

**Minutes for St Michael's Church Sonning Common held
on Monday 13th January, 2020**

Present: Fr M, KS, ML, BW, DB, MOD, Apologies: SB, TM
Opening prayer – Fr Michael

Minutes of previous meeting accepted

Matters arising:

Safeguarding - BT and ML are to ask if GS is happy to be deputy safeguarding officer for the parish – this needs to be formalized.

The Christian Unity service – BT has been contacted by the Henley Standard re. the service, so hopefully something will be included in the copy of the Standard before the service. KS is to supervise refreshments.

The rededication of England to Mary – From the 21st February parishes have been asked to pray for the rededication of England to Mary. It was suggested that Fr M would like to produce a booklet with prayers to Mary which includes guidelines on praying the rosary and the Angelus with an indication on when to say the prayers.

Lent and Easter - It was agreed that there would be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Monday during Lent up to, but not including Holy week.

It was suggested that we hold a series of meetings or talks to discuss Matthews Gospel.

A discussion was had as to the best time to hold these meetings. It was agreed that it could be held twice once after the midday mass on Thursdays to last 30 minutes and also on Wednesday evenings at 7pm to last no more than an hour.

BT, FrM and KS will also find out what talks are occurring at other parishes in the Deanery nearby.

FrM suggested that we put out the envelopes with the crosses on so that people can make a daily donation at home to the Lenten collection for charity.

KS proposed that we raise money this Lent for St Mungo's a charity that works with the homeless in Reading. KS said that she would look into getting some literature together about the charity.

Palm Sunday and Holy week KS will check quantities of palms and incense and the Pascal candle etc. in readiness for Holy week.

Father Michael would like to involve the children in the washing of the feet and they will receive £2 as Maundy money for being involved. FrM to ask Janice and Peter to keep £2 coins for this purpose.

BT suggested that a training session is held before Easter - on a Saturday morning towards the end of Lent. It is hoped this will give the altar servers the opportunity to rehearse for the various liturgies.

The Good Friday's Walk of Witness will take place as usual BT will liaise with the other Ministers in the area.

St Michael's Children's Stations of the Cross on Good Friday will take place at 12pm and the Solemn Liturgy will be as usual at 3pm with Stations of the Cross at 6pm

In addition, Stations of the Cross will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after the midday mass and at 6.15pm on Saturdays during Lent.

KS will order some more Stations of the Cross Booklets.

The Easter Vigil will be at 8pm

As numbers were down this year it was decided not to hold the Passover Meal on this occasion in 2020.

KS will also look into an adult version of the Lenten Calendar that is given out to the children of the Parish during Lent. KS will also reprint the soup booklet that we have used over the past few years for those wishing to fast and donate the money during Lent.

AOB

Holocaust Day – 27th of January is Holocaust Memorial Day and the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and FrM suggested that we publicise this in the newsletter and include a dedication in the bidding prayers. Some discussion as to how the day could be marked was had and an information sheet was sent to FrM and BT. It unfortunately coincides with FrM annual leave so it was decided to consider having a special service next year. KS will print off the posters from the information sent to FrM and put these up in Church.

Special Masses - FrM has proposed that we have a special Mass for the anointing of the sick and frail elderly on the weekend of 15th/16th February after all Masses and he will ask for an additional priest to help him.

Parish Outing - A sort discussion was had about the parish outing and it was proposed that we return to Littlemore in light of the Canonisation of John Henry Newman.

Quiz and Curry Evening – this has been rescheduled to the 25th April because a date could not be found before Lent due to the personal commitments of the three organisers.

Foreign Coin and note Collection – the money has now been taken to the NatWest in Reading and put towards the collection for the Children's Air Ambulance. KS will include this and the collections for Readifood and Embrace the Middle East in the newsletter once we have all the collection totals.

The meeting was closed with a prayer

Next meetings: 10/02/20 at 7.30pm and 09/03/20 at 8.00pm in the presbytery (the later time is because Holy hour will be taking place from 7pm-8pm)