Our Lady of Loreto & St Winefride Catholic Church

Parish Advisory Group (PAG)

Meeting 8

14th January 2024

Summary of notes of discussion, covering major issues.

1. It was agreed that the parish should undertake two **Pilgrimages**, to connect with our patronal saints - Our Lady, and St Winefride. Since a journey to Loreto would take some organising, it was decided to schedule that for 2025. Our pilgrimage to St Winefride's Well at Holywell could however be arranged this year, and the date agreed to be 14th – 15th May. Research so far indicated that overnight accommodation was available on that date at a guest house run by the Bridgettine nuns nearby. The trip would be publicised on 27th/28th January, with prompt response requested so that spaces could be booked. The maximum number of people would be around 35. Information about the Loreto trip was being sought from a firm of experienced pilgrimage organisers, and would be publicised in the next few weeks.

2. **Lent Parish Project:**   There was a long discussion on which project the parish should support. It was decided that the Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) would be a suitable cause. It is a UK charity which supports Christians in Gaza and the West Bank, which includes Bethlehem and Jericho. This would be announced in the forthcoming newsletter, with an appeal for volunteers to organise activities such as coffee mornings, social evenings with talks from parishioners who have been to the Holy Land, and an address from the lectern at weekend masses by a representative from FHL.

3. **Property group:** The group received a progress report on building works. The first phase of the planned maintenance works to the roof and guttering - including remedial work following the theft of roofing lead – had been completed. Plans were being drawn up for the next phase. This was to include redecorating the church interior; new light fittings; permanent easy access to the church front doors, and a new accessible WC within the church envelope. This was in addition to maintenance on the central heating system and the drains to the site.

4. The first meeting of the **IT Working Group** was scheduled for 24th January, and progress would be reported back to PAG at its next meeting on 17th March.