



DIOCESE OF Hexham & Newcastle

Jesmond St Mary Partnership  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 5:00pm – 6:00pm  
St Mary's Catholic School



## Minutes of the meeting

**Present:** Fr S. Hall, Fr M. Campion, J. Riley, M. Potts, Fr Jojo, R. Blackburn, J. Early, A. Dack, G. Shepherd, J. Shepherd, T. Degiorgi

**Apologies:** P. Tindall, Deacon A. Rebello

### 1. Prayer

The meeting began with the Jubilee Prayer.

### 2. Welcome and Apologies

Everyone was welcomed and introduced themselves to any new attendees at the meeting. RBL shared her gratitude at the understanding of everyone for having to cancel the previous meeting and rearrange.

### 3. Feedback and response to the Day of Spirituality in November

It was shared that the feedback from those who attended the day was that it was a good day. It was a lovely opportunity to meet other people. It was not what some people expected but they found it very useful, spiritual and helpful for their own development. It provided an opportunity to look at scripture in a different way.

It was agreed that the Partnership should look to be doing more of such days like this and that another day is to be planned before the Feast of Christ the King and the start of Advent. The Jesuits are leading a day at Holy Name as part of the Jubilee year which is open to all. Date for this is to be confirmed.

**Action** – Fr. S Hall will speak to the Jesuits and see if they are willing to lead another day and what their availability is.

### 4. Updates about Partnerships

The Diocese has been divided into five deaneries. Each deanery has its own Dean and our Dean is Fr Chris Hughes. Each Partnership will now have a Lead Priest rather than a Dean.

The Lay Pastoral Forum is now the Diocesan Lay Pastoral Council. It is important for Partnerships to think about how all groups are represented at meetings and how all people can be heard. The representatives on the Partnership Group can bring feedback from anyone, the Partnership Chairs can then take this to the Diocesan Lay Pastoral Council who will feedback to the bishop. A new document has been shared called

It was suggested that as the deanery is so large, would it be worth shaping things around the secondary schools and where the parishes feed into them.

**Action** – RBL to clarify the role of the Dean and his links to Partnerships to see if it is worth inviting the Dean to the next Partnership meeting.

**5. A.O.B**

**Flame** – Thanks were given to the Partnership for subsidising some young people to attend Flame in March.

**Carlo Acutis** – The relics of Carlo Acutis are coming the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> March. 24 hours of prayer are being organised centred around this sacred relic. The 24 hours of prayer / adoration will take place at St Michael's, Houghton-Le-Spring. Partnerships are being asked if they could offer an hour of prayer. The 24 hours begins at 9:00am on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March and finishes at 9:00am on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March. The first and last slots have been allocated for an opening and closing liturgy, so hours need to be covered from 10am on 28<sup>th</sup> until 8am on 29<sup>th</sup>. Are there any groups that would be interested in taking an hour?

**Holy Name** is organising a pilgrimage to Holy Island and other Christian sites in June / July. Dates to be confirmed.

**CAFOD** – It was suggested that Liam Finn would be a good person to invite to a Partnership meeting. He is the UK news officer for CAFOD.

**Action:** RBL to contact Liam Finn and check availability

**Biographer of Pope Francis** will be speaking at Holy Name about the work of Pope Francis and the difference he has made.

**Partnership Calendar** – as there are so many events taking place across our Partnership, it was suggested a Partnership Calendar would be helpful so everyone could see the events coming up.

**Action** – RBL to set up a Partnership Calendar and share it with the Partnership representatives.