

## **Minutes of Pastoral Team Meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

### **Update on Church Attendance during the week**

Wednesday mornings good: 50 – 60 people

Weekends fill up quickly

Depends on Anniversaries – no big issue

A lot of people going during the week as their Sunday Mass

Promote the Lay-Led Liturgy

- leaders putting a lot of work into it
- going very well in St. Mary's: 32-35 last week, Exposition beforehand helps numbers

How do we promote Monday morning lay-led liturgy?

- announcing that people should support
- include in bulletin

We agreed that in September we would review the current Mass schedule before Christmas

- the decision was taken to continue with the current schedule indefinitely until things change

### **Funerals:**

Guidelines to follow

Excellent ushering – no breaches

Contact tracing form given to family during funeral preparations

25 spaces on the form

Form then given to undertaker and handed over to the ushers on the morning at arrival

We can only keep doing what we're doing

It is a diocesan issue if other areas are not complying

We'll continue to do our good work

### **Congregation Response Microphones**

In place at back of Holy Cross Church under the gallery

Sound outside – speaker to be put at the front of the Church

Two speakers either side of the front door

No request for this system in Maguiresbridge – already good response in Maguiresbridge

### **Reaching out to Young Families**

Books available

- not much uptake as of yet
- few orders for books

Bring into Churches and have available at the weekends

### **Baptisms:**

Parish policy is for only parents and godparents to attend

Policy has been broken – can't happen in the future

Same approach as funerals – use contact tracing sheet to reinforce the fact that only that number allowed. 1 or 2 siblings is no issue. Contact tracing sheet to be given to parents on booking

**Doors Open During Masses:**

No issues as yet. Ventilation required to keep people safe  
Alternatives?. Possibility of heat curtain was investigated but not feasible

**Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup>: Annual Remembrance for all our parishioners who have died in the last year**  
Lovely. Beautifully delivered

**29<sup>th</sup> November 2020:** Prayer service in Holy Cross at 6pm  
39 deaths in the parish . All families contacted. Bereavement team contacted. Practice a day or two before. All will be Online.

**Advent 2020:** 4 Thursday nights during Advent in Holy Cross at 7pm we will hold an Advent Prayer Liturgy. 2 people to pray the liturgy

4 members of the Pastoral Team plus 1 other. Try and involve new people.

**Christmas:** Keep it as normal as possible

Vigil 6pm in Holy Cross  
Christmas Day 9am in St. Mary's  
Christmas Day 11am in St. Mary's  
Extra 100 seats on weekend Masses

5 days can go to Mass for Christmas. Family bookings to maximise numbers able to attend.  
Parishioners to be told in time that they can't just arrive on the day. Know how many families are coming in advance so ushers can reserve seats – will have sheet before the day

**Anything else we can do as a parish respond to at this given time?**

Breathing exercises at the begging of masses – amazing response  
Can we facilitate a recording with mediation for mental health – breathing exercises, etc and play it as part of the day or all day after Mass and people join online. Tie in with Lay-Led Liturgy: Monday all day – might encourage people to come out

**AOB:**

Canon Jimmy asked to pass on a 'thank you' to Fr Eamon on behalf of the parishioners for the week he worked in the Parish

Books for Miraculous Medal Novena on a Monday morning

- very good
- people joining in

**Next meeting Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7pm via Zoom**

