

**Sacred Heart PPC Meeting  
8.00pm Thursday 7 October 2021  
Minutes**

**Attendees:**

Canon John  
Sister Dorothy  
David Hurst, Secretary  
Ruth Naylor, Interim Chair  
Eleanor Bowman, Youth Minister  
Deacon Julian Burling  
Siobhan Heffron, Sacred Heart School  
Jude Mariadross  
Annette Campbell Black  
Rachel Purvis

**Apologies:**

Maria Christopher  
Anne Waldron, Chair

**1.0 Minutes of the meeting of 9 September 2021**

- Minutes from the previous PPC meeting were approved.

**2.0 Updates from Canon John**

**a) The Synod**

- The Archbishop has asked for nominations of 2 delegates from the parish to attend the Synod. Volunteers will need to come forward in the next 2 weeks. Information to be given in the parish newsletter and also advertised on social media.
- Delegates will need to attend a series of Zoom meetings between Oct 2021 -Mar 2022. There will be a period of discernment and conversations at parish level. Resources will be available.
- Canon John asked how the voice of SH parishioners could be shared and it was suggested through small groups and/ or at a larger general meeting. House group/small group meetings/talking together to share. These reflections/meetings and discussions need to be summarized and then put forward to the Archbishop. Then summarized in a diocesan report, which will go on to Rome. The Synod starts on the 1 November.

**b) Upcoming events**

- Requiem/bereavement mass of remembrance for all those who died during the pandemic. Provisional date set as 26 November at the 6.30pm mass.
- An evening mass and social event to thank all the mass stewards. Date of 12 November is now set.
- Diocesan medal to be awarded to people who have contributed to the pastoral needs of the parish. Canon John has 2 candidates in mind.
- There was agreement that the Christmas dinner for parishioners should go ahead if possible. The Christmas planning group will need to be informed.

**3.0 Environment Group**

- The climate mass was held last Sunday and went well. The next environment meeting will be the 26 October.

- There are plans for sapling trees to be planted in the grounds behind the car park. There will be a planting ceremony followed by tea and cakes. Date to be confirmed sometime in November (Eleanor and Marian to be informed). The wildflower patch will also need to have some work done.
- Volunteers are needed for the Environment group.
- At the end of November, Eleanor Bowman and David Hurst have been invited to speak about the Live Simply award.
- In the run up to COP26 a bidding prayer will be selected for masses. The Jesuit ministry have asked for a banner to be made.

#### **4.0 Communications update**

- Ruth Naylor is currently writing a parish survey regarding communications.
- Sr Dorothy explained that more parishioners are accessing the newsletter online which is saving paper.
- Siobhan Heffron explained that the parish website needs updating with information and photos of our new Clergy. Paul, the website editor, and Chris Woodward need to be informed regarding this.
- Sr Dorothy explained that 'Google searches' still bring up old mass times which are incorrect so this also so needs to be updated. Ruth Naylor has worked on updating this, so it should be more presentable than before.

#### **5.0 Sacred Heart Primary School update**

- The pupil roll at Sacred Heart Primary has increased overall; it's the highest pupil roll in 5 years.
- Whilst pupil numbers have increased, Catholic intake (those joining Reception) has slowly decreased - particularly from the Sacred Heart Parish. Intake from St Joseph's New Malden and St John Fisher have remained the same despite Baptism rates dropping more in these parishes than Sacred Heart.
- There was discussion about how we could promote the parish primary school. This included: continuing strong links with Eleanor Bowman, Youth Minister, return to singing at Mass in January 2022, actively promoting the parish school to parents, updating a flyer for newly registered parishioners and giving it to those signing up for Baptism.
- Other ideas include more cost effective advertising in Edgeways, adding a flyer to the school page on the parish website, having a school notice board in Church, creating decorations for the church (with Eleanor).
- Ruth Naylor has updated social media pages and bios to include links to the school.
- A new foundation governor is needed for the school

#### **6.0 Community outreach update**

- David will talk from the pulpit after all Masses on 16-17 October to briefly explain projects and invite support with contact details published in the newsletter. These are: Merton Winter Night Shelter (MWNS); Parish Soup Run (Damian Findlayson); Churches Together West Wimbledon; Merton Citizens (live group training dates TBC) and Community Sponsorship 'Heart Project' update.

#### **AOB**

- New Parishioners' Welcome Reception, to include the updated Sacred Heart Primary School flyer, to be discussed at November PPC meeting.