

Meeting of Parish Core Team 11 th June 2025 7.30pm	
Present:	Sarah Cooper (SC), Claire Fairlie (CFa), Claire Fecher (CFe), Kevin Rourke (KR), Canon Tim Madeley (CTM), Claudine Maude (CM), Denis Woodhouse Minutes Secretary: Denise Bass (DB)
1.	Opening Prayer
2.	Apologies: None
3.	Minutes of last meeting: Agreed
4.	Matters arising from the Minutes not on the agenda: • KR reminded the Team of DB's request at the last meeting for the Core Team to consider who would take on the task of checking the weekly income, completing the cash sheets, preparing and taking the cash to the bank. No one has been approached for this task yet. • The AGM date has had to be postponed because it clashed with Diocesan Clergy Ordinations which Canon Tim must attend. After consulting diaries it was decided to hold the AGM on the 13th September on the day of the Harvest Lunch. • KR referred back to the suggestion box item about the murals in the Hall. A follow up suggestion has been put forward about having faith murals in St. Gabriel's church to intensify and reinforce auditory input. The team discussed the idea and thought quality of these items would be very important. There are also plans to put up 2 large icons on the sanctuary wall and for the stained glass windows from Ss. Crispin and Crispinian to be put in light boxes and displayed in the church. So need to wait for the decoration of the church and the installation of the above items before looking into banners.
5.	Finance & Property Updates: • SC has now received a clearer statement of the end of year finances for both churches. SC will discuss and analyse these with Maggie Wares, EA to Chief Operating Officer at the diocese. • Hazel D'Souza has claimed back VAT on behalf of the parish for works carried out at Our Lady of Consolation. CTM has requested that the £12,000 be added to the deposit account. • Sarah Kilmartin, Chief Operating Officer at the Diocese, has said when looking for grants for the building of the new Pilgrims' Way focus needs to be put on the history of the site, the literary connection with Hilaire Belloc, education and possible future community use. A professional is needed to work on this and the Diocese will be responsible for any grant applications. • CTM will contact Gareth Zaver, Diocesan Property Manager, to get an update on the development of the Potters' Field. • The cost of lettering being put directly on to the new font at Our Lady of Consolation is prohibitive and so a plaque will be put on the wall instead. • SC will attend the meeting with Sarah Kilmartin before calling a meeting of the Parish Finance Team. • At St. Gabriel's - the structural engineering part of the balustrade project is complete and Brian O'Connor is trying to get a third quote for all the work whilst continuing to sort the immediate emergencies that come up such as replacement of fencing with one of the Silver Lane properties. Our thanks to Brian for all he does. The Core Team identified the need to find small teams of parishioners to take forward other projects at St. Gabriel's such as the redecoration of the Hall. There have been quotes for the cleaning of the external walls of all the buildings. Need to see if these are still valid and instruct a company for the work to go ahead. • At Our Lady of Consolation – The altars and the font look fantastic and look as if they have always been there. The Diocese will fund three days for a conservationist to work on the St. Charles Borromeo altar in August so it'll be complete for 6th September when Bishop Richard comes to preside at Mass and to bless the new font and altars. The lighting for this altar is too white so investigations needed to see if the lights are fixed units or can the bulbs be replaced. If fixed units then these can be used in the Parish Room and new ones purchased for above the altar.

	Our thanks to Carl Conroy for keeping all these projects moving forward. Thanks too to Linda Thompson who, along with organising pilgrimages, has taken on the archive work at the Shrine.
6.	Suggestion Box Submissions: <i>Many thanks to those who make suggestions and signed them. Each is summarised below:</i> • A parishioner reminded the Core Team that the UCM donated a beautiful chalice to St. Gabriel's to mark the Millennium. Those who were involved are sad to see the chalice not being used so please could this be rectified. The Core Team agreed it is a pretty chalice and it is a shame not to use it. The sacristans would be asked to use it particularly for weekday Masses due to its compact size. • A parishioner pointed out to the Core Team that the altar at Our Lady of Consolation is on castors and asked could the team discuss the removal of these castors whilst we await a permanent altar. This led to quite a discussion as many of the Core Team did not realise this was the case. CTM and the Team will continue investigating options. In the long term it will be replaced with a stone altar though this could be ten years hence.
7.	Implementation of the Bishop's Pastoral Plan: CTM distributed and the Team discussed a diocesan document containing questions about the implementation of the Pastoral Plan. CTM needs to complete this and return to the diocese. Some guidance will be given at the Moderators' meeting next week.
8.	Distribution of Jubilee Tickets: The parish only has 7 tickets. CTM reported that the diocese suggests selecting parishioners to attend who are key to the new outlook and the Pastoral Plan. A selection of parishioners' names was put forward. CTM will approach them and invite them to attend the event. CFa is coordinating the attendance of the whole deanery, the coaches have been booked and CTM will give her the total numbers attending from the deanery by the end of June.
	Date of next meeting: Wednesday 23 rd July 2025 7.30pm @ CF's home