3rd December, 2022.

Dear friends,

As some of you will be aware already, there has been a murder in a house in this part of Grosvenor Rd. As a result, the police cordoned off this section of the road  (from Roman Bank to Dorothy Avenue, including the junction with Cavendish Rd.) yesterday morning. I had not realised until very late that the road was still cordoned off last night and I know of some people who were not allowed access to the church for Mass at 6.00 p.m., although others managed to get through.

At the moment the road is still cordoned off. It seems likely that it will remain so for much of today and even perhaps tomorrow. The police have been in touch with me this morning and they are making use of the Hall at least today.

If Grosvenor Rd. remains cordoned off this evening and even tomorrow, it WILL be possible to gain access from Cavendish Rd, through the car park, entering by the side door of the church near the sacristy. This would be inconvenient, but it would work and, if we need to use this access, then I would ask you to come and to enter the church by this route. The problem would be for anyone with a wheelchair or who has access problems because of disability.

Obviously, if the police re-open this section of the road, then access would be as normal.

It could well be that there is the cordon today, but not tomorrow. If the cordoning off of the road continues tomorrow, then what I have just explained will operate also tomorrow. In that case, please note that there MAY be no teas and coffees tomorrow morning in the Hall because the police would still need to use the Hall.

I am sorry that there is not any more precise news at the present. However, once the investigations which are under way at the moment make things clearer to the police, they will let me know this afternoon what the likely state of affairs will be. As soon as I have more definite information, I shall let you have an up-date.

Please, inform parishioners who are not on the parish e-mail list of this situation.

We keep in our prayers the person who was murdered and also the police who are looking after our safety.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Best wishes,

Fr. G.J. Woodall