

THE PARISH OF SPRINGFIELD

St Augustine of Canterbury The Church of Our Saviour New Hall

PARISH MEETING

THURSDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2016

7.30 P.M.

at

St Augustine's

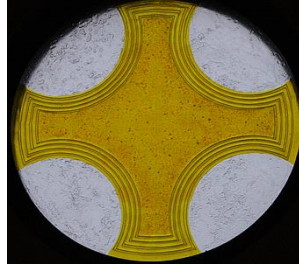
Stewards of the Gospel

Dear Fellow Parishioner,

As you will recall we are holding a meeting on Thursday 15th in order to look at our parish life. We are doing that using a Questionnaire provided to us by the Diocese of Brentwood and the Draft Response to that Questionnaire is now available for you to see.

There are hard copies at the back of church as you leave today. Please take one for your family **if you don't have access to electronic communications**. If you have access to our Parish Website you can see the Draft Response to the Questionnaire at <http://www.staugustine-springfield.com/stewardship.html> I would encourage you to do that rather than take a hard copy.

This is an important document and an important meeting. 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 on Thursday are your chance to help shape that future.



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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 the bare facts are accurate and that various interpretations of those facts are discussed at the meeting.

Please take a copy of the Draft Response to the Questionnaire and read it BEFORE next Thursday. Then please come to the meeting to help me to ensure that I can speak with authority about our parish and your thoughts when I meet with our Bishop, his Episcopal Vicars and the other Stewards of the Gospel from all across Essex and East London.

When you read the Draft Response you may want to suggest a correction or make a comment or add something that is not there that you think ought to be there. I will finalise our Response to the Questionnaire AFTER the meeting.

As lay people we are being given an opportunity to contribute to the future of our Church in a very innovative way. 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 advantage of that chance and come next Thursday.

Thank you.

Steven