



Parish Pastoral Council

Annual Report 2015

This report covers the period from November 2014 to November 2015; during this time there have been seven PPC meetings. In September four members stepped down from the PPC after several years of valuable service. Three new members were elected to the Council in October and one member was re-elected. Two parishioners have been co-opted on to the PPC.

The Role of the PPC

The primary function of the PPC is to collaborate actively, and in a spirit of mutual service, with the parish priest in the development and planning of the pastoral care and apostolic effectiveness of the parish, including missionary, catechetical and apostolic initiatives and the promotion of doctrinal formation and the sacramental life of the parish.

The PPC is a structured means of dialogue within our parish community. It is the primary means for our parish priest to enjoy the insights, points of view, experiences, expertise, knowledge and reflections of others. This enables him to reach a reasoned response to the pastoral needs of the community he leads.

We try to ensure that our meetings are prayerful, friendly and run in such a way that everyone's views are taken into account. The Parish Pastoral Council will now meet on Saturday mornings with 6 meetings planned for 2016.

Some subjects covered in our meetings during the past year:

- ✓ Lenten and Easter celebrations.
- ✓ Discussed and supported an outreach proposal to light the cross on the church tower.
- ✓ A visit to the relics of St. Teresa's parents at Plymouth Cathedral: agreed to support and encourage this as a parish pilgrimage.
- ✓ Supported the publication of a parish magazine "The Font" as a communication and outreach tool.
- ✓ Sponsorship of an event on the opening Saturday of FolkWeek in collaboration with the Anglican and Methodist churches.
- ✓ Facilitated the formation of a St. Vincent de Paul group for our parish.
- ✓ The Parish Property Review: Father Paul provides regular updates and asks for advice and comment.
- ✓ Proclaim 15 and Intentional Discipleship. The PPC held a Proclaim 15 meeting for itself.
- ✓ Completion of a Laudato Si survey for the Diocese.

Communication with the Parish

The notes of each PPC meeting have been published and posted on the church porch noticeboard. The PPC elections are also used as an opportunity to remind the parish in person, and through the newsletter and website, of the scope and aims of the PPC.

Since the role of the PPC is primarily advisory and consultative, your PPC members always welcome any comments and views from parishioners.

John Larter, Chairperson