

Holy Rood Liturgy Group meeting Number 22

Thursday 8th October in the Parish Room.

Present: Canon John Cunningham (JC), Fr Dominic Findlay- Wilson (DF), Deacon Jonathan Ager (JA) Dorothy Ager (DA), Julia Arkell (JBA), Frances Corrigan (FC), Noreen Bint (NB), Marguerite Holliday (MH) also Ruth Barrett (RB) and Deana Hunt (DH)

Welcome: MH welcomed all especially RB and DH attending for the first time.

Prayer: from A Call to Serve - Westminster Cathedral. Led by Frances

Minutes of Meeting 26th June 2015 Previously circulated.

1. Matters Arising:

a) Planning for the future of this group:

1. Readers: JBA intended to ask Kate Bason if she would help but had not so far been able to speak with her.
2. Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: NB explained that anyone taking this on would need to be present at a variety of Sunday Masses and to attend weekday mass. It is possible that the new administration officer or another person with the necessary IT skills could take on the production of the rota.

It was suggested that it may be easier to think about recruiting a team of people for organising these 2 ministries, since they are a lot of work.

3. It was decided that the role of Chair should be rotated. MH to chair the next meeting.

b) Welcome at Mass:

MH and JBA had discussed this. The idea would be introduced on 14th November and volunteers invited

- c) **Altar servers.** Optimum number at each Mass 6. JC and DF would continue to work towards this. Another initial training session had been arranged.

2. Annual Music Review:

For the last few years MH has organised an opportunity for those involved in leading music in the parish to meet together, review and plan. Since not all music leaders have attended - it was decided instead, this year, to encourage all to attend the Winter Assembly of the Society of St Gregory in Oxford on 7th November. MH would investigate/arrange group membership of St Gregory Society and number of magazines required.

3. 9.30am mass

1. **Stewards:** Needed for both seating congregation and orderly communion. Wearing of steward sashes would give more authority. NB had spoken to Stephen Lake re team. SL would be asked to train volunteers. A number of Goan parishioners had expertise in this from stewarding big gatherings in India. NB to draft notice for newsletter/ make poster to request volunteers when a date for training had been arranged. Names of volunteers to be handed in at the paper table.
2. **Return of first communion candidates and children from children's liturgy:** There had been some confusion recently. All should return during the offertory hymn.
3. **Music update:** FC told us of the need for help and read the notice that will be in the newsletter. She will continue to share her expertise which we all value.
4. **Family Mass:**
 - a. Children and young people who had not been confirmed would continue to read at this Mass. The work that is done by Marta in preparing them is much appreciated.
 - b. Young people could also be involved in taking the collection.

- c. There was a suggestion that eventually young people would read at every 9.30am mass. This would create a need for particular catechesis every week. Also the commissioned readers who attend this mass already have far fewer opportunities to read than other readers and such a decision would exclude them from exercising ministry.

4. Review of recent liturgies

- a) First communion. Mainly went well. Any difficulties came from the presence family members and guests who were not familiar with the format / tone of the mass – something which is hard to address on the day. The numbers for 2016 are even greater. There might be need for 3 masses.
- b) July 11th Proclaim 15 vigil. Had gone well.
- c) Forty Hours devotion This had been very successful. A great atmosphere of prayer especially at night, early morning and evening. A request from members of the Goan community that this should be repeated but with 3 months notice to allow shift workers to request time off. A possibility of an extended time of prayer eg. 4-8 hours possibly in Lent or before Pentecost. NB asked that there should be an opportunity during the time of the Confirmation programme.
- d) Renewal commitment for Readers: 29th June Only 40 of the 60 readers were commissioned on 29th June. Had to arrange 2 more opportunities. Those who had missed all 3 times were no longer on the rota.
- e) Renewal of commitment for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Was held on Corpus Christi. The majority of ministers attended. JC said that next year there would be only one commissioning service for both ministries, probably on Pentecost Sunday.
- f) Parish feast. Liturgy and celebration went well. Greater attendance than in 2014. Very good atmosphere. Although it is a lot of work preparing an international Mass it is worth doing.

5. Planning for future liturgies.

- a) **Year of Mercy begins Tuesday 8th December**. Bishop Declan has invited the diocese to join him for Evening prayer in the cathedral at 7pm. Coach to be arranged if there is a sufficient take up.
- b) **Thursday 10th December** Time of quiet prayer in the parish- exposition with to be interspersed with a reading and a hymn every half hour. From early to late evening – possibly from 6pm to 9.30pm. details to be arranged.
- c) **Rite of welcome**. So far only one person attending Journey in Faith this year. too soon to know if /when .
- d) **Advent Service of Reconciliation** Thursday 17th December, 7pm. JA to lead; New Life Choir to support the singing .
- e) **Advent service/vigil** Not possible on a Saturday evening because of changed time of Polish Mass.
- f) **Christmas Masses**. Christmas Eve: 5.30pm Celebrant would bless the crib. . JC. New Life choir. Young people reading.; 10.30pm DF celebrant ‘11oclock choir’ 9.30am FC to arrange choir. No carols before Mass.
- g) **Crib** to be constructed by HRYA
- h) **Christmas tree**. JC to approach schools to ask if we can have theirs again. (Or MH to approach Mr McAteer)? but with no flashing lights please.
- i) DH reported that the HRYA wished to arrange a **24 hour mission**.

6. Need of weekday confession times to protect priests from constant demands. Suggested times: Wednesdays 6.15-6.45pm; Thursdays 8.15-8.45. JC & DF to decide

Date of next meeting: at 10.15am on Thursday 11^h February 2016 in the parish room.