

OITC Committee Meeting

30th April 2025 @ 4.00pm

Present: Kieran O'Mahony, Bernadette Toal, Catherine O'Brien, Lorcan McDermott and Paul Thornton.

Apologies: Dymphna Tipper, Chrissie Fitzpatrick, Liz Reynolds, Gerard Monnelly.

Gathering

Bernadette opened the meeting with a prayer of quietening and focus.

Fr. Colm McGlenn

Colm was the celebrant at our Mass of 5th April. Catherine was the co-presenter and found him to be easy to work with. He liked the spirit of our group and our community reacted well to him.

We need to ensure that the co-president knows where the necessary items, prayer books etc., are.

Paul is to prepare a description of the liturgy flow that can be given, in advance, to a visiting celebrant in order to aid them in their preparation.

Lorcan is to liaise with Fr. Diarmuid Ó'Murchú our celebrant for May 18th.

Review of Holy Week

It was agreed that the Holy Week liturgies took place as usual with all of the elements, that Fr. John would have been responsible for, coming together as if seamlessly. This is a tribute to Fr. John's planning in the past and the capability of the committee members to take up the mantle accordingly.

Holy Thursday

Detailed planning, by the committee, for the liturgy was missed due to it becoming necessary to cancel the planned meeting on Spy Wednesday. It was agreed that we need to 'sign off' on details for these significant liturgies a number of weeks before the date of the liturgy so as to avoid the impact of last minute meeting cancellations.

It is time to resume the process of people receiving communion under both species through sharing and drinking from the cup. Those who are uncomfortable with this can still receive by intinction. This can resume at our weekend liturgies.

Our gratitude goes out to all who were involved in the background in preparing the space and to Carmel and Kieran on presiding over the liturgy on the night.

Good Friday

Liturgy was very moving and thought provoking.

Our thanks to Yvonne for her integrating all of the disparate elements into a cohesive liturgy, to Paul for coordinating the input from the community members who supplied reflections and images and to Dymphna for opening and closing the liturgy on that night.

The use of individual images worked extremely well.

It was unfortunate that the group in Ballyboden were unable to connect in to Zoom on the night. Paul is to call Fr. Niall to look at what happened.

Easter Vigil.

Liturgy worked extremely well.

Being at 7pm, it was bright outdoors and some felt that it was too bright for the symbolism of the light coming into our space. We need to consider the timing in future years when Easter falls in April after the clock has changed.

It is not necessary to have all of the liturgies of the Triduum at the same time. We had decided that they all would be at 7pm in order to avoid the risk of confusion. This may not be necessary and therefore allow for a later start of the Easter Vigil if required.

Our gratitude goes out to all who were involved in the background in preparing the space and to Ann and Kieran on presiding over the liturgy on the night.

Finance Report

As Gerard was away he circulated the Finance Statement to the committee in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that it is in order.

Gerard has raised a concern in relation to the fee to be paid to a visiting priest and how it increases our monthly outgoings and how it is recorded. This will be addressed when Gerard is at the next meeting.

AOB

Safeguarding Statement: There is an issue in that Fr. John is one of the designated contacts listed on the safeguarding notice. The notice is a requirement of the brothers in Benildus in order to allow us to meet in the premises. Fr. Kieran has agreed that he be listed as the contact in place of Fr. John.

It has raised a second issue with respect to the 'level' of safeguarding we are required to incorporate. Mary Kearney has advised that it depends on how we see ourselves, i.e. attached to the Augustinian Community, Dublin Diocese or an unaffiliated group of people who meet to 'break bread' together. We will contact the person who has responsibility for safeguarding in the Augustinian community in order to start a conversation on this.

Online Persons: A question has been raised as to how to enable the community who gathers on any weekend to know who is taking part through Zoom. This is raised from a concern to ensure all are gathered and welcomed. Paul said that the on-line team have received some suggestions and are looking at different ways of doing this.

Date Of Next Meeting And Prayer Leader.

Next Meeting: 21st May at 4pm

Catherine to lead the prayer.