



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 8th September 2018

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

Apologies from Michael, Paul, and Naomi.

Notes from last meeting were accepted. John noted that he and Gwen were stepping down from management of the hall, and not from the (non-existent) committee. Regarding the PPC photo, Jeremy suggested that, since the chances of all members being co-located was turning out to be small, he could assemble a collage from individual photos which would be sent to him. All agreed with this suggestion.

Items from the Parish Priest: Fr. Paul asked for feedback on his recent talk about safeguarding in the church. All agreed that the talk was succinct, informative, and addressed an important church issue in a way that was instructive for the congregation. It generated a good deal of discussion, which demonstrated its efficacy.

Fr. Paul also asked about how people had reacted to the recent Tridentine Mass. Although opinions (not unexpectedly) appeared to be divided, the experience seemed to have inspired individual reflections on important aspects of personal faith.

Church Development Project: Cathy reported that re-rendering of the presbytery would start on September 10, and that the Parish would be informed about how some of the parking spaces would be encroached upon by the scaffolding. She said that work on the small boiler will start at the beginning of October; two boilers will be installed to ensure there is always a backup in case of failure. Removal of the old boiler and pipes will open up the office and create storage space till the start of the next phase of the project. Cathy also said that the new church doors are due to arrive at the end of September, a guest bathroom would be installed in the presbytery and the sacristy toilet and kitchen would both be refurbished. She noted that comments about the new loop system had been received, which were very positive.

Pastoral Assistant report: In her absence, Jeremy presented the report which Naomi had kindly sent him. Leaflets describing the First Communion programme have been distributed. Seven children are already signed up; they will be presented to the parish on the first Sunday of Advent. Naomi asked all to pray for more catechists to come forward. It was noted that the involvement of the parents in the programme was crucial, and would encourage the sharing of a rich Faith in the home.

The PPC commended Naomi and the catechism team for successfully implementing the Confirmation program; in particular, they noted that their dedication and generosity in giving of their time has been exceptional.

St Teresa's Hall management: Paul reported that a meeting had been held to discuss new directions for the management of the hall; initial discussions (involving the utilisation of pre-existing resources) were promising.

AOB

- Norma described recent developments in the shoe box appeal; it was suggested that this now be aimed at supporting the Christian Response to Eastern Europe charity; all agreed.



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- It was noted that there was currently a vacancy for the manager of the Community Christmas Lunch. There are resources to run this, however it needs someone to co-ordinate the event.
- John pointed out that this would be his final PPC meeting, after seven years of service. On behalf of the meeting, Jeremy expressed thanks for the dedication, vision and commitment which John had brought to his contributions to the PPC, both as member and chairman.
- It was noted that, in addition to John stepping down from the PPC, Norma and Ann had also reached the end of their three-year terms, and would be stepping down. Both are eligible for re-election for a second term of three years. Jeremy said that he would write a piece for the newsletter describing the functions and purpose of the parish council (not a decision-making body, but a sounding board for ideas about the pastoral life of the parish) and inviting parishioners to consider putting themselves forward for election.

Next Meeting 24 November in the Hall at 10:00 am. Prayers by Naomi, with a volunteer required to take notes.