

St John the Baptist and St Kentigern Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting held via Zoom video conferencing on 17 November 2020

1. **Opening Prayer:** Fr Jeremy opened the meeting with a prayer for guidance from the Holy Spirit.
2. **Present:** Fr Jeremy, Karen Birnie, Janice Gomez, Marlene McCallum, Brian Murray, Rita Phillips, Peter Robertson, Anne Simpson, Martin Spears
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:**
The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Proposed – Fr Jeremy; Seconded – Anne.
4. **Matters Arising from Meeting 15 October 2020**
 - a) **Parish Outreach:** Karen reported that Corstorphine Community Hub were continuing their food donation activities and that the number of families being helped was increasing. £1000 of the parish's agreed donation was still on hold. The Hub knew that instalments were still outstanding and Karen thought they would ask for the money if it was needed.
 - b) **Mass arrangements:**
 - Brian had made further enquiries into the licences required for playing music during livestreamed masses. Rules for playing secular music under a PPL licence varied according to the livestreaming platform being used. Facebook could halt a live performance if it was in breach of their policy, although it was thought that if the purpose was non-monetising it might be allowed. Fr Jeremy had asked crematorium staff about the situation but they did not know. It was suggested that the archdiocese or funeral directors might know. It was suggested that a notice saying all music used had been purchased via Spotify or Apple.com would ensure recognition that payment had been made. Much of the religious music used was covered by the parish's CCLI licence and also One Licence which covered other religious publishing houses. Peter thought that choral music played during a service was always exempt. Fr Jeremy said that Susan Barry and the Lourdes Music Group were recording some music for Advent and Christmas and they would have the appropriate licences.
 - c) **First Holy Communions:** Fr Jeremy had found volunteers to help.
 - d) **Mass Bookings:** It was decided that, although there was some activity on the Eventbrite booking system each week after Masses were fully booked, it was not necessary at the moment to have a waiting list. Brian would put only weekend Masses on the booking system from 23 November as it was not now necessary to book for weekdays.
5. **Advent and Christmas**

With the aim of having as many activities as normal during Advent and Christmas, the following was discussed:

 - **Christmas Trees:** St Kentigern's had been ordered. Anne to contact Margot Donoghue to clarify arrangements for St John's tree. Mary Strachan might again organise remembrance baubles. Special dedicated times might need to be arranged for a socially distanced event preparing the church. Tracey would hopefully do the tree lights.
Action: Anne
 - **Advent appeal:** The Scottish Refugee Council were organising hampers for refugees and asylum seekers. Fundraising, including the Crib Fund, would support this and parishioners would also be helping to deliver hampers.
 - **Catechesis:** A four part CaFE series entitled The Joy of Hope would run on Zoom on Tuesday evenings in Advent. The files would be available for anyone who might miss a session.

- **Children's activities:** After exploring the possibilities of including children in online activities Fr Jeremy said he would talk to the children's catechists about arranging an event to take place in front of the Crib. Posting drawings etc on the Facebook page was also suggested. **Action: Fr Jeremy**
- **Service of Readings with Music:** Fr Jeremy to ask Barry McAleer if he would sing with musical accompaniment in a livestreamed service of prayer and readings. Date to be confirmed as the possibility of a clash with a Corstorphine Churches Together event was mentioned. **Action:Fr Jeremy**
- **Advent Penitential Masses:** Fr Jeremy may arrange two special Masses with extra opportunities for Confession afterwards.
- **Christmas Masses:** There would be at least 2 Christmas Eve and 2 Christmas Morning Masses with the possibility of more. Times to be confirmed. Fr Jeremy to check if Fr Henry would be available. One vigil Mass and one morning one to be livestreamed. Booking to be available from Monday 14 December. **Action: Fr Jeremy/Brian**
- **Gifts and Food Parcels:** St Kentigern's SSVP will distribute food donations and children's gifts to families as usual. St John's food donations will go to Corstorphine Hub. Anne to ask Margot where the children's gifts from St John's should go. **Action: Anne**
- **St John's Christmas 'Post Office':** Following a discussion about the tradition of parishioners leaving cards for each other in the porch and the need for no congregating in the porch, Brian offered to deliver, as best he could, any cards which were left at the church. **Action:Brian**

6. Any Other Business

- **St Kentigern's Day 13 January:** It was acknowledged that, due to the ongoing restrictions, the usual celebrations would not be possible in January.

7. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 26 January at 7.00pm

There being no further business the meeting closed with prayer at 8.40pm.