



OUR MISSION TOGETHER

Fulfilling Our Catholic Commitment

Parishioners of St Columba's,

This week marks an important moment across our Diocese as a number of parishes, including your own, embark on ***Our Mission Together***. Following my Lenten Pastoral letter on 'Building Missionary Parishes for the future' and based on Pope Francis' call for us all to be missionary disciples, we will seek to develop pastoral and financial resources for three key areas in Shrewsbury Diocese:

- the development of mission and social outreach with the lead priority being a youth mission team;
- support for vocations to the priesthood, for those in active ministry and for priests as they reach retirement; and
- funding of local parish projects to take forward our mission.

Over the next few months, Father Jonathan and others from the parish will be sharing with you the objectives of ***Our Mission Together*** and how its success will benefit St Columba's Parish. You will have the opportunity to learn more and to ask questions through (for example) individual meetings, small group gatherings, volunteer telephone calls and announcements at Mass. Your parish is following on the success of this extraordinary campaign already conducted by 7 parishes across our Diocese and I am hugely grateful for your participation.

Every parish in this group will conduct a census over the next few weeks to ensure all parishioner information is up-to-date and everyone has an opportunity to take part. Participation is voluntary, nevertheless when called upon I ask that you be willing to listen and consider how you can be involved. I also encourage you to take the time to reflect to make a decision about whether you wish to financially support the campaign.

Above all, Father Jonathan and I ask for your prayer. Realising we have ambitious but necessary plans, I am confident that with your help, prayer and God's will, together we will be successful.

United with you in this prayer and in this mission,

+ Mark Davies
Bishop of Shrewsbury