

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (JPPC)

Held at St John Fischer, Chorleywood

22nd January 2022

In Attendance:

Fr Andrew Gallagher
Fr Damian Ryan
Ann Casey
Margaret Burke
Judy Gordon
Yasmin Lakin
Francis Holly
Natalie Zammit
Maria Crossland
Maggie Stacey
David Scott

Apologies:

Richard Booth
John Donohoe

1. Welcome and Prayer

Fr Andrew welcomed everyone to the 15th meeting of the JPPC. The meeting began with a time of prayer.

2. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting – 4th December 2021

Fr Andrew provided an update on the new parishioners lunch, explaining it is to be held on 5 February.

3. Update on Alpha Ministry

Maria provided an update on the most recent Alpha which had just completed with 19 guests and no dropouts. The Alpha Service Team felt that it was a resounding success, and Maria thanked all the Alpha team, hospitality team, intercessory prayer team and all the parishioners who prayed at home. The team are currently collating feedback and will share a summary report to be shared with the JPPC and the next meeting. With respect to follow on, the team will be organising a social meet up for the guests in their individual groups.

In terms of next steps, Deidre and Maria will be running an online prayer course, commencing Wednesday 16 February in the evening and taking place over 4 weeks (excluding Ash Wednesday). They will be inviting all the guests and perhaps the wider Alpha family (i.e. all previous Alpha attendees), although this is still under consideration as it depends on the number of leaders that are able to facilitate. The course will take place on Wednesdays so will not conflict with the Tuesday prayer course.

The hope is to move the Alpha group towards a Connect group where they can connect and grow in faith, and the team are currently in the discussion phase for this so there is no final plan at the moment.

The date of the next course has not yet been confirmed and will likely take place after Easter (perhaps in September). Alpha has previously been advertised outside our church to others, and the team will do this again for the next one.

4. **Update on Youth Ministry**

A social meeting was recently held in which 7/8 young people attended, and the general feedback was that they would like to meet more regularly. The team are hoping to organise another social meeting again in mid-February to have some fun, play some games and for the young people to provide some input.

The possibility of looking into inviting the confirmation teens to the Zoom Quiz was discussed, however safeguarding would need to be considered when deciding this.

5. **Update on Kairos Ministry**

Kairos is currently on hold, however a post-Kairos follow on is to be organised and led by Anuki, and Santoshi, Ann Lorrimer-Roberts and Paul Forrest.

Some feedback from the most recent Kairos was that the majority of participants would attend again if it continued to take place via Zoom, and there was a largely positive response to being in the same group each week. Overall, participants largely enjoyed the discussion time and would want more discussion time going forwards.

6. **Value Analysis 3 – Uplifting Music**

The JPPC discussed the 5 facets highlighted in Divine Renovation relating to 'Uplifting Music', evaluating how effectively our parishes currently meet these facets. Among the points discussed were parishioner participation, and that during weekday Masses when there is no choir, parishioners tend to join in when the priests sing. Additionally, it was highlighted that the level of energy in our Sunday liturgies is mixed across the parishes, with some having more lively music than others, which was generally viewed more positively. Other points highlighted were that the music lacks diversity and that more contemporary music should be added to Mass (similar to the music used in Alpha) and that it would be good to get some young people involved in this – one suggestion was to possibly follow the format of Alpha by starting with more familiar songs and then gradually introducing some contemporary music.

7. **Any Other Business.**

Holy Week

The SLT have agreed to follow a similar format to last year i.e. livestream at Our Lady's in Rickmansworth, as well as Mass at Mill End on the Thursday and Chorleywood the Saturday. On Good Friday there will be a morning Mass specifically for families.

AGM

It has been agreed that this will take place over 1 Zoom meeting for parishioners of all three parishes to attend, as opposed to separate AGMs for each parish.

Final meeting

This is the final JPPC meeting for Judy, Richard, Maggie, Natalie and Ann. Fr Andrew gave a huge thanks to all of them and their commitment to the parishes.

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm with prayer.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Saturday 19th March 2022 - 2.30pm to 4.30pm - Our Lady's, Rickmansworth

Preceded by a meeting of **Our Lady's Parish Core Group** at 2pm