

25th April 2019

North London Pastoral Assistant Scheme Report 2018/9

During the academic year 2018/9 the two Pastoral Assistants funded by the Fellowship of St John Trust engaged in the following work in the parishes of St Benet Fink, Tottenham and St Mary, Somers Town, within the Old St Pancras Team Ministry:

- Worshipping with their church communities at the daily Offices and Mass
- Assisting in the daily round of parish ministry, including hospital and home visiting, and administering Holy Communion to the sick, as well as youth and children's work
- Undertaking theological and pastoral formation studies
- Making a retreat to Walsingham and a study trip and retreat to Rome
- Working in schools, helping children learn to read, as well as assisting in classrooms and in taking assemblies
- Assisting at Breakfast and After-School Clubs for children
- Volunteering at a refuge for abused women
- Visiting patients at facilities for those with mental illnesses
- Co-ordinating, managing volunteers and overseeing winter night shelters for the homeless
- Co-ordinating, managing and volunteering at lunch clubs for the elderly
- Working with other volunteers in a facility for those with drug and alcohol addiction
- Assisting with the running of a free legal advice service
- Co-ordinating donations for, and assisting at, Food Banks

As can be seen clearly, the Pastoral Assistants have been fully immersed in the life of the parishes in which they are serving, contributing to the wider community, as well as gaining personal experience of ministry in a challenging urban context.