****

**St. Michael’s and St. Bernadette’s Parish Pastoral Team**

***Meeting Minutes***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Meeting:** | Virtual Meeting 22 |
| **Date & Time:** | 09 March 2021 (8.15pm) |
| **Location:** | Zoom |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Attendees:** |  |
| Clare Barnes (CB) | Peter Purdue (PP) |
| Claire Coleman (CC) | Andrea Reid (AR) Vice Chair |
| Laura Doyle (LD) | Jane Reynolds (JR) Secretary |
| Jules Greene (JG) | Sean Thorpe (ST) Chair |
| Gillian Howarth (GH) | Angela Still (AS) |
| Benjamin Imafidion (BI) | Liz Sheader (LS) |
| Father Steven Parkinson (FrS) | Rachael Scully (RS) |
|  |  |
| **Apologies** |  |
|  |  |

**Minutes**

1. **Short prayer**
2. **Matters Arising**

Numbers are starting to increase for Mass attendance. As we are still under the national local down restrictions, other ways were considered to accommodate these growing numbers. As outside gatherings are still restricted, the decision was taken to start recording numbers to guage demand. These numbers will be tracked and if the upward trend continues, additional weekday evening masses would be considered to accommodate growing numbers. Following on from that, we may look to put on an additional weekend mass if necessary.

Also need to be mindful that the Sacramental Programme is still running, and these additional masses may need be introduced into the schedule. The Programme team have written to families from last year’s cohort to offer slots for Communion masses after Easter. There are still around 45 children who will be offered this opportunity.

1. **Celebrating the Easter Triduum**

A lengthy discussion was held around ways in which to safely celebrate the Easter Triduum. FrS has received liturgical guidance for Easter from Bishop John, who has indicated that no community should feel obliged to offer Easter celebrations and that each local parish should celebrate in the way that is safest and best for their communities. He has stressed that, during this time, multiple celebrations should not take place in parishes with more than one church building.

The discussion centred around being safe and equitable in offering ways to celebrate Eastertide. It was stressed that, as with Christmastide, normal service will not be possible with any of the celebrations as movement around the church building is prohibited.

Ticketing was agreed as the safest and fairest way to allocate seating during celebrations where larger numbers are expected, with telephone bookings and email bookings allowing a seating plan to be devised for each mass.

Summary of Plans

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Celebration** | **St Bernadette’s** | **St Michael’s** | **Notes** |
| Saturday 27 March | Palm Sunday vigil | Evening 6.30pm |  | Ticketed |
| Sunday 28 March | Palm Sunday | 9.30am mass  11am mass | 10am mass | Ticketed |
| Thursday 1 April | Maundy Thursday | Celebration |  | Celebration (service only) Ticketed |
| Friday 2 April | Good Friday | Church open for private reflection  12noon – 2pm | Church open for private reflection  9am – 11am | Stewards required to ensure safe systems |
| Saturday 3 April | Easter Vigil | Evening 6.30pm |  | Ticketed |
| Sunday 4 April | Easter Sunday | 9.30am mass  11am mass | 10am mass | Ticketed |

1. **Easter in the Community**

Ideas generated include Children’s Station of the Cross, foliage on the doors, palms for the sick and housebound, Easter pebbles. AR setting up a work stream to discuss these ideas this week.

1. **2021 – A Year of Opportunity**

Postponed until after Easter.

1. **Any Other Business** (AOB)

Positive feedback has been noted regarding the gesture of distributing Ash Wednesday ashes via envelopes, this has been very well received.

**Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 6 April 2021, 8.15pm**