

Weekly Message from Fr William for the Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Dear People of St Mary's,

Parish Pastoral Council elections 2022. I'm rescheduling the election day to Sunday 13th February 2022.

No amendments to the PPC ministry group lists have been brought to my attention. So these lists remain on the atrium noticeboard unchanged. There are four identical copies spaced across the noticeboard. I'm inviting you now to have a look at the lists before you go home today and, if you would like to, to nominate one candidate from one or more of the three lists, and to email your nomination to me by Tuesday night this week. My usual address please: pp.stmary.knaresborough@dioceseofleeds.org.uk or phone me if you don't have email. Pls make sure that your nominee is willing to stand for election.

The PPC constitution makes provision for election to the council of any parishioner not serving in any of the five ministry groups. (Liturgy, Formation, Outreach, Interaction, Support). If you would like to nominate someone who falls into this category you can.

Your opportunity to vote will come to you not by ballot paper at Sunday mass, as in earlier times, but by email. If you want to be sure of voting please follow the advice given in last Sunday's weekly message, still on the website.

The government has lifted mandatory face covering in shops and public transport etc. For St Mary's we will take a cautious and gradual approach to face coverings in church and at this stage return to the position we maintained just before mandatory face coverings came in. So for now, face coverings in church are optional but recommended, especially when singing. We will publicise this advice at mass as we did before. I've undertaken the usual consultation before taking this decision and it will, as usual, but subject to ongoing review. All other measures currently remain unchanged for now.

Can I share with you also these two sentences from the guidance issued by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales for January 2022:

CBCEW: 'Any people displaying symptoms of Covid-19 should stay at home and not participate in acts of worship in church. This is good practice for any transmissible illness.'

God bless you and your family



Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time, 30th January 2022