



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 PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 7th October 2017

Welcome & Apologies: John welcomed attendees and in particular Angie Walsh, newly elected member. John also expressed thanks on behalf of all members to Geraldine - who recently stepped down from the PPC - for her time and input over the past 4 years.

Andrew, Ann and Paul Holland sent apologies. Tanya was unable to attend..

Prayers and reflection : presented by John. **Note taking** by Cathy

Items arising from 29th July Meeting not on Agenda:-

Blythswood Care - Norma advised that the current childrens' Christmas boxes (Samaritan Purse Christmas Children Appeal) are at the back of the church but have not been taken by parishioners. Norma will remove them as they need to go to the charity by 8th November. Norma is looking into changing the charity next year to Blythswood Care a Christian charity.

Items from Parish Priest:-

1) Sacramental review – group looking at the preparation of the sacraments which are currently on hold with the exception of confirmation as there are 4 people who would like to be confirmed this year. We do not currently have any confirmation catechists. We need ideas and discussion on how to take this review forward to meet current needs, including baptism: currently undertaken by Fr. Paul. Should we include young mums/grandparents? Marriage – Exeter run a programme but there is a new diocesan initiative. Also formation for adults who want to become a Roman Catholic.

2) Evangelisation - 3 parts: our parishioners, lapsed parishioners and Outside of the Church. The Evangelisation team mostly meets to pray. A parishioner has advised that the book 'Divine Renovation' if used would assist in providing ideas. There is also a website, www.divinerenovation.net Fr. Paul referred to the Alpha course that many parishes use and he has used when in Torquay parish. Further discussion required. Agenda item next meeting.

Church Redevelopment Update:-

Cathy advised that the drawings are with EDDC and we should hear from them sometime this month whether planning permission has been granted/not granted.

PPC Elections:-

The two new elected members to the Council are Angie Walsh and Paul Holland. Fr. Paul welcomed Angie unfortunately Paul was not able to attend but will be welcomed at the next meeting. John advised that the elections went very well with many parishioners casting votes. It was agreed that for future elections the photograph of the candidates are to go into the newsletter, in addition to the notice board, perhaps with a few words about current activities of candidates.

PPC Chairperson:-

Discussion took place around members that are eligible to take on this role. Ex-officio members cannot stand. The constitution should be reviewed on a regular basis. Agenda item for next meeting. John will be standing down as chairperson at the end of this year. Fr. Paul will email individually those members that are able to stand with a response required by 1st November. The role of the chairperson/ job description will be attached to the email. Outcome to be discussed at next meeting.



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Any Other Business:-

Comments and questions received from parishioners included the following:-

1) Choir

- rehearsal of e.g. the Gloria prior to Mass – some parishioners find this intrusive. It was agreed that a balance is required and this rehearsal is a prayer tutorial and happens infrequently. Where else could this take place other than before Mass with the congregation present?
- folk Mass/guitar Mass – at the Offertory all the choir stands up blocking views of congregation. The choir should be seated for this. Also music too loud at Communion: suggestion for more meditative music. **Jeremy** will advise choir
- new hymns or less popular hymns should be limited to one only at Mass to maintain inclusivity with parishioners. **Jeremy** will advise choir

2) Hall

- if the Hall is being used for a Charity event are charges waived? John advised that for Catholic charities there is no charge but for others a reduced charge is made to cover the cost of utilities: these are discussed on a one-by-one basis with Fr. Paul.
- John advised that it is the responsibility of the key holder to ensure the hall is left in the same state as upon arrival. This agreement is signed off by all keyholders and will be re-enforced in January. Fr. Paul and the PPC endorsed the key message: **leave the Hall as you found it.**

Next Meeting, Saturday 4th November at 11.30 a.m. in St Teresa's Hall

Prayers and Reflection – Norma. Note taking – Naomi

Meetings in 2018

Currently under discussion but first meeting will definitely be on Saturday 6th January at 10.00 a.m. in St. Teresa's Hall.

A formation day for the new PPC should be arranged by JL/new chairperson.