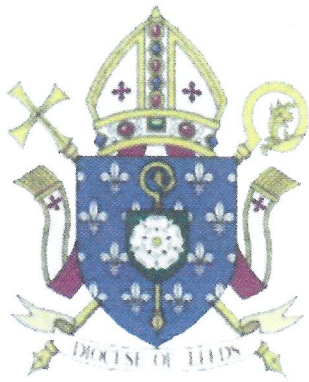


From Parish to Mission

Parish	Our Lady and St Joseph in the Aire Valley
Parish Priest	Canon James Callaghan
Facilitators	Nick Connor Elly Fiddler Barbara Kelly
Date of Meeting	15 Nov 2021
Number	19 + parish priest
Approx Age Range	1 about 35 rest over 65, possibly up to 80 12 women 7 men
I. The journeying companions As we journey together let us look around. Who are you on the journey with and what persons or groups are marginalised and why? Journeying companions: Our fellow parishioners, prayer group, family, parish. + 2 ticks. I belong to groups/networks around the country where I journey with them as disciples. + 3 ticks Marginalised: Black people, LGBT people + 3 ticks. Young people, people with special needs, people with disabilities SEN, + 6 ticks Women who feel they have a vocation + 2 ticks Young parents + 2 ticks Divorced people + 5 ticks The church needs to reflect society in the 21st century + 6 ticks More use of social media to get Christ's message out there to all people + 7 ticks	
II. Listening How might our local Church better listen to lay people (and especially young people and women) and minorities and those who are not respected? Open conversation- invite discussion and respond + 11 ticks Questionnaires – eg access to church + 9 ticks Encourage children's liturgy, "Messy" church + 10 ticks Involve with Inn churches + 9 ticks Poor people + 4 ticks Organise social events for Families where women/minorities/young people would find it easier to come along + 7 ticks	



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From Parish to Mission

Teenagers – work with local secondary and Primary school + 7 ticks

Young people are our and the church's future. They expect the church to be part of and to reflect the needs of society in the 21st century + 4 ticks

Youth clubs/groups + 3 ticks

Use modern social media + 2 ticks

Paid organiser for the parish to relieve the priest from "housekeeping" tasks so he can do more of his priestly duties + 3 ticks

III. Speaking out

How can everybody be encouraged to communicate appropriately what is important to them?

Have a way in which ideas can be shared.

Parish council + 9 ticks Facebook, Whatsapp etc

To feel able to approach the PP + 7 ticks

Feel able to talk to and be listened to by the Diocesan hierarchy + 2 ticks

Talk to other parishioners with a view to involve those who can make changes. + 6 ticks

Questionnaires – unmet needs

Contact details available – people with different skills.

House groups + 3 ticks

Prayer groups + 5 groups

Small groups are safer spaces to share what's important to you + 6 ticks

Provide a variety of parish activities where different groups of people feel comfortable and can talk to others + 4 ticks

IV. Celebrating

How might I be better able to participate in Mass and other liturgies?

They deepen our understanding of scripture + 8

Periods of silence during the mass + 4 ticks

Gives us a sense of belonging. + 2

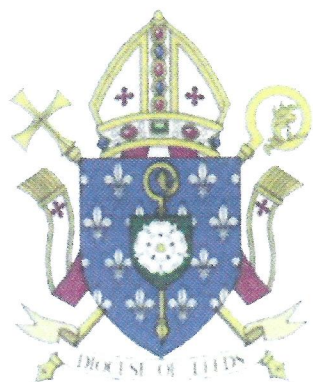
Makes us feel part of a larger family + 2

Helpful if the priest links scripture readings to everyday life examples we can follow + 6 ticks

Being able to ask questions about readings which you might find puzzling + 3 ticks

Comments box





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From Parish to Mission

Things like sycamore/café courses can help people understand the power and reality of the Eucharist + 3 ticks

All readers and musicians and Eucharistic ministers should have training and formation + 3 ticks

More lively music.

V. Co-responsible in the mission

How can each Baptised person become a *"missionary disciple", revealing Christ to others through their words and deeds?

*The missing word is effective. + 2 ticks

Are these 10 questions the ones we really need to be asking? + 1 tick

Being a silent witness + 4 ticks

By our actions – SVP, TWIG, UCM, Children's liturgy

Inn churches being involved + 7 ticks

By example in our words and deeds

Be a witness, an example, sometimes we do have to say out loud that our faith matters + 1 tick

Absolutely.

VI. Dialogue in Church and society

How might we improve our conversations within our diocesan family and also outside of it, (for example with people of different faiths, those who have no faith and those who have particular roles and duties in society)?

Deanery meetings which include the laity.

Parish councils feeding in to the diocesan structure + 3 ticks

Opportunities for learning about other faiths

Interfaith events, celebrations, ecumenism, more joint services + 11 ticks, walks, visits invitations and events. + 1

Invite people to our services + 3 ticks eg stations of the cross (once very successful here) + 1 tick

National networks, eg Celebrat, Sion

Attend ecumenical meetings /services + 2 ticks

VII. With the other Christian denominations

Are our relations with our Christian brothers and sisters good? How might they be improved?

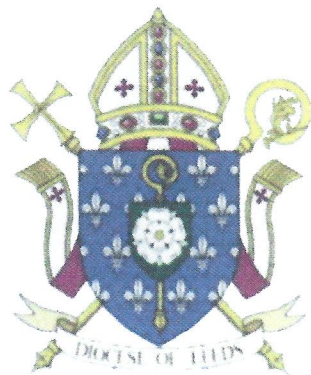
In this locality YES, but we should be prepared to accept invitations + 6 ticks



Synod
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2023

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From Parish to Mission

We don't host ecumenical services/events at this church – these happen in other local churches + 5 ticks

We need to join with other Christian denominations + 5 ticks

Join the local council of churches + 3 ticks

Together we need to identify common aims and work together to realise them.

Have the leaders of our parish ever met with leaders of other churches (non-catholic)? + 2 ticks

Have WELCOME sign over the entrance of every Catholic church.

We have to be prepared to listen and learn from them, eg female roles in the parish – Deacons?! + 3 ticks

We are in contact with the local clergy in Bingley – don't know about Cottingley - + 2 ticks

We host services when it's our turn – Christian Unity Service and WDP – this year it is our turn at Sacred Heart – (Covid allowing)

VIII. Authority and participation

How might we develop teamwork and a sense of co-responsibility in our local Church?

Get to know people + ask people for their help – not everyone will volunteer (not everyone feels confident) + 8 ticks

Have a functioning parish council + 12 ticks

Create an open atmosphere where various and disparate groups and interests are enabled and encouraged + 5 ticks

SVP + 2 ticks

Collaboration + 3 ticks

Greeters! + 5 ticks

Welcomers! This is so important and we need to take it seriously and devote more resources + 2 ticks

Have a "volunteer" list available for events etc

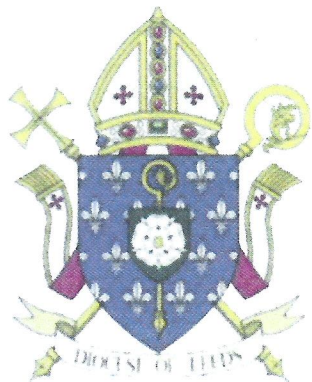
People take on roles they are able to and comfortable eg pray for people, or more active + 1 tick

People living alone to form a community and pray for all intentions -

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From Parish to Mission

IX. Discerning and deciding

How might we improve the process of decision-making in our local Church, so that we truly listen and recognise that the Holy Spirit can speak through each one of us?

Have a functioning Parish council, Elected members. + 10 ticks

Encourage the Hierarchy to rethink the manner in which the church is managed and its rules. + 7 ticks

More frequent feedback opportunities? + 5 ticks

A less formal setting than a parish council (House Groups) + 3

Create a sense that the diocesan hierarchy are really interested and open to grass-roots views and views from a variety of folks, ie children. Women, LGBTQ etc + 4 ticks

I'd like to see women deacons who can bring their skills to this – let the priest focus on their role as priest, not administrator (women also have other strengths and I want to hear their voices too!)

X. Forming ourselves in synodality

What formation is necessary within the local Church if we are to become better at listening to one another and sharing our insights with one another?

Once we are able to have meetings again (re Covid) there are resources eg Sycamore, café, which would be good to promote in the parish. + 2 ticks

Don't be afraid to use tools that the people are listening to are comfortable with eg digital surveys for young people, drama and going into the spaces where those people are comfortable. + 6 ticks

To become good listeners, we have to listen to God first. + 1

Prayer groups + 2 ticks

Is it time to think about women Priests and Deacons to facilitate a better understanding of all views? + 10 ticks

Need to reflect the aspirations of young people in the 21st century. + 3 ticks

Paid youth workers – trained in the diocese + 2 ticks

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