

OUR LADY & ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH LYMINGTON

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MEETING: Wednesday, 26 January 2023 at 7pm in Joseph's Place

PPC Members:

Fr David Adams (FrD),
Magdalen Chadbourn(MC) (Chair),
Olivia Cowan(OC),
Linda Guilding(LG),
Pete Lawes(PL),
Cathryn Lawrence(CL),
Vicki Pent(VP),
Eileen Rayner(ER),
Keith Stuttaford(KS),
Rini Stuttaford(RS)

Apologies

Mike Reynolds(MR),

AGENDA

Opening Prayer

Fr David led with a prayer

Minutes of the Previous Meeting on 24th November 2022 were approved.

Matters arising from previous Minutes: See Agenda items.

Agenda items

1. Guest speaker: Churches Together Lymington Pennington Nicola Kirby (NK) parishioner OLMSJ.

Nichola is a member of CTLP taking over from Pam Gorman.

She represents OLMSJ parish with Mike Reynolds. They meet once a month with URC, Baptist church, Anglicans- St Thomas's, Lymington and St Mark's, Pennington.

Currently Fr David is the only church minister in CTLP group.

This year, with the cost of living and energy crisis, they have been looking at how they can make a difference locally. They have an awareness of international events such as what's happening in Ukraine but are focussing locally.

Cost of living crisis

They had a discussion about the cost of living crisis and how it is affecting our communities. They got 34 different entities-library, NHS, town council, citizens advice etc-to a meeting which was chaired by a member from the Baptist church. They generated ideas and each contributed with contact details and what they could offer.

CTLP were facilitators for groups coming together.

The library offered a warm space with access to board games, cards, puzzles etc on a Saturday morning.

Citizen's advice- leaflets on things which were available

New Forest Council website- Lots of info has been put on their 'Cost of living' section of their website.

UK wide scheme- Chatty Café. Cafes sign up and make tables available for people to join for a chat.

Pennington Larder- based at St Mark's Hall. Small fee for basket of food items.

Open the Book scheme.

CTLP are also taking Bible stories to school children under the Ofsted approved 'Open the Book' scheme.

1st Monday of the month 9.15a, URC volunteers meet with a script of the bible story and act out the story to KS1 year R children. They are taking the Word of God to little ones, and it has been well received.

Lenten preparation

They are looking at what CTLP are offering for Lent and co-ordinating it so they don't clash.

St Thomas's: Lent course- Exploring prayer with Justin Welby. Sun 26th Feb 3.45pm with refreshments for 4pm start at St Thomas's Hall. Then for the next 4 weeks ending 26th March.

Christmas card

This year the card had a picture of the Baptist church on the front. The picture on the card will rotate each year.

TO DO:

A poster to be displayed in church with access to the help available during the cost of living crisis.

PL,MC & OC to meet to sift through the material available and decide what is to go on the poster and how the material can be condensed and displayed in church for parishioners to access.

ACTION: PL,MC,OC

VP to design the poster from material passed to her from above PPC members and then to pass finished poster to Nichola Kirby for printing. **ACTION: VP,NK**

2. Update on Diocesan 10 Year Plan: Fr David

The expected announcement from the Bishop of the next phase of the plan on 6th January didn't take place.

The following statement was issued by Heather Hauschild COO CDP.

I wish hereby to thank all the parishes and individuals who responded to the consultation about our ten-year mission plan You will be My Witnesses. We have had over 60 parish responses and 46 individual responses, of which 5 were from priests, 38 from laypersons, and 3 from groups of parishioners. The feedback will now be analysed to inform the final shape of the plan. A group of clergy and lay people are helping us with this so that the detail can be further tested and refined. The work will include a small number of meetings and comment on the material as it is developed. If you are interested in helping with this aspect of the plan, please let us know via the dedicated email address: missionplan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

The plan focused on putting Christ at the centre and developing missionary communities, while setting the objectives, aims and aspirations. The next phase is about developing specific strategies, means and ideas to help develop the plan in Pastoral Areas, parishes and schools and not least in the hearts of all.

DECISION : It was decided that, following on from NK's talk, OLMSJ PPC would concentrate on local issues and wait until we had further information from the diocese re the 10 year plan.

3. Update on the Closer to Christ Campaign: FR David

We have had the 2nd round of meetings with Sonia from the company running the appeal in attendance. Approx 20 people attended across the 3 parishes to hear the presentation and ask questions. Brochures were handed out to those present.

The next stage is the brochure will be mailed out to those not present who are on the parish data base.

KS pointed out that in the brochure it states the diocese is on a sound financial footing. If so, why does it need this appeal?

If we get to our target of £60,000 then we will get £20,000 back to the parish. However, this is not a lump sum. Depending how much money is in from the pledges every quarter that portion will return to the parish. So it'll be in dribs & drabs not a lump sum. It is unlikely that we will meet our target as there is a

lot of ill feeling re not being allowed to access and use our Building Fund money.

There was a discussion and explanation of the Quinquennial report.

There was an update on progress with repairs to the presbytery windows.

Another carpenter found. Awaiting quote to get repairs done to front door and windows.

KS suggested the PPC write to the Bishop explaining why the majority of OLMSJ parishioners won't contribute to the scheme. Fr D explained that OLMSJ Finance Committee has approached Estates at the Diocese with our request to be allowed to use the funds. So it was agreed to wait and leave it to the Finance committee.

NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN AT PRESENT.

POST MEETING: *Following the meeting there was further discussion with MC, LG & K&RS, and a draft letter to the Bishop will be prepared for debate at the next PPC meeting 16th March.*

ACTION: MC

Update on 1st Holy Communion, Confirmation, Youth Mass

4a) Holy Communion: Fr David

Barbara J & Fr D are in the process of gathering children. Notification to parents in the newsletter. We have 8 or 9 children at present. The age range is significant due to Covid when 1st HC could not take place. There will be 4 sessions with parents & children. As last year the dates of the 1st HC will depend on parental request as to which Mass they would like the 1st HC to take place in. Not one day for all of them as in past years. This worked well last year.

4b) Confirmation : VP.

VP & Fr D deliver the programme. Confirmation wasn't going to take place this year as it's usually done every 2 years. As it may clash with GCSE's next year, we are accommodating candidates this year. Usually start Oct/Nov so are bit late starting. 7 candidates. Started 25th January. 7 sessions, 2 sessions a month. Confirmation at the Cathedral May 27th 11am. They are a very good bunch of young people.

4c) Youth Mass; LG

The Mass will take place on 12th March at 10.30am OLMSJ 7 young people so far. One yr3 pupil OLSJ, 3 yr 5 pupils OLSJ, 1 yr 5 pupil Ballards school, 1 yr7 pupil Priestlands school, 1 yr 10 pupil Priestlands school.

Mass will be of the day but they will :

- choose hymns
- write bidding prayers.
- Readers.
- Welcomers (Vicki, Belinda & Joseph on duty as Welcomers that day).
- 'Clicker'.
- Offertory procession
- Collection.
- Will have a meeting with them prior to the event.

Suggested the Confirmation group be present at the Mass but not taking part in the Mass.

ACTION: VP

5a) Feedback from the Christmas Carols, mulled wine/mince pies afternoon

5b) Discussion on potential future opportunities.

5c) Feedback from Chair re-meeting with Chairs of St Anne's & St Francis PPC's.

It was felt to be a success.

A visiting parishioner from another parish said she felt that the Lymington parishioners didn't realise the event was for our 3 parishes to get to know one another. This needs to be explained if we have another.

Maybe for future events a member of OLMSJ PPC could host a table.

The success of it needs to be fed back to parishioners.

ACTION: FrD

Chair, MC, met with the other 2 Chairs: Roger Maughan St Francis, Ian Holden, St Anne's. Over a meal they discussed with Fr David how our 3 parishes could get to know one another prior to the formation of the 'One big parish in the NF' as part of the Bishop's 10 year plan.

PPC thought concept on a regular basis would be good.

Laudato Si would be the first event hosted by OLMSJ PPC. Date tbc.

ACTION: MC & LG

POST MEETING: *Fr David consulted his own & the parish diaries and the only date available is Sunday 5th March after 10.30am Mass OLMSJ.*

CAFOD Laudato Si to be used. Care for Creation group St Anne's to speak.

Care for Creation group from school being organised by staff at the school.

Suggestion for a Coronation party either on our own or with the other 2 parishes over the bank holiday weekend in May.

BBQ in the summer.

We wouldn't be the only hosts. Each PPC would run the event held by their parish.

The Catholic society/English society have suitable courses.

A de T (Catholic parishioner) has a large group of Catholic friends in Beaulieu & Brockenhurst who may promote any initiative.

6. Lent: OC

OC proposed the Rosary after Mass/Friday during Lent.

Could SVP,CWL, Rep from Welcomers, Rep from Flower arrangers, Catenians take the Rosary during Lent. It can be in the evening or after Mass or on another day of the week. In the newsletter : Rosary will be at.....this week.

ACTION : OC to contact those groups

Ash Wednesday 22nd Feb.

Reconciliation (Confession) Saturday mornings

Through Lent assemblies at school- 9am Monday morning

The Sisters at Sway also offer a Lent course:

if you're looking for a focus for Lent, the Dominican Sisters are running 6 online sessions explaining the sacrament of Reconciliation to adults through scripture and art, which will also serve as a Lenten retreat, every Tuesday evening during Lent. The details are here:

<https://www.lightoftruth.uk/event-details/reconciliation-anchoring-you-in-happiness-2023-02-28-19-30>

EASTER

The three parishes will be approached to ask a Welcomer from their parish to attend one of the following Masses so each parish is represented as part of the Welcoming team at that Mass. Some Welcomers from OLMSJ who are already on the rota will be approached and asked to stand down so the 3 parishes can be represented.

ACTION : LG

Maundy Thursday 6th April

Good Friday 7th April

Vigil 8th April

(Easter Sunday, 9th April, Mass in each church so trio of Welcomers only needed for 6th, 7th,8th April)

LT (office) prepares the Readers rota for Easter and has Readers representing each parish at all services.

LAST YEAR:

- Friday Rosary
- Prayer Vigil for Peace in Ukraine
- Mary Dunn ran an evening service. MC to contact MD to see if she can do something similar this year. **ACTION: MC**

POST MEETING: MD contacted as date had to go in Parish diary asap.

Date for *the service* :

Further details after MC consults Fr D

- Reconciliation Saturday mornings
- School 'performance' of Stations of the cross/parents/parishioners invited.

POST MEETING : Fr D and LG were invited to look at a CaFE course (Catholic Faith Exploration) 'Belong & Believe' via zoom 13th Feb.

7. New Parishioners form and possible use for existing parishioners/Skills Audit MC and OC

There was a discussion on the benefits of understanding what skills and talents parishioners could offer the parish with a recognition that GDPR regulations make gathering data problematic. As there was insufficient time for further discussion it will be put on the agenda at a later date for a full discussion and in the meantime we will continue with the current 'New Parishioners' form. The PPC acknowledged the work OC had done in looking at redesigning the form.

POST MEETING: It was agreed by the Chair that prior to the next meeting a draft new form, the current form and an explanation on why the changes are being proposed will be sent out to all PPC members to enable a full discussion to take place at the next PPC meeting. **ACTION : MC**

POST MEETING: LG asked GDPR dept at Diocese for advice how to reword the new form to enable us to remain GDPR compliant and advice on Skills Audit. Report back to meeting. **ACTION: LG**

AOB

No items for AOB

Dates of future meetings:

Next meeting is Thursday, 16 March

The May meeting has been changed to 1 June

The meeting finished at 8,45pm with a prayer led by Fr David.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING: 16th March

RS & KS- apologies for next meeting, on holiday.

Info other spiritual events happening in PA or Diocese. LG

Fr D to report back on the CaFE programme 'Belong and Believe'.

LG to report back from Diocese on GDPR/form.

MC/Fr D report back on Lent **service by MD.**

Welcomers over Easter LG.

Success of Laudato Si. 5th March

Success of Youth Mass 12th March

Letter to Bishop MC

Feedback on 'Cost of living'/help available in the local area poster and how information is being circulated to parishioners. PL, OC, MC