

THE PARISH OF SPRINGFIELD

St Augustine of Canterbury The Church of Our Saviour New Hall

Stewards of the Gospel

Dear Fellow Parishioner,

We recently held a meeting to go through the facts and figures about our parish. It was a really interesting meeting and lots of people contributed a great deal to the discussion and that has helped me to get the first part of the Questionnaire completed.

Thank you to all who came and contributed.

The second meeting is on 12th October and in many ways it is far more important and the discussions should be a lot more interesting than the first one.

We now need to answer the questions in Part B of the Questionnaire. These questions are more reflective and subjective and there is much scope for differing opinions. We need to hear all those differing opinions.

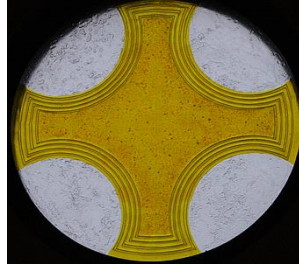
The Questionnaire is on the parish website.

<http://www.staugustine-springfield.com/stewardship.html>

In the near future decisions are going to be taken about the future shape of our diocese and that obviously involves our parish. This Questionnaire and the meeting are your chance to help shape that future.

As the Steward of the Gospel for our parish I will be your voice in diocese wide discussions over the next couple of years. My interpretation of your voice will be based upon the information in the Questionnaire. Therefore we need to be sure that your opinions are discussed at the meeting.

Please take a look at the questions in part B and carefully read the comments from Bishop Alan and his Episcopal Vicars.



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You can send me any of your draft comments to the email address below or hand them to me at Church. In that way I can see if there are any common themes or points of difference before we get to the meeting on 12th October. Alternatively you can just come along on 12th October and have your say.

When we get to the meeting we will discuss the questions together and then I will finalise our Response to the Questionnaire AFTER the last meeting in November.

As lay people we are being given an opportunity to contribute to the future of our Church in a very innovative way. I need to hear from every corner of our Parish, from every group and from parishioners new and old. The views of new parishioners will be particularly helpful and I do hope you will not be reluctant to share them. I hope and pray that like me you will want to play an active role in this exercise.

It is certain that our Church is going to change in the coming years. This is our chance to have a say about how it might change. Please take that chance and share your views with me and everyone else. I cannot accept views that are made anonymously but if you prefer your views not to be attributed to you when we get to the meeting then I am happy to ensure that happens.

I look forward to our next meeting and to hearing from you in advance of it.

Thank you.

Steven

20 September 2016