

All reports November 2019

Area of Activity Ecumenism Mike Edwards November 2019

Activity since last PPC meeting

PHASE gave an update of their activities in the last year.

- Hannah ran 301 activities this year on the subject of WellBeing, volunteers supported 114 of these activities. 21 sessions were given to staff and parents
- Emily a new recruit from Bournemouth ran 16 Year 6 workshops on Early Intervention on building early intervention with staff and parents using preventative support
- 2 girls from Hitchin Girls School ran an Alpha course for 17 girls
- CTH welcomed Rev Val Reid as the new Methodist minister at Christchurch and Martha Inch Lead Pastor at The Hub Church. Also Rev Christopher Bunce becomes Team Rector and Vicar at St Mary's on Nov 6th.
- John Skeeles (St Mark's) has been appointed Treasurer for CTH
- The Plaque for the Sundial in the Quaker Peace Garden is being made by Michael Waters
- Christchurch have still to arrange meeting of the lunch club organisers from CTH
- Attempts will be made to get an Alpha Course running for groups of churches
- People are still interested in getting a meeting of newsletter editors organised
- It has been suggested that students at the local college may be interested in producing a video about CTH like the one we watched from Teeside
- The 24/7 prayers went well at The New Testament Church of God. 98% of the slots were filled
- The Father's House Church has shown interest in joining CTH. They used to meet at the St John's Community Centre and now meet at Tilehouse St Baptist Church.
- Somewhere to go at Christmas – Feed up/Warm up have agreed to carry this out on on Boxing Day. Ideas were asked from CTH members for the use of the new Scout Hut at Our Lady's
- 3 Presentations were given related to the Chair's theme of Healing
 - A Reach Out for people leaving hospital in North Herts and Stevenage is being organised by Vicky Hudson
 - Helping Herts Homeless by Grahame William. They organise Street Angels who received £370 from Waitrose recently
 - Christians against Poverty including its Job Club by Leigh Smith The Job Club focuses on Life Skills cooking, budgeting, CVs and interviews

Forthcoming Events

- Discussions are still being had about how to mark the 75th anniversary of the end of the Last War in 2020
- With the General Election coming up in Nov a new Hustings needs to be organised as with the last one
- Christian Climate Action – Andrew Henton Pewsey was involved in the occupation of Westminster Bridge on 7th Oct to make a Peace Bridge
- Breavement Team organised a workshop on a workshop on Oct 19th at Our Lady's on the 'D' word – i.e. Death
- Celebrations of Church Anniversaries at St May's on Sat 30th Nov
- Christmas Tree Festival at Holy Saviour on Dec 7th/8th Dec – CTH Prayer Tree
- Carols in the Market Place on 15th Dec at 4pm The Hitchin Community Brass will provide the music

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed Carols in the Market Place

Objectives set	Who

Area of Activity – Finance Report David Wilson November 2019

Activity since last PPC meeting

Diocese Annual Report & Account 2018.

The Annual Report & Accounts of the Diocese for 2018 have now been published; a summary of the Accounts is on the Notice Board in the Porch; the full Report and Accounts can be read on the Diocese web-site; alternatively, a paper copy is available to read in the Parish Office. Fr Tom will be attending a briefing on the results and related subjects at the Diocese on Saturday 2 Nov 19.

Parish Accounts for 2019

The Parish Accounts through to the end of September 2019 show an operating surplus of just over £11,000 thanks to receipt of the Gift Aid Tax Rebate (see below).

Annual Financial Return 2019

The Annual Financial Return for 2019 is due at the Diocese by the end of January 2020; work has started on compiling the Return.

Parish Budget 2020

Work has also started on putting together the Parish Budget for 2020.

Gift Aid Tax Rebate

The main part of the Gift Aid Tax Rebate claim for the Financial Year 2018/2019 has been paid and amounts to £21,673 with a further £2,000 due from the Small Donations claim.

Michaelmas Fair 2019

The Accounts for this year's Michaelmas Fair have not been finalised but it looks like the Fair will have raised just over £6,000; the proceeds will be divided between the Parish and Diapalante, the selected OWG charity; grateful thanks are due to Pam Brannigan and her team who organised what was a most enjoyable event.

Parish Offertory Appeal

Six months on, the Parish Offertory Appeal has produced an overall increase of just short of 4% in Offertory income. This is less than hoped for but still very welcome.

Growing In Faith

The Parish support of the Diocese Growing In Faith Appeal has now been completed; details of the sums raised for the different elements of the Appeal are awaited and will be published as soon as they are released.

Parish Projects

The Finance Committee has continued to support and provide advice on the Parish Projects that are in planning or in progress including securing funding for the appointment of a Youth Worker (see Youth Ministry Report).

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed

Objectives set

Update Long Term Maintenance Plan
Update and implement Parish Asset (Inventory) Register

Who

FC ++
FC ++

Area of Activity GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) – Trish Bonnett November 2019

Activity since last PPC meeting

- Nothing to report

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed

- Audit of database can take place over a period of time. It is a question of ensuring people update their details. The plan will be to check via email and then in those attending church and then those who have not checked to be written to.
- Website needs to be checked for any personal addresses and permission sought for them to be on the website, this includes any email addresses that are in the newsletter which goes onto the website.

Objectives completed from last report

The objectives for audit of the database and updating website are still ongoing.

Who

Objectives set

Do audit on parish database.

Who

TB

Area of Activity Gender Diversity - As I am November 2019

Activity since last PPC meeting

- Notice board has been updated. Waiting on any feedback (positive and negative) and then will order the banner for outside the church which will be similar to the banner on the noticeboard
- Complete timeline compiled by Christine so that we can show the progress we are making and how we are evolving as a group
- Very useful meeting with Kirk from Westminster about how to best plan an event which will highlight the work the As I am group are doing and how we can support the parish in their understanding of welcoming everyone as they are.

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed

Invite all parishioners to future meetings so that they can be a part of what we are trying to do in inculcating a culture of welcome to everyone regardless of culture, sexuality and race.

Pastoral objectives set in motion since last report

- Notice boards completed

Who

TB

Pastoral objectives set

- Commission banner

Who

TB

Area of Activity Health and Safety November 2019 John Chamberlain

Activity since last PPC meeting

Actions continue to satisfy the Precision H&S January 2018 Review.

Installation of two additional external emergency lights and replacement of certain smoke alarms.
Scout Hut mezzanine floor cleared of stored items.

Meeting held with Liz Wills to talk about implications of recent changes to the legal requirements for CCTV installations.

A separate discussion document will be issued to the PPC soon, highlighting the points raised and their implications for us.

Briefly, use of CCTV must be considered to be a 'tool of last resort' which is only justifiable if all other measures have been considered and are not appropriate.

The idea of 'bunging up' some cameras is no longer a viable solution!

We considered that Safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children and Criminal Activity (theft and damage) are the prime areas for consideration.

Fr. Tom has also observed that thought should be given to the protection of the 'responsible adults' against any potential threats of false accusations of inappropriate behaviour.

Use of CCTV for the observation of the collection counters was also discussed and a potential solution established.

It is clear that the justification required for CCTV in a church is not an insurmountable problem. Liz has much experience in this and would assume the role of CCTV Data Protection Officer (a required role).

Assuming that all are in agreement, we intend to study the areas requiring protection and consider the need for CCTV or recommend other methods for the different areas.

Area of Activity Inter-Faith Relations Deolinda Eltringham November 2019

Activity since last PPC meeting

The NHIFF AGM was on Thur. 17th October in our church, with guest speaker Don de Silva who will spoke on: "Beyond Religion to Tackle Climate Change and Climate Refugees", a very interesting speaker with a very hard hitting message, that I hope will help shape the direction of faith communities in the future.

At the AGM there was a change of those in key roles, the new chair person is Chris Kell of Friends Meeting house in Hitchin, and the vice chair is the Rev Bhante Pannavamsa, from the Letchworth Buddhist Community Centre, Rodney Hampton still hold the treasurer's role, and Sandra Ortiz was welcomed back to the group and her role as secretary. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 27 November 2019.

I attended with Michael on the annual Nayrouz Service (religious Copt New Year) at St Margaret's, Westminster Abbey on 8 October 2019, with His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos. The concluding words in the sermon of His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos, encapsulated the overall ethos of the evening:

"At this time of great anxiety and uncertainty in many parts of the world, as well as our own, it is both significant and important that we gather this evening in prayer, from across the spectrum of the Church, faith, belief, and the breadth of our community and stand as one in our ongoing journey and relationship, and our commitment to one another."

"We are an icon of what is it to be one in our diversity. We are different and that difference projects the beauty of God's creation, and yet in that difference we must respect one another, love one another, forgive one another, be reconciled to one another and put ourselves aside for one another."

"Tonight, as we gather, we give thanks for this unity, we give thanks for this icon, we give thanks for the life that we have, and we give thanks for the life we are promised even beyond the grave."

Wednesday 20 November 2019 was the date chosen for the suggested inter-faith sharing evening of the Pope Francis and Grand Imam sign in Abu Dhabi the amazing historic declaration of peace,

freedom, women's rights entitled: **Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together**, we still need to find a venue, and requires further planning. Fr. Tom and Ali Sheriff had agreed to be the main commentators. This will now need to be re-scheduled for next year, or cancelled.

"I renew my invitation for prayer and gestures of peace to combat hatred and violence"
 Pope Francis

For those interested there is a document to study: **Beyond Dialogue Interfaith Engagement** - <https://www.woolf.cam.ac.uk/assets/imported/Beyond-Dialogue-Interfaith-Engagement-in-Delhi-Doha-and-London.pdf>

10th -17th Nov.: National INTERFAITH Week - it aims to strengthen good interfaith relations, increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities and increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs.

Objectives set	Who
	DME

Area of Activity Justice & Peace

Activity since last PPC meeting

The 42nd NJ&PN conference is already being planned; the theme is **“2020 Vision – Action for Life on Earth”** from the 17th to 19th July at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire.

There is still an urgent call for churches at the national level and parishes at the local level to individually and better still in local groups, to make their own a *“Declaration of Climate Emergency”* and with that embrace an ambitious plan of action to halve the total CO₂ generated in the energy used by our parish site by 2030.

I joined with school children and adults in Stevenage and Letchworth taking part in the **Global General Strike for the Climate** being planned from **Friday 20th September**.

Last September during “Creation Season”, 22 faith institutions from around the world announced their commitments to divest from fossil fuels, in a joint announcement coordinated by Operation Noah together with the Global Catholic Climate Movement, Green Anglicans and GreenFaith.

Among the organisations participating in the announcement were the United Reformed Church, the URC Synod of Wessex and St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Edinburgh – the first cathedral in the world to divest. Two Catholic religious orders in the UK, Franciscan Sisters Minoress and the English/Scottish Province of the Religious Sisters of Charity, also joined the announcement.

Very Revd John Conway, Provost of St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Edinburgh, said: ‘We need to shape an economy that does not rely on fossil fuels, whose extraction and burning are imperilling the lives and livelihoods of so many, both now and for all generations to come. The climate emergency will only be tackled when as individuals, institutions, businesses and governments, we act together, in solidarity with those who suffer now, and with hope for future generations.’

In November, the Royal Shakespeare Company announced that it would no longer accept sponsorship from BP, after school students threatened to boycott the company if it did not cut ties with the oil giant. And the National Theatre in London has announced that its funding from Shell will come to an end, as it declared a climate emergency.

The next networking day of the National Justice and Peace Network which will take place on Saturday 16th November 2019 at CAFOD, Romero House, London. On the theme **“HERE: NOW:**

US PEOPLE - Common Good Training Workshop". Not sure yet if I will be able to attend the event.

November 2nd: 'Primed for war' - Ben Griffin of Veterans for Peace will give the Movement for the Abolition of War Remembrance lecture at 2pm in Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Ave, WC2H 8EP.

Pope Francis will arrive in Japan on 23 November. This will be the second time a Pope has ever visited the country. Pope St John Paul II visited in 1981. The Pope is not only on a pastoral mission to Catholics. He is also a head of state, rightly worried about the state of the world, and burning issues, especially climate change and nuclear weapons.

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/38217>

Terracycle recycling funds raised for charity 1st Nov 2018- 31st Oct 2019: Total = **£ 1604.29**
Biscuit/Cakes: £ 76.18 Bread bags: £ 11.79 (Parish hardship Fund) £88.00
Tassimo/Kenco/L'Or : £ 1157.00 (PHASE)
Pens: £ 107.98 Colgate: £18.91 (Herts. Homeless Help / Sanctuary) £ 126.89
Pringles: £8.97 Crisps: £ 148.40 Pet food: £75.00 (Marine Conservation Society) £ 232.40

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed

Most welcome!

Objectives set

Who

DME

Area of Activity Liturgy Fr Tom O'Brien November 2019

Activity since last PPC meeting

Advent & Christmas Liturgies –

24h Nov – Christ the King.

1st Dec 1st Advent

8th Dec 2nd Sunday

15th Dec 3rd Advent

22nd Dec 4th Sunday

24th Dec Christmas Eve - 9.pm

25th Dec Christmas Day

29th Dec Holy Family

26th Dec – St Stephen's Mass – present cassocks / cottas to new servers and medals to servers.

Advent Services

1st Sunday – Advent service 6.15pm

2nd Sunday – Christingle 3pm

3rd Sunday – Benediction 6pm

4th Sunday – Carol Service 6.15pm

We will sing carols throughout the whole Christmas Season.

Fr Michael – Anniversary 2nd December – evening Mass. 7.30pm.

School Nativity Service in church – to be advised.

Christmas Eve – Nativity Service 4pm

Reconciliation Servicers – 18 & 19th December 2pm and 7pm.

Children's Reconciliation – 14th Dec 10.30.am

Crib Assembly – 21st Dec

Poinsettias for the crib – Trish to check with Anne Cook

Gifts for Crib – for Food Bank and for Feed Up / Warm up.

Christmas Eve Children's Mass – for discussion in New Year alongside the current Nativity Service; possible to reinstitute the Children's Mass and what shape this would be; to undertake a survey in January 2020 to engage children and families to Christmas Mass.

Youth Ministries – struggling with helpers. Helen wants to step down. Next Son Seekers is 6th October when an appeal will be given at that Mass and at Masses the following Sunday to ask for helpers and coordinators.

Readers –Helen will be overseeing the Reader's Rota.

Music – Fr Tom to ask Our Lady School about parish involvement for 2020. Recruitment for the

choir is ongoing.

Sacristy - Bernard Glenholm.

Other Matters –

Recruiting a **replacement** for Susanna Hawksley who is leaving to move up North at some time before Easter.

Education Sunday – proved very successful with Music Group – to swap Sundays in Sept for 2020.

Ian McBain – puts children’s liturgy resources on the website.

Calamus Licence – now taken over by One License – USA - to be paid

Parish Council – to or from the Parish Council. - none

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 4th December– 7.15 pm.

Objectives set

Who

Area of Activity LiveSimply - Ann Milner

Apologies for absence of report for September. This is combined September & November Report

Activity since last PPC meeting

- ★ **One World/livesimply Group(OWG):** Outreach/Charity CM's held each month on 3rd Sunday. Charities supported: **August** Herts Welcomes Syrian Refugees, **September** Street Talk, **October** Camphill Village Trust (an organisation that supports people with learning disabilities, autism, mental health challenges and complex needs), **November** Zaytoun (an organisation which sells artisanal produce from Palestine and supports an olive tree planting project run by the Palestine Fair Trade Association). We had our **Summer Outing** in early August which included a visit to the Roman Bath at Old Welwyn and concluded with a visit to At Alban's Cathedral for Evensong. In addition, the group met in early October to select the charities which will be supported in 2020. As per 2019, the charities will reflect (where possible) the prayer intentions of Pope Francis for that month. A livesimply Coffee Morning (where proceeds go to livesimply parish projects) is planned for Sunday 3rd November.
- ★ **Michaelmas Fair:** Another successful fair with thanks to all who helped out. Funds raised exceeded last year's total.
- ★ **Livesimply Tips:** Tips to end of 2019 have been sent to Cheryl for inclusion in the newsletter.
- ★ **Catholic Nonviolence Initiative:** In support of this initiative, and due to the fact that the parish has signed the pledge, a series of quotations from recognised peace advocates such as Martin Luther King, Mahatma Gandhi, Thomas Merton are now being published monthly in the parish newsletter.
- ★ **Gardening Team:** the team continues to care for the parish grounds and held a successful Coffee Morning in September, proceeds of which will be spent on garden plants and/or equipment. The brown bin is being filled regularly and there may be a requirement for the parish to provide a second bin. There is a gardening session planned for 2nd November which will probably be the final session until March 2020.
- ★ **Season of Creation:** A series of 4 meditations was created for the parish. They were based around the Earthday Icon which focussed on the Orthodox Church's Season of Creation 3-year liturgy cycle.
- ★ **Climate Strike:** This took place nation-wide and globally on 20th September. Locally there were protests in Stevenage and Letchworth and some parishioners attended both.

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed

Objectives set/Planned Activities

Who

Campaigns: Identify campaigns to promote within the parish

LS Team

Parish Grounds: Plant extra colour in parish grounds

Grdn Team

Labrynth to be designed and planned

Grdn Team

Livesimply Coffee Morning: Planned for 3rd November

LS Team

Livesimply Tips: More tips to end of 2020 to be sent to Cheryl.	LS Team
Peace Quotations: Quotations for 2020 to be sent to Cheryl	LS Team
Next Meetings: Next OWLS meeting will be the AGM on Monday 18 th November at 19:30	LS Team Parish

Area of Activity Maintenance John Scott November 2019

Activity since last PPC meeting

Credit as always - to all volunteers

Contractor: - Installed robust and reliable central heating controls in parish office . Independent control of UCR & LCR heating. Subsequent replacment of boiler (or installation of heat-pump) will now be 3 pipe connection.



----- snags addressed -----#

- 2510_1/ grabrail Emmanuel Centre entrance (DavidWhittaker)
- 2410_1/ replace montion sensitive lamp over ramp (jvc)
- 1410_1/ replace lamp in server's room with LED (MikeE)
- 1410_2/ sort out hall speakers (ME)
- 0810_3/ Break In damage to Brenda's Cupboard in link (js)
- 0810_2/ CO alarm fingered as chirrup-source(jvc)
- 0810_1/ replace handwash tap (js)
- 0510_1/ temp rescue wash-up hot tap in hall kitchen (js & me)

0/ Squeaking church doors - not a problem (PPC)

- 0110_1/ fix soppo tap in EC (js)
- 2509_1/ Massive re-jig of ScoutHut storage (Ian Buck + JVC)
- 2309_1/ RCD ElectricSocket in LCR - H&S requirement (ME)
- 1809_1/ Sort out car park lights malfunction (ME)
- 1709_1/ Sort out suspect church heater misbehavior (ME)
- 1209_1/ Continuous overflow dribble from ScoutHut water heater (jvc)
- 1109_3/ boiler control replacment install (Dan Crick contractor)
- 1109_2/ enable hall/church boiler control replacement (jvc/me/pj/js)
- 1109_1/ replace hall elec.kettle - H&S issue (js)
- 1009_1/ replace church heater dust filters (js&me)
- 0509_3/ replace failed isolation valve in ScoutHut (js)
- 0509_2/ rising damp in carpark notice board (jvc)
- 0509_1/ RCD ElectricSocket in Link- H&S requirement (ME)
- 0409_1/ Fixup speaker wiring in Hall (MikeE)

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed

Imminent/In-hand

0/ replace wash-up hot tap in hall kitchen - scheduled 1st November

Objectives set	Who

Area of Activity Outreach – Trish Bonnett November 2019

Activity since last PPC meeting

Outreach

- Continued support of a variety of parishioners with current medical issues and supported the funerals of Sheila Hugill and Linda Budd.
- Did first new piece of scripture drama to 4 schools in Corby and also chaplains in the DOW at a conference day in October.
- Delivered the plan for the month of mission including starting to wall paper the church with good news stories and a daily saint card. Plans to have a coffee morning start on a Wednesday morning when volunteers are in place.
- Arranged D Word workshop for the bereavement team with invitations to the Deanery and CTH. Very good workshop. Notes are available on the bereavement page on the parish website.
- Attended the update training on the Reconciliation course with Susanna and Fr Tom – now known as *Difference*. Will be planning to run the course again in the parish before Susanna leaves.
- Arranged a Mass for Ida Bellamy at Sloe Hill with Fr Andrew in support. Attended by residents and parishioners. Plan to do another in Advent.
- Following the death of Linda Budd we have reassessed the plan for Masses at Stagenhoe as there are no longer any Catholics who can easily attend. The plan now is to do services of the word with hymns for all residents at various liturgically appropriate times of the year. Hope to do a remembrance service in November for them.
- Attended CTH council meeting
- Supporting a lady who has suffered recent bereavements and her son is struggling.

Liturgy

- Pet blessing service on Feast of St Francis
- Scripture read dramatically on the Feast of St Francis
- Preparing for the In Memoriam service on 10th November at 6.15pm. Invitations sent to 41 families. Fr Michael will also be remembered.
- Supporting Mary Deuchar in the development of this year's Advent service.
- Supported the delivery of a weekly meditation created by Ann Milner for the Season of Creation.

Other support

- .Michaelmas Fair support.
- Checked EMs want to continue on rota so that Teresa can compile new rota

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed

Objectives completed from last report	Who
EMM objectives completed.	
Objectives set	Who
Complete survey regarding side chapel (still awaiting internal options)	TB
Prepare for the Year of the Word	Pastoral team

Area of Activity
Property working group Report for PPC – Roger Hyde November 2019
Activity since last PPC meeting
<p>Side Chapel Contact has been made with both Chris Fanning (Parish Building Surveyor) of the Diocese and Francis Weal the chosen Architect.</p> <p>Francis Weal has submitted a cost structure to prepare designs for Parish approval which has been agreed by the Steering team and a request has gone to the Diocese for their approval to proceed.</p> <p>To date we have not had a final decision from the Diocese, but expect one soon.</p> <p>Once this is received and we have written details of the basis for the design then a contract will be raised and we can move forward.</p> <p>The next stage after the contract has been issued will be for Francesca to visit us with a colleague and take detailed measurements to furnish us with a pretty accurate picture that we can discuss and share with the Parish as a whole.</p> <p>Scout Hut Further information was required by the Development, Partnership & Legacies Team, Keely and Alison regarding the amount of use our Parish property has.</p> <p>This has been compiled and sent.</p> <p>All the information gathered by us will be scrutinised by the Development, Partnership & Legacies Team which will produce a Design Brief for further discussions.</p> <p>We then await the next stage which will be to interview at least three Architects to appraise their views on how to approach the new build.</p> <p>One of the three is an experienced architect when it comes to designing buildings for funding approval. This will be a learning curve for us and we will be able to apply this knowledge to the other two architects when interviewed.</p> <p>When this has been completed one on the three architects will be selected to provide the design ideas for our approval using the Lottery Fund grant.</p> <p>The Property Development Team will be involved in all discussions.</p>

Area of Activity
Sacramental Preparation – Susanna Hawksley November 2019
Activity since last PPC meeting

First Holy Communion

This year's course is now up and running. I have 36 children this year at the time of writing, although that may change. The first session of preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation will take place on 12th November. We do appear to have a good few people from Letchworth parish with us but their children are at Our Lady School, and it is understandable that they would wish to have their children prepare with their friends.

Marriage Preparation

The course which ran on October 26th was facilitated by Jonathan and Lucy Bonnett, to whom we are very grateful. Ten couples attended. This is fewer than usual; the advertisement of the course had hit some snags at the diocesan end because of staff illness.

RCIA

We baptised Carl Shadbolt on 20th October at 10:30 Mass. He was overjoyed and very grateful that we could do it before his open heart surgery. He will continue to attend RCIA for Mystagogia. I have Althea preparing for reception, Kathryn preparing for Confirmation and Liz and David Head, who continue to come (Liz was received at Pentecost) because they like it. Fr Euloge is my 'understudy' for this catechesis, so that in the event of my not being replaced, he can take it up permanently, with confidence.

Baptism

The next course will run on 17th and 24th November. A good few couples have already signed up. One couple is coming from Germany!

Confirmation

This is now being advertised in the newsletter and letters will go out to families with offspring of eligible age. I have adjusted the course to include attendance at 5pm Mass; this is so that some teaching about the Mass can be done – and to encourage participation in the liturgy, generally.

Replacing me

One person came for interview but we did not appoint. The job has been readvertised until December 2nd but as far as we know (see following sentence), nobody has expressed an interest. HR have been disappointing throughout the process, their communication being woeful in all aspects. Disappointing and woeful are words I only use in extremis.

Extraordinary Month of Mission

I ran a selection from Bishop Robert Barron's series, 'Catholicism', on Sunday afternoons during October. A faithful cohort of about 12 -14 people came each time. Feedback was very positive. I am considering doing at least a couple more during Advent.

The 'Difference' course

Fr Tom, Trish and I attended the follow-up training for what used to be called the 'Reconciliation' course, which we ran in the summer, as a pilot. We would like to run it again in the coming months.

Activity since last PPC meeting

Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed

Objectives set

Who

Activity since last PPC meeting	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Deanery PSR meeting with Fr Tom, Maria and Fr Euloge. Need to spend some time on Safeguarding to ensure we are embedding the safeguarding culture in our parish. Will plan to do this before Christmas. 	
Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the facilities hire contract to ensure that we have got all the safeguarding and policy requirements in place for our facility users. 	
Objectives completed from last report	Who
Objectives set	Who
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review hire contract • Promote Educare training to all group leaders and catechists in the parish. Strongly encourage them to register and do modules. 	TB/DW TB

Area of Activity	YOUTH Teresa Pernak November 2019
Activity since last PPC meeting	
<p>Son Seekers renewed the activities after the summer holidays with Funday Sunday event on the 6th of October. The theme was Grandparents' Day. It was another successful gathering with 45 children attending. The new attraction was a parachute that received great applause and added a lot to the fun. The next Son Seekers event is scheduled for the 1st of December 2019 that is to be an Advent 'party'. It will also be dedicated to remembering Fr Michael on this occasion.</p> <p>Other matters: Youth Worker position for the Parish</p> <p>On the 16th of September Helen Bailey had a successful meeting with Phoebe Prendergast (Youth worker for Westminster Youth Ministry team) who suggested that our parish could apply for the Cardinal's fund in order to establish a youth worker position for our parish. In terms of job requirements, no qualifications are necessary, however a relevant voluntary experience is important and a faith journey is essential. It was suggested that 2.5 days a week should be sufficient for our parish. The other options to consider were that our parish could share the youth worker with another parish or possibly to approach JHN in order support their chaplaincy if needed and thereby getting to know more children and provide an important link between the parish and school. Westminster Youth would be happy to help with interview process, induction, youth worker training e.g. Safeguarding, ice breakers, behaviour management, etc.</p> <p>As a result of this fruitful meeting Helen Bailey in consultation with our youth ministry team has prepared Cardinal's Lenten Appeal expression of interest form and took the opportunity to appeal for available funds under Cardinal's Lenten Appeal scheme at Westminster Diocese Office of Fundraising & Stewardship. It has been agreed to apply for £45,000 for the period of three years being granted if we were successful to facilitate part time worker for the Parish. Our application for Cardinal's fund will be presented at upcoming Stewardship Committee meeting which is scheduled on 20th of November 2019.</p> <p>A big thank you to Helen for all the effort and involvement in this process.</p>	
Suggestions for change/improvement/issues to be addressed	

Objectives set	Who