

St Peter's Church

Worship Committee

Held on Monday 28 March 2022 by Zoom

Present: Gill Heard (Chair), Bill Zarrett, Jenny Park, Jenny Palmer, Kate Henshall, Joanna Hall-Tomkin, Richard Stenlake, Anne Searle

Apologies: Julian May

Gill opened the meeting with a prayer.

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2. Matters Arising

The telephone services conducted by Steph will now be starting at 9.30 a.m. This will make it difficult for anyone wishing to help on the phone, to get to St Peter's for the start of the service at 10.15 a.m. The telephone and Zoom services are still going ahead. Gill said that she believes our services returning to 10.15 a.m. are suiting most people.

Bill said that Graham had arranged for Peter King (ex Bath Abbey) to play the organ on May 1st – it would be good if there was a full choir for that day. Thanks were again expressed for all the work Graham is doing but he cannot carry on indefinitely. Gill said that the choir really needs new members, even though there is a constant core of members, illness etc. reduces the numbers. Together with Jenny Palmer, they had suggested contacting the College to find out if any of their students would be interested in joining the choir (there was money available to pay). Also Edna, who is President of Tiverton Junior Opera is looking out for possible choir members. Unfortunately, most primary schools no longer have junior choirs.

Gill said that she felt the intinction method of communion was much better and seemed to be appreciated by the congregation. Richard said that he felt it was more meaningful. It was noted that it would be easier for the priest if the chalice bearer stood to the right of them.

3. Review of Services

Gill said that there had been two stand-alone baptism services which had worked very well. They were organised by Jenny Palmer and Rosie Longbourne, as is the case for all baptisms. Jane Wilson and Ian Johnson had taken the baptism services with a good number attending. The congregation sat in the first 3 rows of the pews. It was explained that although we usually have baptisms held within our normal services, some people prefer to have a stand-alone service which can start later in the day. We're trying to accommodate the wishes of different people.

4. Future Services

2 March, St Andrew's have kindly invited members of the St Peter's congregation to their Ash Wednesday Service at 11 a.m.

6 March, Mike Clarke who is the assistant to the Archdeacon, will be taking the service.

13 March, Jane Taylor

20 March, Jane Wilson

27 March (Mothering Sunday) will be taken by Allan Sheath. The Mothers' Union will take part, with readings etc., and Nickie Johnson, who was the Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union, will speak. Kate showed some examples of the beautiful baskets which had been made by the knitting and crochet members of M.U. Along with the usual posies, they will be distributed during the service. Jenny and Rosie have invited the families who had baptisms in the last year to attend this service. With regard to the posies, Gill said that they are usually just brought along on the day, without any particular organisation but Jenny Park suggested a reminder could be included in the Sunday morning notices.

3 April, Jane Wilson – she has taken many services for us and says she always enjoys coming to us.

10 April, Palm Sunday, Allan Sheath will be taking the service and he would like the dramatic reading from St Luke's Passion to be included. It is hoped he will supply the texts before the service.

17 April, Easter Day. Philip Sourbut will be taking the service.

5. Choir Items

The choir are now singing the Gloria, Sanctus and Agnus Dei. Bill said that the words sung in the Gloria are slightly different to the words in our service books. Anne said that she would type them out so that they could be distributed to the congregation.

During Lent, as part of the communion music, the choir will sing the Litany for Lent. This had been regularly sung in the past and involves adding a new verse for each week in Lent. The hymns are currently chosen by Gill, Graham and Anne.

6. Any Other Business

Joanna asked if coffee could be served more than once a month, now the restrictions are being lifted. It was suggested that coffee could be served on Mothering Sunday. Bill said that once the move to the back of the church was completed, it may be possible to make coffee available more frequently. He couldn't give a definitive date for this. She also asked if people could start shaking hands for the Peace again. Bill said that, although all restrictions have been lifted, people should feel free to make their own decisions about shaking hands. Some people may be nervous about this. We will not do it now. Gill said that it would be interesting to know what is happening in other churches and she would ask Mike Clarke when he comes.

Jenny Park said that she thought the new layout for the Magazine was very good, especially having the comments from Gill and Bill. Jo asked if the idea of a 'potted biography' of some of the people in the Bible would interest people. She would be happy to do it. It was suggested that the information would need to be checked and she said she would refer it to an ex colleague of hers, Peter March.

It was agreed that we should start advertising for a new Director of Music again. We would hope to find a person who was an organist as well.

The meeting closed at 8.25p.m.