

On the 19th of last month we held the first meeting of our new Parochial Council, which, in future, is to meet once a quarter. It was a very successful meeting, although unfortunately only three centres were represented; and it was decided that while each centre continues to pay its own assesment direct to the Diocesan Office, we would at the same time, have a central fund for the general expenses of the Parish. Three of the centres have paid in £7.10.0. as their annual contribution to this fund, and I hope the others will be able to do the same. I am always pleased when able to write a letter in which ther is no mention of finance, and am always strongly tempted to avoid the subject. But if I said nothing about it now I should be failing in my duty. In the past 26% of the revenue of the Diocese came from overseas, but since the outbreak of war this money will no longer be available. The Diocesan Finanae Board is faced with the unpleasant task of deciding which of the parishes must have their priests taken away. As the Diocese is already ver badly understaffed, this is a very serious state of affairs. So may I appeal to everybody in this Parish to help towards sending more to the Diocese this year than our usual assessment? I know it is not easy, and for many people it will be a real sacrifice. Are we prepared to face up to it? Not only is you money needed but also your prayers.