



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 24th November 2018

Introduction: Jeremy welcomed members to the meeting. Prayers were led by Naomi.

Apologies from Ann, Andrew, and Michael.

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 & Fr Paul) who were yet to do so.

Items from the Parish Priest: Fr. Paul described how the Parish Evangelisation Team had been in existence for two years, meeting on a monthly basis. The working model has been prayer followed by discussion of the team members' personal evangelisation experiences. Fr Paul said that a meeting was due to take place the following week to consider its way forward. A discussion about evangelisation ideas followed, which included: an event in the Hall with stalls explaining the various groups within the Church, repeating the Faith Meals with more advertising in the wider Sidmouth Community, an evening of discussion on a specific topic (e.g. death, resurrection and life everlasting), and making use of a series of books which summarised Papal documents. Fr Paul thanked the PPC for its ideas, which he said were helpful prior to the meeting.

Church Development Project: Fr Paul commented that some parishioners were apparently unaware of the plans for the project – questioning, for example, the replacement of the entrance doors. He asked the PPC to recall (and to share) that the project has been put on hold, and that the rebuild of the plant room is required as the boiler needs replacing, and new storage is still urgently required, together with the re-location of the Font. Other items discussed included the new kitchen in the Hall, new chairs and – maybe – a new door with part etched glass on Vicarage Road to make the Hall look more welcoming.

Pastoral Assistant report: Naomi noted that the Parish has six Catechists who are currently preparing six children for their 1st Holy Communion. She said that parents are also meeting and discussing the Liturgy of the Mass, Confession, Communion and other topics to ensure they are fully involved in the Catechism of their children.

Naomi said that cards thanking parishioners for their support and prayers had been left at the back of the Church by this year's Confirmands. She reported that they'd all had a good experience during the program, and in fact wished to carry on meeting as they felt happy to be part of a group where they could discuss their faith with like-minded friends. There was a suggestion that perhaps the group could be extended to young adults that were living within a lapsed Catholic family to encourage participation into the church.

AOB

- Norma said that 23 shoe boxes had been collected for the Christian Response to Eastern Europe charity. She thanked the parish for its generosity.
- It was noted that, during some Masses, communion wine was in short supply in the chalices at the back of the church; adding more was suggested.
- Fr Paul said the vacancy for the manager of the Community Christmas Lunch had been filled.
- Tanya suggested the possibility of using candles in veggie plastic pots to help reduce the Parish's



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use of plastic. She said that she was looking further into the idea.

- Jeremy noted that, while Norma and Ann had also reached the end of their three-year terms, both were eligible for a second term of three years, and both had graciously indicated they would be happy to continue serving. Jeremy said that, with John's retirement from the PPC, there is at least one vacancy for another member, and that he'd written a short piece for the newsletter describing the functions and purpose of the parish council and inviting parishioners to consider putting themselves forward for election. He said he planned to re-issue that invitation (along with – perhaps – some words from the pulpit) in the new year, once (hopefully) the photo had been assembled.

Dates of Future Meetings

- 12th January 2019 at 11.30am in the Presbytery
- 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