

Liturgy and Formation Committee
Meeting 23rd April 2025
7pm St Gregory's Parish Room

Present: Chris D (chair), David C, Marina S, Pat C, Doreen M, Peter H, Nuala H,

Apologies: Mandy B, Mary V, Fr Oliver, Becky B, Elaine

1. Opening Prayers - Prayers for Pope Francis led by Chris

2. Apologies as above

3. Approval of the Minutes of 30th January 2025. Approved as drawn

Action Points:

- Fr Oliver to liaise with Polish community HELD OVER
- Guilia about first communion – Chris to follow up
- Pat to liaise with Fr Oliver about Vocation Mass and exposition – HELD OVER
- Kaitlin to be invited to join – Marriage prep courses

4. Matters arising

Deanery visit to Littlemore. Good representation from the parish

5. Updates from Working Groups

RCIA – Thanks to Nuala, Mandy and Simon for the work with the RCIA. A wonderful celebration of the Easter Vigil. Follow up meeting with RCIA candidates with Fr Oliver on May 1st. Three candidates for next year's course.

Baptism regular courses continue currently three couples. Still trying to ensure the parents not to bring children to the course – as it allows parents to concentrate on the course content. Orla has been supporting the baptism courses.

Marriage course – Lisa still running the course. Nuala gave positive feedback about the course from a couple who presented for baptism of their child. Pat and Jenny still available to support if required

Children's liturgy – working through themes of the Holy Year - Pilgrims of Hope

Bible group. Still active – David reflected on today's readings

Youth group: Mosaics crosses led by Dee D, Icons led by Marcella. Jubilee walk of witness (see website) – all well received. Youth led Stations of the Cross on Palm Sunday and Good Friday at OLP. Group will continue in the summer term.

Music: Easter services went very well, especially the Easter Vigil. We need to remember to use the portable speaker so that all can hear the service of light around the Pascale fire. Special mention of appreciation for the return of the Solemn Alleluias. Also strong appreciation for the singing of the Exultet and Psalms at the Vigil.

Altar Servers – Thanks to Terry for her support in getting the altar servers going at OLP

Three talks on the Cross during Lent. Very well attended and received.

Bereavement team. Volunteers needed to support Mass on 17 May 11am @ St Gregory's

Communications team. Request from Con that if there are any events being organised that need to be shared to the wider community via the newsletter / calendar /website then please email details to the parish office in a timely manner

6. Year of Jubilee. Fr Oliver, Chris D and Marina went up to Redhill to view as a possible venue for holding a Parish event there linked to Jubilee. Hasn't come off for this year. Still there is a desire to have some kind of parish event that would mark the Jubilee year, build on a synodal process and allow the parish to flourish.

7. Any Other Business

- Discussion on how we go forward as a parish – suggestion as a starting point that we hold a workshop to read the final document on Synodality together in the hope that it would contribute to a process of discernment about the future of the parish. Possibly a small group to start with.
- Possibility of **changing the Hosts** (ie can we get a different supplier just to vary it including the use of the extra-large celebrant host).
- **Penitential service** (was it this committees' responsibility to get this in the diary in advance?). We can support in future.
- **Issue of the proposed heaters and the line of sight** - will it have a negative effect on the decor - given that we have spent so much on painting the ceiling? THIS is SUCH a BIG decision for the PARISH - can't afford to get it wrong – To be raised at the Main Parish Council
- **The heating situation** – recognition that interim measures had had an effect on attendances, prayer and liturgy in the parish
- **The triduum morning prayers** – Requested that they be reintroduced for next year. - don't actually need Fr O for them - Just got to get the booklet printed in advance
- **Refurbishment of chalices** – Some of the chalices need refurbishment. Discuss with Fr. Oliver. Do we need to raise money for this?
- **Bucket for Holy Water.** One needed for OLP?

8. Date of Next Meeting – TBC

9. Closing Prayer – Short form of night prayer