

St. Paul's PCC

Appendix 2. Preparation for public worship. Zoom meeting held on Thursday 2nd July

Fr Gregory, Anne Mullis, Katherine Harrison, Robert Pask, Pat Perry, Gill Cox, Shelagh Hansford, June Hornby

Apologies. Gary and Michaela Clothier, Ann Isbell, Mary Blakeman

This meeting was held to review the private prayer and to plan for restart of public worship.

The Bishop of Ebbsfleet had written a comprehensive letter in which he set out the possibilities but also urged caution.

Private prayer was proving to be fairly popular but it wasn't clear how many of those taking this opportunity are without internet and therefore can't see the streamed services.

Father Gregory felt that with regards to Holy Communion, he could consecrate the hosts at least 72 hours in advance and then, with sanitized hands could spread them on plates or corporal for individuals to pick up.

It was felt too risky for him to place it in someone's hand and then move on to another person.

Social distancing should not be a problem in a church the size of St. Paul's especially as the distance was going down to one metre.

Mass would be low mass with no singing and would only last 25-30 minutes.

However, it was generally felt that many people would be too nervous about starting mass just yet and it was decided to defer this until August, with the final decision made towards the end of July.

In the meantime we would start with Evening Prayer and Benediction at 4pm on Sunday July 12th. with streamed services and private prayer continuing as at present.

Fr Gregory said he will offer private communion from the reserve sacrament to any individual who feels they really need to receive it. This would be in church but would be similar to home communion. It would be very safe as only he and one other person would be present.

AOB

- a) June Hornby said how nice the garden behind the baptistry was now and how it would be an ideal place for the garden of remembrance.
- b) The chocolate raffle will start at the end of July.

Meeting ended with the Grace.