

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

Held at St John Fisher, Chorleywood

14<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## **In Attendance:**

Fr Andrew Gallagher  
Jane Irwin  
Fainche McDonagh  
Geraldine Page  
Yasmin Lakin  
Francis Holly  
John McKeown

## **Apologies:**

John Donohoe  
Margaret Burke  
Fr Matteo Di Giuseppe  
David Scott

### **1. Welcome and Prayer**

Fr Andrew welcomed everyone to the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the JPPC. The meeting began with a time of prayer.

### **2. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

Fr Andrew explained that he is organising a one-off retreat day during Lent this year. It was also agreed that a parish quiz will be organised to take place in the Autumn.

### **3. Update on Discipleship**

#### GIFT

The families taking part in GIFT seem to be very engaged and responsive. 3 more families have signed up to GIFT, and there are now 11 children preparing for their First Reconciliation, having discerned with their families through the GIFT process. It was suggested that some of the children taking part in GIFT could showcase at school some of the things they do – Fr Andrew will talk to the Deputy Head about this.

#### Confirmation

There are 30 young people signed up for Confirmation, with the first session taking place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January. The Decision Point course will be used for the sessions, and it was suggested that a good way to encourage participation in the parish by inviting some of the young people taking part to serve at the upcoming new parishioner's lunch. It was also discussed that it might be worth looking at incorporating some group coaching with Jane into the confirmation course.

#### Alpha

The next Alpha course will be commencing Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January and there are currently 12 guests signed up to take part.

#### Connect Group

There is a Connect Group meeting once a month on Saturdays for those who have previously taken part in Alpha.

#### Prayer & Life Workshops

There are currently 2 parishioners training to be leaders and the aim is for the next workshop to take place in Autumn.

### Online Prayer Meetings

The online prayer meetings, which are a follow on from Kairos, are continuing once a month with a group of around 20 parishioners. The new Faith & Friendship Group is also taking place on Wednesday afternoons with 15-20 attendees.

### Warm Spaces

The Warm Space initiative has been taking place at St John's hall on Thursdays, with hot drinks, papers, games etc. There are around 6-9 people regularly attending.

### Baptism

It was suggested for a notice to be put in the school newsletter about baptism.

## 4. **Update on Youth Ministry**

### Socials

Social events have been organised to take place once a month. The most recent social took place last Tuesday, with 6 young people attending. There is a core group regularly attending who seem to be enjoying the socials. There are dates in the diary for socials for the rest of the year. Fr Andrew will check with St Joan of Arc school about possibly including notices of the socials in the school newsletter.

### Youth Choir

There are around 5-6 children rehearsing regularly, however they do not all turn up on the at mass to perform. There is also now an email address for the youth choir, making it easier to communicate all the dates for rehearsing and performing at mass.

## 5. **Update on Communications**

With respect to social media, Jane has been posting on the Facebook group and page. Currently the Facebook link on the parish website is not working so Jane will look into resolving this. In terms of the websites, there is a new parishioner who is working on updating the websites to make them more user friendly.

## 6. **Review of JPPC in past year in preparation for Parishes AGM (18th February 2pm via Zoom)**

Ahead of the next AGM, the JPPC had a review of the past year and looked back at all of the discussions from the JPPC meetings held throughout 2022. Francis will present a report summarising the review at the next AGM and Yasmin will take the AGM minutes.

## 7. **JPPC Membership**

Margaret, Yasmin, Francis and Geraldine are due to step down from the JPPC. Fr Andrew thanked them for their commitment to the parishes and announced that a new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary will be elected at the next JPPC meeting.

## 8. **Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm with prayer.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023 – 2.30pm to 4.30pm – Our Lady's, Rickmansworth**

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