

St Francis Ascot Parish Pastoral Council

15th May 2018

Extraordinary meeting: Mission to Young People

MINUTES

Attendees:

Fr Kevin Bidgood

Philip MacDonald

Ann Scowcroft

Kate Camp

Sue Roche

Tony Berkeley

Apologies:

Paul Worthington

Fr Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer

Objectives:

Outlined in the discussion paper, based on the Bishop's pastoral letter of September 2017 calling parishes to evangelise to young people. This requires parishes to develop a mission to young people, to keep them coming to Mass and to engage with the life of the parish. PPC identified different groups within this:

- Young children under the guidance of their parents
- Teens at the point of moving away from their parents' influence and making their own way (eg university college students)
- Independent young adults
- New parents

Discussion around how ambitious we can be for each group and the need to prioritise these groups/pick a focus for communications/efforts.

Fr K quoted from the letter from the Diocese from early 2017 calling for youth ambassadors aged 18-35 to be 'intentional young disciples' of the Catholic faith within parishes. What would be the scope/term of this role? Might it be a funded or voluntary position?

Discussion around inviting on young people to come together to do good works (feed the homeless, help those in need in the parish community etc) as a more effective approach rather than trying to build a social scene for them.

Discussion around resources and activities already available to young people (via the Diocesan webpage) and the opportunity to work through established organisations (Junior SVP/Slough run/junior CAFOD).

There was discussion of initiatives for young mothers/toddlers, eg setting up a toddler group or a Toddler Praise group

Action Points:

- Put feelers out for a young adult in the Parish (aged 18-35) who might be suitable to be a 'youth ambassador'. All names to be forwarded to **FrK**
ALL
- Go and speak to representatives of the junior branches of the SVP, Cafod (**PMcD**) and the Slough run (**TB**) to better understand how to get a programme up and running in our parish. Report back to the PPC.
PMcD/TB
- Further research on possible toddler group initiatives to be undertaken/interested parishioners to be approached with a view to setting something up in the autumn
SR

AOB:

- General Data Protection Requirements – **TB** updated PPC that all members of parish groups will need to approve their details for publication, to be managed by group leaders **TB**
- Obergammern trip as outlined by **PW** approved as a Parish trip, to be offered to all parishioners. To be publicised and interested parishioners to be invited to sign-up. It was felt that this needed no further input from the PPC. **PW**
- **FrK** invited the group to consider nominating a chairman for the PPC, a role that should not be taken by the Parish Priest **All**

- Future PPC meetings to be scheduled for the year ahead – **FrK** to bring suggested dates to the next meeting

FrK

- Next meeting scheduled for 12th June to cover housekeeping matters, such as where meetings are held, scheduling of forthcoming meetings, scope etc.

ALL