

**Meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council**  
**Our Lady of Lourdes (Aylesbury) & St Anne's (Wendover)**

Meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022 7.30pm

<u>Attending:</u>	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Apologies</u>
Fr. Paul (FP)	Our Lady of Lourdes/St Anne's	Nancy Moyo (OLOL)
Jane Larkham (SA)	Saint Anne's	Michael Lowry (OLOL)
Fran Woodbridge (FW)	Our Lady of Lourdes	Carole Paternoster (OLOL)
Sr. Bernadette (SrB)	Our Lady of Lourdes	Sean Brannon (OLOL)
Clive Gallagher (SA)	Saint Anne's	Jaya Theodore (OLOL)
Peter Donnelly (OLOL)	Our Lady of Lourdes	Mary Harding (OLOL)
		Gerrardine Goulding (OLOL)

1.	The meeting opened at 7.40pm with the parish prayer.	ACTION
2.	Apologies received - Nancy Moyo, Michael Lowry, Carole Paternoster, Sean Brannon, Jaya Theodore, Mary Harding and Gerrardine Goulding. Teody Abante has returned to the Phillipines, the PPC would like to thank him for his valuable contribution to the parish.	
3.	<u>Matters arising from the previous PPC minutes</u> Placing the 150 club application form on the website. Currently liasing with Clive as the format of the form may change.	
4.	<p><u>Reports</u></p> <p>a) <u>Finance (Clive)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 150 club will be relaunched in an effort to attract new members.</li> <li>• Income for the two parishes is back to pre-covid times.</li> <li>• A quote to update the hall toilets is £50k and is unlikely to be approved by the diocese so the plan is to progress the work in stages.</li> <li>• A demo showing the benefits of using electronic collection points in the church went well and hopefully we can get 2 installations within a month.</li> </ul> <p>b) <u>Safeguarding (Gerrardine submitted an email report)</u> We have had a number of expressions of interest for volunteers to assist with the children's liturgy, however when it comes to completing the DBS process very few people have responded despite reminders. This means they must not do the role they have volunteered for until they have provided all the necessary documentation and been given DBS clearance. This includes a Legion of Mary member who shouldn't be making their visits currently for this reason.</p> <p>Due to the volume of applications, I have provided DBS training to another safeguarding representative who is currently trying to go through the process with some volunteers but is having the same problems in obtaining the required documentation from the applicants. As I've mentioned before, when there is an upcoming need for volunteers, this process needs to commence months in advance of the roles being filled for all volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults. This is to give enough time for people to complete the process and receive DBS clearance prior to the date that they are required from. Should there be insufficient volunteers that have completed the process in the lead up to the role commencing, this will allow extra time to recruit new volunteers. The process itself is not onerous and should be relatively straightforward for applicants.</p>	

	<p>c) <u>Website (Sean submitted an email report)</u>          People need to be reminded to send him content to put on the website. EG: SVP, CAFOD, parish events, deanery events, sacramental programmes.          Peter commented that, after some training from Sean, uploading information to the website is very user-friendly.</p> <p>d) <u>Devotions in the parish (Fr Paul)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Divine Mercy devotion every Wednesday evening 6-7pm led by Deacon John Sillitoe.</li> <li>• Sacred Heart Novena and extra evening Mass every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday.</li> <li>• Immaculate Heart of Mary novena every 1st Saturday as well as adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.</li> <li>• The Legion of Mary intends resumption of their activities in the New Year.</li> </ul> <p>e) <u>Youth Ministry (Peter)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the completion of the sacramental programmes for this year there is interest in developing a post Confirmation group as well as a post First Holy Communion group. Peter is keen to collaborate with St Michael's school chaplains to share resources and promote activities such as             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– World Youth Day/ Flame– national level</li> <li>– Blaze/lux – diocesan level</li> <li>– Mini-Vinnies/faith sharing/music/youth Mass/events – parish level</li> </ul> </li> <li>• St Edward's school will be resuming their Thursday Masses at OLOL.</li> <li>• There was a discussion to explore the possibility of having a youth budget.</li> </ul> <p>f) <u>SVP Appeal (Steve Gill emailed a report)</u></p> <p>The traditional work of the SVP continues in both OLOL and St Anne's – visiting elderly at home, running errands, providing transport to Mass and hospital appointments etc. If parishioners know of somebody who would appreciate a visit or transport, they should please advise Fr Paul.</p> <p>We are beginning to support the work of the deanery 'Ministry Pillar' team, initially by helping with establishing contact with care homes in Aylesbury and Wendover. As a result of this, in one of the homes we have contacted there will be a Communion Service [with anointing/confession available as required] led by Fr Paul at the end of October.</p> <p>An 'Indian Supper' was held in St Anne's early October at which nearly 50 people attended. This event was not only a fundraiser for the SVP's 'twinned' conferences in Kerala and Grenada but also an evening to spread the awareness of our work within the parish. There will be a similar event at OLOL on 28 January.</p> <p>Our group has supported financially the local foodbank and a Ukrainian family in the area.</p> <p>Two new members recruited as a result of our recent 'pulpit appeal'.</p> <p>The SVP is setting up a Cost of Living Support Fund with the aim of raising £500k. This will be used to support individuals where needed during this coming winter. Additionally the SVP will be keen to support parish initiatives such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Launching a Heating-in-the-Hall initiative: By welcoming members of the community to your local church hall and offering a hot meal and the opportunity to socialise, you can provide much-needed support throughout the colder winter months.</li> <li>· Welcoming people to take part in Knit and Natter sessions: Inviting individuals to connect with one another by taking part in regular knitting sessions, and take away a warm winter item such as a blanket, hat or scarf.</li> </ul> <p>These are just examples of ideas that a parish can put in place to help the elderly and others who may struggle this winter.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Report from St Anne's (Jane)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations from a meeting of Pastoral Area Councils in Northampton earlier this month:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) We should start every meeting with a short Biblical text which we should study for not more</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

than a minute or two but will give us time to separate us from our busy lives and focus on the work we are about to undertake. This should be additional to the Parish Prayer, not instead of. Avril will be sending examples of potential texts.

b) Pastoral Area councils should undertake tasks that individual Parish Pastoral Councils cannot do. For example, in Aylesbury each Parish should let the PAC know what their activities are going to be for Advent and Christmas. These details can be prepared as a leaflet which could be sent electronically to all parishes and sent by email to parishioners and parents of school children, assuming lists are available and comply with GDPR. Some printed leaflets could be available for parishioners who are offline and for schools as back up to the email. This could then be repeated for Lent and Easter then the First Holy Communion Season and the Autumn when Sacramental Formation usually starts.

- Confirmation cake sale, Sunday 9 July. I don't have the figure which was 2 digits so nowhere near the OLOL figure. The first time this happened. We wish to support again in the future.
- Children's Liturgy has restarted. We have some new volunteers but not enough to guarantee every Sunday.
- Refreshments after Mass have restarted with new volunteers.
- Music group - we have recruited another (adult) guitarist.
- SVP supper – a small comment, The South Asian community of parishioners which attended the 9am Mass throughout the summer was much smaller at St Anne's on Sunday 23 October. Father Paul said this was because during the darker months they prefer to attend the 6pm Mass at OLOL. I only draw this to your attention because there will be another fund raising SVP supper in January and the venue will be the OLOL Parish Hall. We intend this supper to be as inclusive as possible.
- Ukrainian refugees – the launch of the Wendover group supporting Ukrainian refugees will take place on Thursday next week and I have been invited. We can liaise with the SVP effort.
- November – month of Holy Souls
  - a) We have already sent out invitations and invited known recently bereaved to the Churches Together in Wendover Annual Memorial Service at 3pm in St Mary's on Sunday 6 November. Father Paul is welcome to lead part of the service.
  - b) We have not yet received envelopes for Masses for the Dead during November.
  - c) Mass for All Saints at 10.15am in St Anne's on Tuesday 1 November
  - d) Mass for Holy Souls in St Anne's at 11am on Wednesday 2 November
  - e) St Anne's has always marked Remembrance Sunday because many parishioners were WW2 veterans or worked at RAF Halton. Now that Holy Family RAF Halton has closed and the Parishioners mostly attend St Anne's (or OLOL), not only do we have a wreath (later laid on the Wendover War Memorial at the Parade at 2.30pm) at our 9am Mass, we also have a short tri-Service ceremony after the prayer after Communion.
- Advent
  - a) Retreat – this is happening on Saturday 26 November, details attached. This is an initiative led by a parishioner from St Anne's fully welcomed by Churches Together in Wendover so it will take place in our largest building St Mary's from 9am to 1pm. All are very welcome.
  - b) Giving Tree – as is our custom, from the first Sunday of Advent, St Anne's will have a Giving Tree which allows parishioners to give presents to the mothers and children who need to leave their homes in haste.
  - c) Penitential Service – we expect to attend at OLOL.
- Christmas
  - a) Messy Church – Wednesday 21 December – an initiative led by Wendover Free Church but on this occasion, at the suggestion of a parishioner from St Anne's, the last activity will be to decorate St Anne's for Christmas followed by a short Carol Service and possibly a very short

	<p>Nativity. The Giving Tree will have gone by then and all gifts distributed.</p> <p>b) Times of services – will we have a Christmas Eve Mass at St Anne’s? Can Father Paul do this? Christmas morning at St Anne’s is usually at 9am followed immediately by a short nativity performed by our Children’s Liturgy Group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New year – Epiphany is Friday 6 January. Mass time for Holyday of Obligation?</li> <li>• Lent Meetings – Course based on the Pledge made by the villagers of Oberammergau in 1683 delivered through Churches Together in Wendover.</li> </ul>																						
6.	<p><u>Sacramental programmes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>First Holy Communion (Fr Paul)</u> 10 children have registered to date. A parents’ meeting takes place on 6<sup>th</sup> November.</li> <li>• <u>Confirmation (Fran)</u> Very successful Confirmation Mass took place on 15<sup>th</sup> October and, with it being a parish Mass, there was a large congregation to support the 23 candidates who were confirmed.</li> <li>• <u>RCIA (Fran)</u> The RCIA course is scheduled to start at the end of November. A meeting for the volunteers will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. It is hoped that the number of volunteers to help run this course will not dwindle and still remain committed to making this a success.</li> </ul>																						
7.	<p><u>Advent /Christmas</u></p> <p>The Advent Penitential service will take place on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. A second priest will be required to hear confessions.</p> <p>Christmas Masses will be as follows:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;"></th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">Our Lady of Lourdes</th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">St Anne’s</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sat 24<sup>th</sup> December</td> <td>Carols 5.30pm</td> <td>8.30pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</td> <td>9.00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sun 25<sup>th</sup> December</td> <td>Christmas Day Mass 11.00am</td> <td>9.00am + nativity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mon 26<sup>th</sup> December</td> <td>Boxing Day Mass 9.30am</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat 31<sup>st</sup> December</td> <td>Mass 6.00pm</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sun 1<sup>st</sup> January</td> <td>Mass 11.00am</td> <td>9.00am</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There was a discussion on carol singing in the nursing homes.</p>		Our Lady of Lourdes	St Anne’s	Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Carols 5.30pm	8.30pm		Vigil Mass 6.00pm	9.00pm	Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Day Mass 11.00am	9.00am + nativity	Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> December	Boxing Day Mass 9.30am		Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> December	Mass 6.00pm		Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> January	Mass 11.00am	9.00am	<b>Fr Paul</b>
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8.	<p><u>Social Events</u></p> <p>a) <u>Christmas Party</u></p> <p>The meeting was beginning to overrun at this stage and discussion was brief. Provision of any food items (if required) should be shared amongst the parish and not left to the same group. The date for the party was set at Sat 17<sup>th</sup> December with an option to have an alternative (should the Christmas Party not go ahead) Epiphany Party on Sat 7<sup>th</sup> January. Peter agreed to look into providing music for the party.</p> <p>b) <u>Review of Autumn Fayre</u></p> <p>Due to the lateness of the meeting this was not discussed.</p>																						
9.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>Sean submitted several items in his email report. These are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital collection plate update – dealt with item 4 a).</li> <li>When is the offertory procession returning?</li> <li>When is Holy Communion under both species returning? Fr Paul has not had any guidance from the diocese and considers that we should continue as we are for now.</li> <li>When will altar servers resume their full duties eg: putting out the book, “serving” the priest eg washing hands etc.</li> <li>We need base traps in the hall as the acoustics are not good.</li> </ol>																						

	f) Do we own the land up to the paths? Can we plant some more trees and flowering shrubs? Due to the lateness of the meeting points b) and d) to f) will be discussed at the next meeting.	
10.	<u>Date of next meeting</u> 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 7.30pm in OLOL church.	
11.	<u>Concluding Prayer</u> The meeting ended with a closing prayer at 10pm.	