

*Parish of Saul & Ballee***Minutes from Pastoral Council Meeting**

Date of meeting: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Time: 7.00pm

Location: Zoom

**Attendees:** Vivienne McCormick, Tommy McCabe, Paul Fitzsimons. Paul Kelly and Geraldine McVeigh.

**Chair:** Vivienne McCormick / **Vice Chair:** Post vacant / **Secretary:** Geraldine McVeigh

**1. Apologies:** Fr. Alexander and Jackie Breen

**2. Opening Prayer** led by Vivienne

The Chairperson welcomed members to the meeting and advised that Fr. Alexander was unable to join as he has no computer at present. Condolences were extended to Jackie on the recent death of his mother.

The objective of tonight's meeting is to catch up with each other and see if we can get things moving again following the lockdown which has been a difficult time.

**3. Living Church**

Vivienne advised that the Living Church has brought together a selection of people from various parishes who have been meeting each Monday night since October to discuss how to plan for the future - It was thought there was lack of vision from the Bishop – they highlighted arrangements for funerals. It was questioned whether people will come back to Church after using the webcam for so long. Parishes are using Facebook more– Vivienne has sent Living Church information through to the office which could be used on our Parish Facebook Page.

The Living Church are bringing out 'Twelve Days of Christmas' reflections next week – these could go on the website and Facebook. Resources for Advent were sent out and Vivienne is using these for Ministry of Praise prayers, they could also go on the Facebook page. Vivienne will speak to Fr. Alexander to see if we can put some of this information out – Paul Fitzsimons suggested if we had someone on as administrator we could assist getting the information out – if there were two administrators the information could be agreed between them.

- **Action:** Vivienne to speak to Fr. Alexander re putting information on Facebook

#### **4. Pastoral Community Forum**

The Pastoral Community Forum tried to get a Pastoral Community app and divide the cost between the parishes but some PP's were against this. Most PP's are now using webcam to stream Masses as they realise this is the way forward at present.

- **Action:** No action required

#### **5. Easter Ceremonies**

The Easter Ceremonies were excellent even though the Church was closed to the public. Adoration is continuing and weekday Masses are open to the public but the Church remains closed for weekend Masses.

- **Action:** No action required

#### **6. Christmas Masses**

There has been no final decision but it is thought the Mass will be by webcam only and Fr. Alexander is thinking of bringing the time forward to 8.00pm. on Christmas Eve. The choir will be available and Fr. Alexander hopes to put the Crib in front of the altar. We can not do a collection for the Fountain Food Bank this year but donations can be left at McCartan's Shoes.

- **Action:** No action required

#### **7. Parish Website**

We need to seriously look at revamping the Parish website as information on it is out of date.

- **Action:** To go on agenda at next meeting.

#### **8. The Catholic App**

Paul Fitzsimons has downloaded this app which enables those who have it to find nearby Churches and Mass times in the area. Our Churches could be added to it giving Mass times and stating whether online or open to the public.

- **Action:** No action required

#### **9. Date of next meeting/Prayer Leader**

The date of the next meeting will be: **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 8.00pm.** Prayer Leader will be Vivienne

**8. Closing Prayer:** Meeting concluded with closing prayer.