



# Parish of The Most Precious Blood

Part of the R.C. Diocese of Plymouth Reg. Charity No. 213227  
Parish Priest: Canon Paul Cummins

## **NOTES FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Introduction:** Jeremy welcomed members to the meeting, and thanked Tanya for taking notes. Paul H led the opening prayer.

**Apologies** from Andrew, Michael.

**Notes from last meeting** were accepted. Jeremy said that he would assemble a poster using the photos of the PPC members for display after the Thanksgiving Mass on January 26. Fr Paul suggested that the file of meeting notes could also be displayed.

**Companions:** Paul H noted that the application form had been submitted to the Home Office, with positive feedback. He said that the house purchase had been finalized, the advent calendar was successful, and that fundraising was going well.

**Formation:** Naomi described her encounters during with Chaplaincy Everywhere at Sidholme, noting that opportunities for praying together had come up naturally in the course of conversations. Similar remarks applied to other encounters – for example, during the crib evening. There was a discussion about the way little things we do can call people to God by being kind, welcoming, smiling. Naomi said that she would be attending (for the first time) the ecumenical fraternal meeting ahead of Lent; this led to a discussion about the Lent lunches, with ideas about how to open them up to the community.

Naomi said that the Wednesday Word had limited take-up during Advent, which had been viewed as a promising start (i.e. it would continue).

**Parish Priest:** Fr Paul suggested that the PPC should be more of a strategy group, looking at the big picture of how to meet the needs of the community (and less of a reporting body). He said that the PPC needs to have eyes to see what God is calling us to do and how to best call others to be Christians. As such, it needs to stay fresh in order to function effectively as a sounding board. Various examples of opportunities for contribution and support were mentioned, including the Age Concern shop (now closed) and the Food Bank. Paul noted that our motivation was our spirituality, which distinguishes us from other charities and social work.

### **AOB**

- Naomi said she and Rebecca had investigated following up our participation in Our Fragile Earth by taking part in the Live Simply program; part of this consists of an initial collection of 100 ideas for action, which need attention and selection.
- Fr Paul said there would be a Bishop's Visitation in March, during which he'd meet the PPC.
- Fr Paul noted that a range of opportunities to take part in the Year of the Word would be coming up soon. He said it was important to highlight the importance of the Bible to us.
- Fr Paul said the expansion of the PPC to include new members of the congregation (including young(er) people) needed consideration at the next meeting.

**Future Meetings:** 21<sup>st</sup> March (10am), 16<sup>th</sup> May (10am), 18<sup>th</sup> July (10am), 5<sup>th</sup> September (11:30am), 14<sup>th</sup> November (10am).