**Our Lady & St Edward's Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Sunday March 6th at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre**

**Present:** Bernard Walmsley (Chair), Fr Ernest Attah, Mike O’Callaghan, Hilary Smith, Ian Jones, Emma McGrath

**Apologies:** Cath Noblet, Margaret Thompson, Karen Woods, Sr Maria Dee, Sr Shienrose

1. **Covid –** It was noted that new arrangements were in place to reflect the recent relaxing of regulations.
2. **Reports:**
3. **Parish Centre: Hilary Reported:**

* The Parish Centre is gradually opening up, groups have fewer attendees than in the past
* Children’s parties and reunions are popular
* Some groups have not started up again due to lack of volunteers – the Sunday breakfast group and Parish Dances

1. **SVP: No report**
2. **Coffee Mornings & Parish Walks: Bernard Reported:**

* These continue to attract 30+ people each week and welcome all comers
* Had a request to include an SEN volunteer, who had been invited to attend
* The recent parish walk was cancelled because of a storm. Another will be planned, possibly in April.

1. **Churches Together: Margaret submitted a report:**

* The group is still active, but in need of volunteers, Easter Services will be advertised in the Preston Pointer, just a half page.
* The annual pilgrimage is going ahead but possibly just a half day

1. **CAFOD: Emma reported:**

* A Walk for Hunger is planned on Saturday March 26th
* Details will be circulated in OLSE and SMN next weekend

1. **Share It Food Bank: Emma reported:**

* People continue to support this generously and it is much appreciated

1. **Youth Committee: Emma Reported:**

* The group had considered organising a day of outdoor pursuits for the youth readers and altar servers but this has been shelved for the time being
* As a first step they are to invited to take part in the Walk for Hunger, with the idea of consulting about a future activity.

1. **Little Church: Ian Reported**

* This is to start up again next weekend
* Katie reports that the sacristy is too small. The possibility of using the parish centre is to be explored

1. **Items from Fr Ernest and the Sisters**

* A Steering Committee is to be set up with representatives from the 3 parishes with a view to sharing ideas
* Bernard congratulated Ernest on the Ash Wednesday Mass, attended by the school
* The heating project has been approved and a contactor being sought. It will cost in the region of £79,000

**Date and Time of next Meeting: Sunday May 15th @ 7.00pm**