

A note from Fr Dennis

Thank you, thank you, thank you! There aren't enough words to thank you adequately. I've loved being here these last 13+ years – they've been a very special part of my life, and I feel blessed to have spent the time here with you.

You've made me so welcome and have taught me such a lot through your kindness, humour and resilience. We've all shared times of celebration, and of losses and tragedies too. Individuals, families, schools, meetings and everything we've done together in church have been part of our joint story. God has been doing a lot – much of it hidden in tales that remain personal and private. Thanks for being such a big and generous part of it all.

It's not easy to leave, but I know you'll make Fr David very welcome and learn a lot from him and from his ministry here.

I'll continue to pray for you and hope you'll do the same for me too.

I'll be living at St Hugh's Presbytery, 90 Staverton Road, Bilborough, Nottingham. NG8 4EX.
Telephone 07908293858. Email: remb34randt@yahoo.com.

Love to you all.

Dennis

1. We don't like change – unless we're causing it! We like life to be predictable, but it can't always be so. A change of parish priest alters what is familiar to us. Making adjustments is real, but essentials are the same. What have you learnt about how you handle change and welcome new possibility?
2. The Paralympic Games in Paris demonstrates to us how the human ability to cope with disability and hardship and overcome restrictions can be inspiring. Does the example of these athletes give you any encouragement in personal times of difficulty?
3. If you've ever watched 'The Repair Shop' on television, you'll have seen skilful people restore items of sentimental value that hold important memories. What items are important to you? Why are the memories they invoke so special?
4. Since the start of this year have you done anything new to care for the environment, to live more simply, to recycle, to reduce waste and encourage others to do the same?
5. Can you identify anything you do to excess – like worrying when worry doesn't help? Do you stand back, give yourself a talking to, and recall times when you have successfully accomplished what was difficult or seemingly impossible?
6. Our parish communities have great potential. The strength and quality of parish life depends on the contribution individuals can make. In each parish a core group of volunteers help parish life to function well. Everyone makes a difference. What difference do you make, or can you make?
7. What do you do when you pray? Can you share that with someone else and listen and learn from what they may have to share too?

Thank you.

See Over.....