

San Eustorgio Church in Milan from 27<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

**May 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> 2018**

A group of nine people from Holy Innocents', including Fr Victor and one parishioner from another parish, attended the 29<sup>th</sup> International Seminar of the Parish Evangelisation Cell System (PECS).

See them pictured in the photo taken with >>>>>>>>>>>  
Don Pigi Perini (in the wheelchair), the former parish priest of



San Eustorgio and the founder of the PECS in Europe over 30 years ago.  
Now aged 91, Don Pigi still participates in the seminars.

Don Pigi had visited St Edward's Catholic Church, Pembroke Pines, Florida, USA, to find a parish on fire with Fr Michael Eivers, the parish priest, heading Parish Evangelising Cells. His parish was practising Jesus' Great Commission (Matthew 28:19), "Go and make disciples of all nations." Don Pigi returned to San Eustorgio and so began the long road to establish the Parish Evangelisation Cell System in his parish. There are now over hundred and fifty cells at San Eustorgio, more being added regularly and many countries all over the world are using the system.

The Holy Spirit will give us more freedom for the Church exists to evangelise, to express the love of God, the task of each believer is the message that was given to us in 2014 and is so important: *"Woe to me, you, if we don't evangelise, we live to evangelise and it is our first duty to use every encounter with new people to evangelise. Our prejudices, negative habits and intolerance are to be put aside and are we ready to leave behind everything to go and become a fisher of men? Do you want to share the responsibility of spreading the Gospel?"*

Coming from all over the world we participants in this seminar would share with each other a great joy, and be ready to give new life to our parishes.

This year there were parishioners from a Church in Taiwan along with their parish priest, representatives from Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Rwanda, Sicily, Spain and Uganda.

During the seminar the cell system was explained, explored, and the aims identified. The teachings, given by the parish priest are an important part of the agenda and the leaders and co-leaders ensure each member understands the message given.

The welcome given to all was wonderful and the celebrations at the Masses and Adoration times were full of enthusiastic worship and praise. There was ample opportunity for networking with the other participants, learning much from each other.

**NB: On Divine Mercy Sunday, 12 April 2015, the Pontifical Council for the Laity formally approved the Parish Evangelisation Cells (PECS) as a model/mechanism for evangelisation and as such, PECS are now a recognised entity of the Catholic Church.**