

Update on Syrian Refugee Community Resettlement

As most of you will already know a steering group within the parish has been working towards welcoming a refugee family into our community. You have helped in wonderful ways, praying for us and helping with fund raising. Thank you.

This week a group of us met with representatives from the Home Office and we are now waiting for approval from them, after which, we will hopefully get notification that a family are on their way to Ormskirk. Now that we are within a few months, of our family arriving in our community we need more help from you all.

- We need a volunteer who will coordinate the furnishing of the house we have rented, to turn it from a house into a home.
- We need a volunteer who would support the family during their time in Ormskirk in practical ways in their house - helping them to understand how their central heating works for example or how to change lightbulbs or maybe doing small maintenance jobs for them. This volunteer would need DBS clearance which we can organise with our lead sponsor Nugent.
- We are also looking for people who will help with the house set up including the garden. We have a list of furniture items we need to gather together that the family will need.

Anyone volunteering before the family arrive with the house or garden will not need a DBS check.

We have put our contact details in this week's bulletin, and a list of items needed on the noticeboard at the back of church. We also hope to make this information available on the church website shortly.

If you have some time you can spare and feel you can help please speak to one of us after Mass today. Alternatively, Deacon Mac, Deacon Des and our acolyte Peter Mawtus are all on our steering group and will be happy to pass your message in to one of the volunteer coordinators who are Maura Roche, Claire Reed, Christine Edwards and Ruth Jones.

In order to safeguard the family's privacy, and allow them to acclimatise to their new life in Ormskirk without too much attention, we will be keeping the exact location of the refugees' home confidential and only sharing the location with anyone who needs to know where it is for volunteering purposes.

Thank you for listening and for all your help and support so far.