**Mary’s House**

**Community Discussion 1**

Saturday 6 April saw the first open opportunity for anyone interested in the development of a community in and around Mary’s House to gather to pray, talk and reflect.

The day began with a short presentation outlining the vision for the community, lunch and a quick tour of the house. We then dwelled in a passage from the Acts of the Apostles, Acts 2:42-47.

*“That day about three thousand took him at his word, were*

*baptized and were signed up. They committed themselves to*

*the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common*

*meal, and the prayers. Everyone around was in awe—all those*

*wonders and signs done through the apostles! And all the*

*believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in*

*common. They sold whatever they owned and pooled their*

*resources so that each person’s need was met. They followed*

*a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at*

*home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they*

*praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day*

*their number grew as God added those who were saved.”*

We read slowly and deeply and found in this passage our first reflections on Christian community living. We considered ‘awe’ as an expanded view of the world and a humbler view of ourselves; words such as ‘grace’, prayer, sharing and generosity were considered; and the place of hospitality and deep devotion to God and one another were noted.

Later we considered our passions for Frome, we wondered what God’s passions for Frome might be and tried to work out if there was any overlap.

Our time together finished with prayer, using the Mary’s House Community Prayer and a commitment to take away a word or phrase from the day as a focus for prayer.

The next Community Discussion is on Saturday 27 April 2024, between 10am and 1pm at St Mary’s Hall.