

Holy Cross

Liturgy Meeting

Wednesday, 26th February, 2025

Present: Colleen Diduk, Sergiy Diduk, Paul Glover, Vivien Flynn, William Flynn, Chris Wisniewski

Apologies: Fr. Richard, Daria, Blaj

The meeting was opened with prayer, followed by feedback on previous liturgical events, as follows:

Carol Concert: it was thought that the concert was better attended than in the previous year, and to improve attendance for the next one, it was suggested to check when and if other churches in the area would be holding theirs, by liaising with Churches Together, to avoid clashes and maybe even extending an invitation to them. It was also thought that a reduced concert programme might help to keep the children more attentive.

Another Christmas activity suggested by Sergiy was that the children could meet up, to rehearse for a nativity play, which could then be performed just before Christmas, and Paul proposed that statues of the three kings could be given to families at Mass to take home and then brought back to church for the Feast of the Epiphany.

New Lectionary: has been well received by readers and the congregation.

Advent reflections: were attended by seven to eight people each time, and the Bible Study Group has already planned to continue exploring our faith with the Lenten Reflections, as outlined below.

The following observations and decisions were made concerning the Liturgical calendar up to the 22nd June 2025:

1. Lent:

Ash Wednesday, 5th March, Mass at 12 pm.

Friday, 14th March, CAFOD Family Fast Day, envelopes ready for distribution.

Stations of the Cross on Sundays at 6 pm.. Fr. Richard will not be able to attend.

A rota to lead the stations is being prepared, for which an invitation to representatives of the parish ethnic groups will be made for their participation.

Lenten Reflections:

Sunday, 30th March and 13th April, Holy Cross meeting-room at 3 pm.

Sunday, 6th April, Our Lady's parish hall at 3 pm.

Wednesday, 2nd and 9th. April, Our Lady's parish hall at 7 pm.. These sessions will be delivered by Fr. Joe O'Hanlon, who will explore the Role of Women in St. John's Gospel and Jesus' Priestly Prayer, respectively.

2. Triduum:

Maundy Thursday, 17th. April, 7.30 pm. at Our Lady's.

Good Friday Passion, 18th. April, 3 pm. at Holy Cross and Our Lady's.

Easter Vigil, 19th. April, 7.30 pm. at Holy Cross.

Easter Sunday, 20th. April, 9.00 am. at Holy Cross.

As these liturgies have their own special moments, it was suggested to have someone to oversee their running, for which Paul kindly volunteered.

3. Easteride:

It was suggested to reinstate the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in May, at the usual time of 11 am. on Wednesdays at Holy Cross, with the Rosary said from 11:30 am. (as a May devotion). This would be conducted by an Eucharistic Minister and subject to Fr. Richard's approval

As a preparation for Pentecost, 8th. June, it was proposed to hold a moment of prayer, based on the seven gifts of the Spirit, between the 1st and 7th June, and delivered twice daily (morning/afternoon and evening) in church. Sergiy offered to set this event up, again subject to Fr. Richard's approval.

For Corpus Christi, 22nd. June, confirmation is needed if there is going to be First Communion at Holy Cross, and Bill reminded the group that it is the day when the Eucharistic Ministers renew their commitment. Should the former be the case, it was agreed that the events could be done together.

No date was mentioned for the next meeting.

The meeting concluded with prayer.