

February 2017



Good progress during February and the month started with a positive meeting at St Mary's Swindon when I really enjoyed meeting 'the team'. They are giving some thought to the baptism preparation and other parental support programmes, particularly in regard to First Holy Communion parental formation. We are due to meet again in early March to explore these options further and I look forward to it.

The team at St Bernadette's is slowly building and we have had the most wonderful opportunity of welcoming a young family into our parish community who are now receiving baptism preparation formation. This is helping us to 'get a feel' for the material and enabling us to 'tweak' where we need to. This is something that I see each parish doing – adjusting the material to suit their needs and the needs of their families coming forward for baptism.

Last Sunday, I had a fabulous response from St Michael's in Shepton Mallet and St Mary's in Glastonbury – several people came forward who are interested in being trained to deliver the baptism preparation formation. We start training in mid-March!



On a slightly different note, I spent a day at the Marriage and Family Life Office in London. This was to take part in the day's training for Project Evaluation. It was also a wonderful chance to meet my colleagues doing the same job, being involved in the Marriage & Family Life projects, across the



dioceses. There is a study of families underway, and we need to take the opportunity to gather information from our families that we come into contact with. It's simple really, just a couple of forms to complete and a questionnaire. This will form part of the training with my teams in due course.

It does feel as though February has flown by ...!

Thanks to all of you who continue to express an interest, show commitment, enthusiasm and encouragement. Huge thanks also to Fr James, Fr Matt and Fr Michael (our pilot priests) for their support and enthusiasm too.

Watch this space!