

## **Minutes of PPC Meeting 15/7/24**

Present: Fr M, BT, SB, MO'D, ML, PF

Apologies: KS

Opening prayer: Fr M

### **Pocketful of Prayers**

FrM said proofs have been sent, corrected and returned again on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July. A preface from the Archbishop will be at the beginning of the book. To be marketed as Holy Year booklet, including the Holy Year prayer which is copy protected. Cycle of Repentance began in 1300, repeated every 25 years, hence 2025.

### **DBS**

ML has four replies back, with two outstanding. These are to be followed up by ML.

### **First Communion and Confirmations**

First Communion Mass was held on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June. The Confirmation Mass was celebrated by Mng N who has a grandson being confirmed. There were 15 confirmed, including 2 adults. Both events went very well.

### **The Footpath up to the Hall**

The footpath is very narrow, uneven and there is a deep trench on one side following the building work at the house next door. Fr M and KS as well as MO'D have written to the Parish Council stressing that the path presents a hazard for wheelchair users, older people, people with pushchairs and mobility issues. Fr M has tried to engage the builders in getting this sorted, but they have not been responsive.

### **Membership of the PPC**

WR contact outstanding as MO'D has been busy, but he has not been seen recently. Membership will be raised at the AGM on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

### **The Future of the Parish**

No decisions have been made by the Diocese regarding the future of the Parish. Fr M contacted the priest in Burford who is in the same situation and he is very happy with the outcome as "Priest-in-residence". A special meeting to discuss Fr M's retirement may need to be organised at some point.

### **The PPC Constitution**

MO'D has provided documents relating to an original PPC constitution, as well as a revised draft version for discussion. Needs to be ratified for the AGM in September. Discussion around length of service and when to stand for re-election as well as any voting requirements. BT to send amendments to MO'D. Final document to be placed on the website, copies at the back of Church at least three weeks before the AGM.

### **Thoughtful Living Group.**

The Live Simply Award has been received from CAFOD. A certificate and plaque were both felt to be "underwhelming". Decided that we should investigate getting a larger one made that could be clearly displayed in the Church.

PF took an action to investigate getting a larger plaque engraved.

The Thames Blitz in Sonning will take place again on 31<sup>st</sup> August, time expected to be 1000-1400. ML to confirm.

There is a Reading Refugee Group walk proposed for 5<sup>th</sup> October, same route as last year so previous risk assessment can be used. Proposed to end before evening Mass.

ML mention a group called Eco Warriors that might be useful for St Martin's RE curriculum. We need to think about what our next steps are to get young people involved.

### **Social and Fundraising Events**

The International Mass on 14th July was a tremendous success. The committee said to pass on their thanks to Yvonne for the amount of effort put into this. The Mass, and the culinary delight afterwards, were very well received.

The Safari Supper on 6<sup>th</sup> July was also successful, but it was felt that the other churches in the group may struggle to get organised in the future due to lack of help being available.

It was agreed that there would be coffee and cakes after 10.30 Mass on 21st July to celebrate Deacon Brian's 10th anniversary.

A parishioner has offered to host a social event for approximately 20 parishioners at his home which includes a 60's museum in his garden. ML has spoken to GS so arrangements to be finalised.

### **Engagement with the youth of the Parish and wider Community**

It had been proposed that we could have a Children's Mass/Family Mass on 6<sup>th</sup> October with the theme Care for Creation. ML to liaise with Deborah.

### **The Parish Weekend**

Fr D has agreed to give talks over the weekend and there will be a cheese and wine event following the talks on the Friday evening like last year.

There will be the AGM and shared lunch on the Sunday as usual and there will be a craft and produce sale again to raise money for CIRDIC and Reading Refugee Centre, following on from last year's successful sale.

### **AOB.**

Safeguarding with regards to Mass recordings. BT stated that children reading are not broadcast, just heard. Each mass is only available online for one week (slightly longer for Funeral Masses).

BT stated that we need to think about the parish database. Just a comment at this stage so possibly add to next agenda.

BT stated that February will be the start of Year of Jubilee. Each diocese to have a designated "Holy Door". Ours will be in Littlemore. Fr M stated that the purpose of the Holy Year is a return to simplicity - Pilgrims of Hope symbol representing what Church is.

PF asked what happened about the request for brass cleaners. PF will talk to BT after Mass one Sunday about cleaning brass items (this is required 3- 4 times a year)

**Next meeting dates:** Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August and Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October

**Closing Prayer:** Fr M