

ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR R.C, GOLDERS GREEN, LONDON NW11 7NE

Minutes of the Parish Council virtual meeting via ZOOM at 8 pm on Monday 9th November 2020

PARTICIPANTS

Outreach: Hetty Colchester, Niamh O'Donnell-Keenan, John Hoshimi, David Lawrence, Joan How, Anthony Clark - Deacon

Social Events: Fr Tony Convery-Parish Priest

Worship: Jill Brudney, Rosy Alzano, Mary Whittle-Jones – Music Coordinator

Faith Formation: Marie-Thérèse Ross-Biek, Alvaro Scrivano – Chief Catechist

Administration: Jenny Schneider, Sarah Chalk, Jim Biek, Irene, Yew Kasonde Konie –Council Coordinator

 To do

10.0 OPENING PRAYER

Deacon Anthony gave the opening prayer

11.0 AGENDA FOR THE MEETING

Deacon Anthony shared the Agenda on screen. There were 5 parts. Fr Tony gave a brief overview of each for our consideration:

1. **Current situation of liturgy during lockdown** -There is some liturgy, including streaming of Mass on YouTube, the Rosary and most recently Mass live on Zoom. Could we review the liturgical provision we have, specifically, how we can improve and deepen our provisions for worship?
2. **Sunday School and Sacrament arrangements** -This is now entirely online
3. **Contact with parishioners** - Outreach raised this last time. Fr Tony was happy to report that he has been sending out a weekly newsletter with a cover letter to parishioners. Currently, this is going out to 100, double the original number of 50/60. In addition, the *Mailchimp* e-newsletter goes out every Saturday to 498 people with a 40% open rate. Then there are various Zoom meetings including those Joan arranges and others like the *Timeline* Bible study
4. **Christmas arrangements** – if we can celebrate public Masses, what kind of arrangements should we make? Also we may like to know that Mary has plans in mind for a Carol Service
5. **Mass schedule** – given the current uncertainty, Fr Tony proposed looking at this in the new year, when the outlook should be clearer and he will have a full year to official retirement.

We split into breakout rooms for group discussion. When we came back together, each group gave a short verbal report. The following major points and proposals were made

12.0 FAITH FORMATION/ADMINISTRATION

12.1 Sunday School/Sacramental Classes

We heard from Alvaro that all catechism is now online. There are 3 sessions on Zoom (2 sacramental courses plus the children's liturgy). Each session lasts half an hour and has been well received by the children. This arrangement continues until 13th December 2020. If lockdown ends, then classes will switch back to taking place in the hall.

13.0 WORSHIP

13.1 Current situation – liturgical provision

30 people came in for individual prayer. We think that the live Mass on Zoom is an excellent idea. We all agree the first one was wonderful and a great success. It felt good to take part and there was a cosy and intimate ambience.

13.2 Christmas arrangements

If we can have public Masses, a preliminary schedule has been proposed as follows:

- **Christmas Eve 6 pm** Children's Mass, **10 pm** Mass, **Midnight Mass** streamed on Zoom
We could put a notice on the door for those who are not regular church goers and/or may come to celebrate, out of tradition
- **Christmas Day** Mass at **10 am** and **12 noon**. As this will likely still be restricted to 80, we will need a booking system

13.3 Contact with parishioners

Thoughts on contact with parishioners and comments in response were as follows:

- i. It will be nice to have Christmas cards to share details of planned festivities with parishioners and neighbours. We need to wait until 4th December to know what is happening. We may have to print them inhouse and will be mindful about taking the usual precautions to avoid cross contamination
- ii. We should ask more Eucharistic Ministers under 70 to help with the distribution of communion
- iii. A request and appeal: can we all each phone at least 3 parishioners we know?
- iv. Jenny had suggested taking holy water to the housebound. Unfortunately, this is not allowed however Fr Tony will kindly bless any that needs it, on the spot, if brought to him

13.4 Carol Service

Mary shared the happy news, that she was in a quartet which, together with Larry successfully recorded 14 carols. She will liaise with the worship group to find 6 readers for 3 readings and 3 poems so they can jointly arrange a Carol Service. We can expect to hear young Zoe and Dylan performing "in the bleak midwinter". The plan is for the Service to be streamed on YouTube.

14.0 OUTREACH

14.1 Christmas

Joan is arranging goodie bags for 17 housebound parishioners. She also has 18 children's knitwear items. Martin is setting up a website where anyone who would like one, can receive it, when they make a donation. Preserves and other items will also be available on this website

15.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Thank you – Glentree planning application

Fr Tony thanked everyone who sent in a submission to the Council about the Glentree planning application. Over 220 representations were made

15.2 Extraordinary meeting

David proposed we have an extraordinary meeting to discuss arrangements after 2nd Dec. Fr Tony seconded the proposal which was accepted and agreed

15.3 Christmas cards

If we haven't heard anything by 8th December, it may be too late to get the professionally printed cards. In that case we will print inhouse and make use of other publicity such as posting on the Hampstead Garden website and having a banner outside church

16.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting ended. The **next Parish Council meeting** is the **extraordinary meeting scheduled for 8 pm on Tuesday 8th December 2020**