

Report from PPC, covering period from January 2008 to January 2009

As the members get to know one another, the PPC has become a good forum for communication and working together. Using the PPP as a foundation and in consultation with parishioners, it has tried to discern the needs of the parish, co-ordinate activities and move forward into the future.

- Arising from a Diocesan Day of Celebration on the theme *Handing on our Faith* the PPC discussed the need to support our children on their faith journey from their FHC until they can join CTU. The group 4-2-6 has now met successfully twice, taking part in Saturday evening Mass and enjoying time together afterwards.
- The PPC has strengthened links with the Deanery Pastoral Council to discover how best we can share our resources. Fr John and two PPC members attend DPC meetings and the parishes of St Joseph and St George's are working with us on joint RCIA provision. There will be a Deanery Celebration Day on 16th May.
- We celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady at Lourdes on 17th May with a Mass and international evening with the theme *The Gathering of the Nations*.
- A successful social event for the parishioners of Hilton was held in September 2008.
- We welcomed the bishop for his Visitation in September during which he met the PPC.
- The parish has continued to work with the other Mickleover Churches in Churches Together. The various scenes of the Nativity were acted out as Mary and Joseph travelled with many companions between the churches on 20th December.
- After the successful launch of *Home is a Holy Place* in the diocese, there are plans to promote the use of this resource among the families of the parish.
- The Outreach Group has successfully launched the new Parish Project in support of Sr Vianney's orphanage in Kaoma, Zambia.
- The Parish website has been set up (www.ourladyoflourdesparish.co.uk) to provide another way of finding information about all aspects of parish life and of linking to related sites. [If you do not have a computer, the site can be accessed in any public library.]
- The kitchen in the Parish Centre has been refurbished.
- The sound and vision system in the church has been upgraded.
- A Health and Safety audit and risk assessment have taken place of the church, grounds and Parish Centre.

As we move into the future, constantly reviewing the Parish Pastoral Plan and our roles in it, our thoughts turn

- to the Renewal of the Covenant between the Mickleover Churches and what this means to us,
- to concerns about the environment and our responsibility for God's creation
- and to the Celebration of the Golden Jubilee of our parish in 2011.

Please talk to members of the PPC about how we can best do these things and how together we can go on building a strong community dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes and her son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

The Parish Pastoral Council, March 18th 2009