

St Joseph's CAFOD Group
Minutes of meeting at 2pm on 1 December 2020 on Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence: Jim Wetherill
2. Approval of minutes of meeting on 4 November 2020: approved. An abridged version of minutes will appear on the parish website and be forwarded to Simon Giarchi (Diocesan CAFOD representative).
3. Matters arising from last meeting not on the agenda:
 - a. MP Correspondents' scheme – minute 2(b): Bernard contacted the offices of CAFOD to enquire whether there was a problem with the MP Correspondents' Scheme as Angela, Chris and Andrea had had no response to their enrollment as yet; there remains a backlog in responding to enquiries which will be dealt with in due course. Bernard has forwarded the most recent email requesting MP correspondents to write about the Palestinian situation which Angela, Chris and Andrea will deal with.
 - b. Coronavirus appeal – minute 2(c): Bernard to create note for newsletter regarding the amount raised (£4,285) by the virtual walk from Wool to Walsingham; with the additional information that the Just Giving page is still open for donations.
 - c. Planting trees at St Joseph's: we shall soon be encouraging parishioners to plant a tree at home. Bernard will draft an item for the newsletter. This will signpost the Country File website for their campaign called Plant Britain: the Plant Britain page has a link to the Woodland Trust for advice on planting.
 - d. Messages to the Brave – minute 5(a): Bernard will draft another newsletter item to ask parishioners to send Messages to the Brave: written card deadline is 7th December (cards to CAFOD central office by this time) and the online deadline is 19th December: all instructions are on the Messages to the Brave campaign page on the CAFOD website.
4. Prayer Pilgrimage – Andrea to update the group:
 - a. the first week's reflections have been circulated and there have been kind responses and much encouragement from the group;

- b. the same materials have been sent to Fr Tim with a view to a chat about the logistics of disseminating the materials via the website and putting an item in the newsletter this week or holding off until 12th December;
 - c. should Fr Tim not think it possible to pursue the reflections/prayers this Advent, the idea was mooted that these materials could be saved for next year;
 - d. it was asked whether – given that the materials did not specifically reference Advent – the reflections could be used in another context;
 - e. alternatively, it was suggested that it might be possible to use the materials in a modified way during Lent 2021;
 - f. all these options will be raised with Fr Tim;
 - g. Andrea agreed to feedback the conversation she has with Fr Tim; and share the finalised three weeks of prayers/reflections that are almost complete.
5. Christmas wreath making – Liz to update arrangements as necessary:
- a. Preparation of the wreath making packs is to be brought forward to Wednesday 2nd December at 10.30 in Liz and Bernard’s garden (allowing for social distancing);
 - b. NB: there needs to be a final thank you in the newsletter including the total amount raised for the World Gift purchase; wreath makers will be asked to take a photograph of their completed wreath with a view to it being uploaded to the parish website.
 - c. Liz suggested a number of possible purchases with our projected total fundraising of £500 (approx.): these included a Medical Outreach Team, PPE for Health Workers, and a Community Water Supply (it was decided that the Medical Outreach Team and PPE would be best in view of the pandemic).
6. World Gifts: Bernard to ask Fr Tim to add the link to World Gifts on the CAFOD website to the newsletter and ask parishioners to consider these as gifts this Christmas; Bernard will ask Colin to add the link to the parish website.
7. Climate change and energy – the group will consider the item, or a shortened version of it, <https://cafod.org.uk/About-us/Policy-and-research/Climate-change-and-energy>: as a background to our plans to enthuse parishioners to support CAFOD’s 2021 actions leading up to COP26.

- a. Conversation then ranged around issues that might allow the group to galvanise and support action from the whole parish towards supporting positive and practical outcomes from the postponed COP26 talks in Glasgow next year: these included references to:
 - i. knee high bollards in Windsor that were electric vehicle charging points;
 - ii. electric car usage in the future and reducing car usage;
 - iii. documentaries that explore the possibilities for change: incl Panorama (upcoming), TV profile on the young technologist developing user friendly charging stations (30/11/20);
 - iv. use of the board in the narthex for displaying information that will support education and awareness raising;
 - v. Interesting/disturbing ideas surrounding the climate change issue: incl 47.5°C temperatures in Sydney at the moment and the wild fires and drought – especially, that energy needed to heat or keep houses cool and its link to climate change;
 - vi. extremes all round world but how they might be used to stimulate parishioners' support for a good COP26;
- b. the idea is that we act together - but individually - as a parish to lobby the UK government to demonstrate the best kind of leadership so that outcomes are practical and ambitious;
- c. the point was made that PM Johnson's recent '10 Point Plan' received only a lukewarm reception and that Friends of the Earth lambasted it; whereas the Climate Coalition's '10 Point Plan' was much more robust and argued, inter alia, for Green Investment;
- d. it was suggested that a deluge of letters with individual concerns and specific examples from many in the parish would impress local MPs with the strength of feeling within the community, and that this should pressure MPs to raise their voices to shape or direct or re-direct policy in relation to UK's responses to climate change – i.e. they will pressure the government in turn;
- e. as an example of lobbying already underway, 200 CEOs of major companies recently signed an open letter to government calling for government to

“climb out of Covid by investing in green technology” – share this; find materials from newspapers and data from a range of reliable sources to substantiate arguments – share this; find press briefing packs that might summarise statistics and examples that lend themselves to the argument that climate change is an immediate and clear danger and action is needed sooner not later;

- f. it was agreed that: climate change did not have to remain a lower priority than Covid 19 and the economy; also that leaders of countries have to be inspired by the COP26 talks to take more action
- g. campaign needs to start in the new year but not before;
- h. point made that it is little things consistently done that make a difference and that we could resurrect the tips and pointers for eco-friendly action in the newsletter.

8. AOB:

- a. Suggested that Coffee After Mass is no longer required but might be nice to have one more Zoom for sherry and mince pies: date proposed 22/12/20 at 2pm – Chris to set up Zoom meeting for this: Bernard to ask Fr Tim to include invite in newsletter.

9. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13.01.21 at 2pm.