



Parish Pastoral Council Report for 2020.

The PPC started off the year full of good intentions. The theme for the year was to 'Go' and 'Grow'. 'Go' meant reaching out to draw others to our church and 'Grow' meant increasing our love and knowledge of God. We initiated our Parish Prayer and printed copies for 'everyone in the audience'. We've been faithful in reciting this at every mass during 2020 and will continue this during 2021. We hope you are continuing to recite it at home. Spare copies are available from the parish office.

Covid-19 arrived in March and changed all our lives - including our church life.

We had to postpone the Alpha Series of talks in the Cherith which were ready to start on 14th March. Masses went on-line with teething problems with Zoom, then Facebook live and finally, due to the generosity of a family, masses eventually went on to our new webcam.

The choir was replaced by individual Cantors.

We still managed to run a number of events but are uncertain of how many parishioners tuned into them.

These included:

1. A 5-night retreat from 14th September using the webcam in the Church of the Apostles.
2. The Hope Half Hour – a series of four talks from Friday 30th October 2020.
3. 'Being Present' – quiet times of reflection before the Blessed Sacrament.
4. Advent Service
5. Reconciliation service.
6. Rosaries
7. Confirmation preparation sessions in the Cherith
8. Two Confirmations ceremonies
9. Two First Communion Masses
10. Special Masses for schools via Webcam

PPC plans for 2021.

1. We are trying to start a formal 'Register of Parishioners' to enable us to contact parishioners directly.
2. We've commissioned a report on how we can introduce communication by social media (Twitter, Instagram etc) into the Parish.
3. We will try to introduce a system whereby lonely or housebound people may receive social phone calls. Please give your name to the parish office if you would be willing to volunteer for this simple service.
4. We hope that this, and any other church service that parishioners become involved in, will increase a sense of 'belonging' for both themselves and those they serve.
5. We'll be broadcasting more 'Hope Half Hours' over the Webcam during lent.
6. More 'Being Present before the Blessed Sacrament' evenings have already commenced.
7. We hope to run the Alpha series later in the year if we can do this safely.

The Hope Half Hours are, and will be, archived on the Parish Webcam site and we recommend that every parishioner watch them in order to grow in their faith.

Tom Robinson on behalf of the PPC.

Church Opening Hours For Private Prayer

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

11am to 4pm



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