PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL FOR CHRIST THE KING & HOLY CROSS CHURCHES

MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) meeting held on Tuesday 18 November 2025 at Porch House, Christ the King Church, Thornbury

Attended by:

Father Frank Waters (Priest in Residence)

Deacon Lawrence (Administrator)

Deacon Kingsley (Clergy)

Chris Hurford (Treasurer)

Sarn Bradshaw

Jane Parker

Bella Warren

Frances Beck (PSR)

The meeting was chaired by Deacon Lawrence in the absence of Elaine Godfrey

Welcome and Opening Prayer

by Deacon Kingsley

Apologies for absence

Elaine Godfrey, Tim Sherwin, Gillian Pollard and Debbie Nicholls.

Minutes of last Meeting held on 16th September 2025

The minutes of the meeting were agreed

Matters Arising

Deacon Lawrence reported that the provision of a new noticeboard for Holy Cross was still progressing

Pastoral Report

Deacon Lawrence highlighted a variety of events that had occurred since the last meeting.

Services

21 October Confirmation Service officiated by Bishop Bosco with 18 being confirmed from CTK, Holy Cross & St Teresa Churches.

Baptisms for Amira Medves on 18 October and Sean Mullane on 1 November

Funerals for Dr Kenneth Gradwell on 29 September and Marlene King in Holy Cross on 17 October

- 2 October a very successful and enjoyable parish pilgrimage to Clifton Cathedral
- 3 October Harvest Mass in CTK School followed by a Reception Class visit by Fr Frank and Deacon Lawrence on 8 October

Visits

- 11 November an initial meeting for those wishing to enrol for their First Communion was held at CTK school. There are now 9 candidates wishing to make their FHC in 2026 and more may follow at the FHC meeting to be held at CTK (Parlour Room, Porch House) on Sunday 7th December.
- 16 November RCIA meeting for those interested in becoming Catholics. Two candidates attended.
- 25 September visited "The Ark" in Wotton-under-Edge celebrating its 30th anniversary an initiative of Wotton-under-Edge Churches Together
- 16 October Care Home Services visit
- 18 November St Wulstan's Pastoral Area Deanery Meeting attended By Fr Frank and deacons for a mass for those who have died in the area followed by a meeting
- NB. The follow up to a "Growing in Faith" Programme (discussed at the previous PPC meeting) was now most likely to commence in the New Year, given other commitments currently and the build up to Christmas. Further details on this will follow.

Finance and Property

Chris Hurford provided a summary of the financial position for each church. For Christ the King Church he highlighted the fact that receipts may not meet the increase in expenses by the end of the year. A particular issue was that collection donations did not seem to be increasing in line with the growing number of parishioners.

As for Holy Cross, around £22k had been transferred from the sale proceeds to the current account and following a complaint about the high cost of legal fees, a refund of £3.6k was being made.

The property work in both churches had been reviewed and a schedule of tasks for 2026 was being drawn up. A request for help from parishioners in 2026 would be made following the successful venture earlier this year.

CTK School

Deacon Lawrence reported on school visits by Fr Frank and himself.

There would be mass on Friday at the school at 10am on Friday 21st November.

The school would welcome parishioners who could help children with reading. Four Parishioners have stepped forward to help with this.

There was still a vacancy for a foundation governor.

Safeguarding

Frances Beck reported that while there had been no new requests for DBS checking, she was pleased with the increasing interest by parishioners in Safeguarding.

Certificate in Catechesis

Cecile and Sarn reported on their progress with their studies and how valuable they had found the day in Winchester where they had met others participating in the course.

Christ the King Weekend

Deacon Lawrence outlined the events over the weekend and emphasised that parishioners from both churches would be very welcome. Details had been announced in the weekly bulletin and mentioned at the end of masses.

Christmas and New Year Arrangements

Deacon Lawrence provided details of the masses over Christmas and the New Year for both churches. We are grateful to Canon Michael Fitzpatrick who will be saying mass at 10am on Christmas morning in Holy Cross. The following services would be held in Christ the King:

December 9th 7pm Advent Penitential Service

(including individual confessions by Fr Frank and Fr Eugene)

December 16th School Concert (seating would be limited as the school is likely to be full)

December 24th Carol Service at 7pm followed by Mass at 7.30

December 25th Quiet Mass at 9am and Live Crib Mass at 1030

December 26th 10am Mass

December 27th & 28th weekend Masses as usual (at both CTK and HC)

December 29th No Mass

December 30th 10.00am Mass (tbc)

December 31st 10.00am Mass (tbc)

January 1st 12pm Mass

NB. There will be No 10.00am Mass on Tue 23rd December

Date of next meeting

The next PPC meeting would be on Tuesday 10 March at 7pm at Holy Cross and then the AGM for both churches would be on 21 April at 7pm in Porch House

Closing Prayer

Fr Frank gave a closing prayer