule of one talk per month leading to a charity quiz in December. When JP sent the poster for the talks to local libraries Abingdon library were interested in Paul giving his talk there on Earth day so it helps to spread awareness of our church.

8. Bishop Philip's "Six Holy Habits"- these are in other parishes' newsletters as a standing item- should we include them in ours? How could we assist the parish community in developing them?

It was agreed that the Bishops list of Holy Habits will be put in this week's Newsletter then on the website afterwards. A discussion followed on how the PPC can support members of the Parish in developing these habits. It was agreed that habit number 5 concerning reconciliation is one where parishioners may need more support. Fr Claro is happy to hear confessions by appointment and he is available ½ hour before Mass on a Sunday to hear confessions. Not everyone may be aware of this so Fr Claro will make sure that it is in the newsletter. A discussion then followed on how some people are nervous about both the personal nature of confession and about getting the procedure right. It was suggested that Fr Claro talks to parishioners in Mass to reassure them. We will put this on the agenda for the next meeting to explore it further. It was agreed that if parishioners really want anonymity, they could go to another parish although it was acknowledged that travelling may be an issue from some people.

9. Pentecost- as the birthday of the church, surely some sort of birthday party is in order? Do with CTiF? Paul- what of the idea of a "Whitsun Walk"?

Pentecost is on 28th May and it was suggested that we explore the idea of hosting a CITF shared lunch to celebrate.

AOB

- The future use of Buckland church was briefly discussed. The owner is keen for it to be used for Masses often. At the moment the plan is probably to have a Mass once a month for particular feast days. The next Mass will be on 13th June on the feast day of St Anthony of Padua. Fr Claro is waiting for some more ideas from parishioners. One suggestion was that vigil Masses could be said there for shift workers.
- Fr Claro is continuing to develop his village ministry and is finding that small local house Masses are a very effective way of encouraging people to come to Mass.
- Lorraine suggested that we need to resume the presence of welcomers at the start of Mass. It was agreed that it should be our responsibility and when any of us arrive at Mass and there is no welcomer we should do it also we should help late comers find a seat.

Closing prayer

Next Meeting: Thursday 18th May,

Chair Lorraine

Minutes JP.