



## **Deanery Pastoral Group virtual Meeting via Zoom: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Chair: Ivor, Minutes: jo, Paul, Julie, Maria, Jo, Tony, Stuart, John

Apologies: Father John.

Paul informed the group of Sadie's admission into hospital and Ivor led the group in a prayer for her recovery.

### 1.) How do we support those recently bereaved?

- Card to the Family. Would have to obtain the family information from the Priest. The group was mindful of Data protection issues?
- Bereavement Care Group was the suggested name.
- Prayer group to be set up on Zoom for the Deanery group to pray for the bereaved families.
- Julie suggested the establishment of an ongoing prayer group.
- Julie informed the group that 31<sup>st</sup> May is the National Rosary Rally-day - Walsingham Blog.
- St J F has volunteers who deliver the newsletter to parishioners who are self-isolating. The newsletter -includes a list of recently deceased.

### 2.) What support can we give to our Priests?

- Pray for them - the group agreed that prayer is the most powerful tool we have.
- Check on them, and ring them occasionally.
- Remember Retired Priests.
- Offer practical support - shopping etc.
- St Teresa's have a WhatsApp Group which includes the Canon.
- John Fisher has a Facebook group.
- The reductions in funds to the Churches during lockdown - donate button on most of the web site.

### 3.) How do we get parishioners to contribute to the support of the Parish?

- ❖ When the churches reopen we may need teams of cleaners to deep clean?
- ❖ Space the benches apart.
- ❖ Flowers in the Church.
- ❖ Tidy Outside areas.

- ❖ Ask for help from parishioners - put teams together. May require professional cleaners? The group felt that may not be needed.

Tony updated the group on some information sent out to him as Secretary of the Finance Committee (SS Peter & Paul) from the Dean of St George's Cathedral Moderator of the Curia during the lockdown and to other parishes.

Easter offering - nothing given to the Priests this year, however many parishioners have donated via their websites-

4.) What support can we give to the lonely and isolated members of the Parish?

- Deliver newsletters.
- Card to say that we are thinking of -the them.
- Prayer petitions.
- Send them links of internet masses. We acknowledged that some parishioners may not have access to the internet.
- Shopping?

5.) Are we able to give any Catechetical support to parents of children who have started on a First Holy Communion or Confirmation programme which has stopped?

- Zoom used for young people meetings.
- Safety of young people was discussed when using Zoom. This may be intrusive as their surroundings can be seen.
- St Teresa's are offering an online continuation of Confirmation programme. Links to Youth Alpha programme can be sent, and young people answer questions and share ideas, sending it back to catechists, working quite well.
- Agreed that its harder for the little ones, for example, First Holy Communion sessions are harder to continue.

Discussed what individual parishes are doing:

- Three parishes televising Mass - Sacred Heart, St T's and John Fisher.
- John Fisher : Web site kept up to date.
- Newsletter updated weekly, volunteers deliver some.
- Facebook web page, popular opinions shared and conversations had.
- Exposition for one hour weekly.
- St Teresa's: Reflection 5-6.15pm daily
- Rosary said regularly.

Stuart reminded us of the Walsingham daily Mass at 10.30 am repeated at 4 pm. Monsignor John Armitage, the Shrine Director, has given a Retreat and some great homilies that can be found via the Walsingham web page online.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 9th JUNE 7.30 pm  
Paul will organise and send the link.

Update on Sadie will be sent out to the group. Asked for her to be told of our thoughts and prayers for her speedy recovery.

Group will try to obtain a list of their Parish deceased for next meeting.

The meeting ended with a collective prayer