

Minutes of Joint Pastoral Committees of St Agnes, St Gregory's and Our Lady of Ransom churches (abridged), Monday 10th February 2020, 19:30 – 21:30, The Presbytery.

Parish website: It was suggested that update on parish website might be beneficial. Discussion on how communication for website material can be improved. Email address to be printed in the newsletter for people to pass on information relating to website: OLREastbourneWebsite@gmail.com

Parish Family groups (PFG): this is a Diocesan initiative, perhaps to be launched in June/July in parishes? Questions arose about support for leaders and whether a more personal approach might be better at this stage. Agreed that school played a vital role in communicating parish life across all the parishes. Need to focus on post First Holy Communion families and young adults. More personal approach needed which worked with existing groups and relationships within the parish. It was suggested that families who knew each other through the grandparents' group, or the school PTA, might naturally form a grouping. Next step for 2/3 people to have dialogue with Diocesan co-ordinator so timeline may change from original plan. Volunteers asked to approach Fr Raglan.

Live stream of Masses: It was reported that live streaming already happening in other parishes in the Diocese such as St Mary of the Angels, Sacred Heart, and St. John's cathedral –excellent tool of evangelisation. Importance of safeguarding raised – might be an impediment in the short term. It was agreed to form a list of addresses of parishes that offer live streaming and this information can be made available on parish website.

Greater involvement of First Holy Communion children in Masses and how to keep families engaged in church life: It was reported that family Mass at St Gregory's is going well. Concern about commitment of some First Holy Communion families to the sacramental programme. Noticed that some children attend the programme but are not actually attending Mass. Emphasised the great importance of changing the culture of not just 'doing the programme' but vital to form relationship with Christ first. This is the approach of Confirmation preparation here in the parish. Comment that Eucharistic prayer to be included on Mass sheet. Agreed to create booklet for Eucharistic prayers.

Cribs taken down earlier than expected by some: Cribs taken down prior to Feast of Purification after observing the dates of Ordinary Time as printed in the directory. Agreed that cribs should remain until Candlemas in the future.

Recording each individual church's weekly collection in newsletter & include excerpt on how money is spent: Agreed to publish amounts in newsletter.

Day of Prayer for persecuted Christians Saturday 29th Feb at St Agnes church 10am & ending with Mass at 4pm: It was observed that the priests were welcome to day of prayer for persecuted Christians and hoping that this time of prayer may follow in other churches too.

Good Friday Stations of the Cross 7pm (St Agnes): It was reported that this is a more suitable time for people who are at work. Time change to appear in the printed booklet for Holy Week.

Pentecost Mass: After the great successes of previous years, it was agreed that more notice should be given of the date. Saturday 30th May - time to be confirmed