



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 29th June 2019

Introduction: Jeremy welcomed members to the meeting; Tanya led the opening prayer.

Apologies from Naomi, Angie Norma and Ann.

Notes from last meeting were accepted.

Items from the Parish Priest: Fr Paul talked about the need for ongoing evangelisation, and opened the meeting to a general discussion. Ideas and observations included:

- Everyone should have evangelisation in mind in the course of our daily lives.
- We should be involved (and be seen) in the local community, not being afraid of who we are.
- The image of an open door – showing others who we are and what we do.
- Possible parallels with spreading the word about other topics (e.g. climate change). Importance of personal motivation, and a sense of belonging.

There were various suggestions for future activities – such as “sharing our faith” evenings and another musical evening – which might be helpful.

Jeremy presented Naomi’s emailed report on evangelisation during the discussion.

Fr Paul also mentioned the recent meeting he held at ‘The Mustard Seed Cafe’ discussing climate change and looking after creation. He said there would be another meeting on 7 July to discuss ideas for an event at the beginning of September.

Buildings Report: Cathy reported that the first phase of refurbishment would be complete by the end of July. She said that the diocese had still to agree the positioning and refurbishment of the font. Fr Paul asked about the possibility of changing the doors on the hall (fronting the road), so that the hall could be more accessible, and visible to passers by. This was thought a good idea in principle.

Family resettlement (‘Companions’): Jeremy welcomed Brigid McSmith to the meeting. She reported that a steering committee – named Companions – of seven parishioners had been recently set up to investigate taking part in a Home Office initiative to welcome a family in need of resettlement. She said there is a possibility that the church could purchase accommodation, and receive a modest rental income paid by the local authority. We would also assist with language, health and educational needs over a two year period, until the family is able to function independently. Ann noted that financial support might be forthcoming from Sidmouth Consolidated Charities for the purchase of furniture.

Following a lengthy discussion, Jeremy asked members whether the PPC approved the activity; the response was affirmative.

AOB

- Fr Paul said that a flagpole had been installed in front of the church to fly the Vatican flag.

Future Meeting: 7th September (11.30am), 16th November (10am).