



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 12th January 2019

Introduction: Jeremy welcomed members to the meeting. Reflections and prayers were led by Paul.

Apologies from Tanya.

Notes from last meeting were accepted. Regarding the PPC photo, Jeremy thanked those who had already sent individual photos to him, and encouraged those (Angie & Michael) who were yet to do so.

Items from the Parish Priest: Fr Paul asked whether it was felt that the Coffee and Catechesis sessions should be repeated around Lent after Sunday Mass. Possible subjects included Invitation and Welcome, Giving and Receiving, Eternal Life and Reconciliation. All agreed that this was a good idea. A discussion ensued regarding the format of such meetings.

Fr Paul gave a report on the small building works which have been carried out over the past few months at the church. This concluded with a tour of the works, which all agreed this was illuminating.

Pastoral Assistant report: Naomi noted that the First Communion programme had started successfully.

She then asked whether consideration could be given to the parish employing 'The Catholic Bible School' running a Bible Mission Weekend. She said that the parish at Torquay recently undertook this and found it to be well attended and successful. The organization's website is www.catholic-bible-school.org. There was a discussion about cost (between £2000 and £3500 depending upon the level selected). The meeting thought the idea worth pursuing, but suggested more details were needed. Naomi said that she would report back with answers to the following:

- What is the minimum number of attendees required by the parish and by the organizers?
- What was the feedback from those who attended?
- Did the parish charge attendees?
- How was it presented to the parish?

Chairman report: Jeremy gave a brief presentation on Bishop Mark's Consultation With Lay Leaders at Buckfast on 10th November. He said it was a well-run, useful meeting looking at some aspects of parish life. Specific suggestions from Bishop Mark in the consultation's outcome included:

1. A question that parish pastoral councils or similar bodies should have on their agenda in these next six months is, "How, as a parish, are we seeking to allow people to grow in holiness in their unique way?" It would be invaluable if each parish in the Diocese were to produce an audit of what they do in liturgical and non-liturgical devotion at present and what they hope to do in the next twelve months.
2. During 2019, I would like to ask parishes to look at how they welcome people at Church, and how the quality of that welcome could be deepened. It would be helpful in this process to share good practice with other parishes; this was also mentioned in many of the groups.
3. We are far behind in our use of social media, though clearly, there are some parishes which do this superbly. Again, can we learn good practice from one another? Is there any way in which your parish would feel the Diocesan structures might facilitate your own use of social media?

The meeting thought the suggestions interesting, and requiring further consideration.



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AOB

- Cathy suggested that it was time for an update to be called for by the diocese safeguarding team. All agreed.
- Norma and Fr Paul discussed an idea to make appropriate purple drapes for the church during Lent. Norma agreed to progress this.

Dates of Future Meetings

- 2nd March at 11.30am in St Teresa's Hall
- 27th April at 10am in St Teresa's Hall
- 29th June at 10am in St Teresa's Hall
- 7th September at 11.30am in St Teresa's Hall
- 16th November at 10am in St Teresa's Hall