

**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CHURCH
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

September 2nd, 2020 at 8pm

Attendees : Kit Tranmer, Fr. Quentin Jackson, Fr. Isidore Faloona, Matthew Ives, Paul Turpin, Mike Eggleton. Mike O'Sullivan, Fr Michael O'Kane, William Yeung, Geraldine Mansbridge

Apologies : There were no apologies received.

The meeting was chaired by Fr Quentin.

Minutes were approved for the February 2020 meeting

Matters Arising

- **Youth Leader** – It was reported that a meeting took place on 24th February with the other parishes in our partnership. It was agreed at that meeting that none of the parishes were able to fully employ a youth leader at this time. STOC parish council agreed to draw up some activity plans for the youth at STOC and the PPC would consider any funding requirements to support this in due course.
- **Lenten Activities** - It was noted that the first planned talk had been well attend and well received was a great success. The remaining talk had to be postponed due to Covid restrictions but that it should be held at a future date.

Review of Chigwell away day 2019 and next steps

Fr Quentin referred to the steps taken at the Chigwell away day to move the PPC to work in a more collegiate way. A degree of progress had been achieved and a lot of excellent work continues. However, there was a need to ensure all skills and competence in the council and parish were utilised and valued. There was a need to also ensure that the burden does not fall on a small number of people, particularly the PPC Chair, but is shared. He referred to the list prepared by Michelle and Lorna on groups responsibilities as a good starting point to discuss how we go forward. It was strongly felt that the list did not reflect the needs of the parish and should be developed to cover such areas as Liturgy, youth education, adult education, social, caring and prayer life. This approach was agreed by all to be more favourable and Mike E agreed to review the structure and suggest an alternative structure for the next meeting. The purpose of this shift is that those groups in the church have responsibility for key areas of parish life and the PPC are the umbrella for co-ordination, communication and support.

To support this link PPC member would be assigned to each main group. Their role would be to ensure that they have a point of communication with the PPC, raise issues on their behalf and take responsibility for areas of church activity.

Items for information only

- Covid 19 update - Sunday masses to commence and to be kept under review
- The Liturgy Committee are currently looking at arrangements for the usual 24 hr adoration, Advent (to include a Covid contingency plan) and possible Bereavement service
- The 2020 FHC will conclude shortly and applications are being received for the 2021 programme
- 2020 Confirmation will be taking place later in September
- Plans are in hand to reopen the Becket Centre

Mass Streaming

With the installation of Church Services TV, a policy on mass streaming was needed. A draft document prepared by Bernard Hunter had been circulated. A group comprising Kit, Matthew and Mike OS agreed to review and decide on the STOC policy. This will enable better planning of the masses to be streamed and the associated publication for parishioners.

St James Sunday service

Pre Covid restrictions one Sunday mass took place at St James each week; this is located one mile from STOC. It is a small but faithful community and like all church services numbers are dropping. It is suggested that we consider if this service offering should continue. This will need to be carefully handled and we will need to engage with that community. For the next meeting please consider how we do this and who the lead PPC representative would be.

The question of Mass recommencing at Chigwell is a separate matter, as a Convent it is up to the Sisters to decide who and when they invite people in for Mass.

IT security

Reference was made to the recent scam that some parishioners had been subjected to. In light of this a section of the website now has information to help parishioners. This week's newsletter will draw parishioner attention to some helpful tips. William also mentioned that he had advised the Diocese of Brentwood of the scam.

Future meetings – The PPC will meet on a quarterly basis going forward and will consider virtual meetings for urgent matters