

PASTORAL CO-ORDINATING GROUP MEETING
Tuesday 17th January 2012

PRESENT: Fr. Peter	June Blakemore	Kathy Pope
Ann Bassett	George Phillips	Tom Regan
John Ballard	Sarah Down	Jackie Foster
Deacon John	Mary Phillips	Margaret Eustice

The Meeting opened with prayer and John Ballard welcomed Margaret Eustice to the Pastoral Co-ordinating Group.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Linda Nolan
2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Approved as an accurate record
3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Role of PCG: The group exists to support the Parish Priest in his ministry in the Parish. The current constitution was established by Fr. Robert Draper in conjunction with the members of the then existing PCG. Fr. Peter expressed the feeling that the importance of the PCG lay in its role of an effective means of communication between himself and the Parish and vice versa. It also had an important role in the co-ordination of activities in the Parish. He invited comments from members themselves. It was mentioned that the strength of the PCG lay in the combination of a formal structure and the freedom of individual members to raise issues in an informal way. It was felt unnecessary to have 'Any Other Business' on the Agenda. A reminder was given that potential items for discussion had to be approved by either Fr. Peter, Deacon John or the Chair, John Ballard, and that they had to be given in sufficient time to be added to the Agenda (possibly a week before the next meeting), thereby avoiding the necessity of AOB. A number of ideas were explored in relation to helping newcomers to the Church to identify key members of the parish. It was also suggested that a short profile of PCG members could be included in the Parish Directory, with details of the area of parish life they represent. John Ballard suggested that perhaps the PCG should have a specific focus for the year i.e. the youth of the parish, and that to facilitate this there should be a small working party to discuss ideas and to report back to Fr. Peter and the PCG.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- **Banner Sewing Group Report and Annual Statement of Accounts:** Ann Bassett highlighted one or two items on the account, mentioning that the most expensive items were the Egyptian cotton and the purchase of hooks to hang banners more effectively in the Music Cupboard. She commented that there had not been many meetings in the past twelve months but that they hoped to increase the number this coming year. The group have made 25 baptismal collars this year (a very time consuming task) and are planning to renew the 'pall' covers for the chalices during the next twelve months.
- **Olympic Torch – Cornwall Churches Together 'Let the Light Shine':** After discussing the further information given by Cornwall Churches Together, the PCG agreed to accept their request that St. Augustine's should be a distribution centre for the cream for the Cream Tea and the Prayer lamps for the Day of Prayer for Christian Faith.

5. JUSTICE AND PEACE

John Ballard reported that the group were delighted to welcome another new member, Jackie Foster, to the group. He outlined the matters discussed in this month's J&P meeting. Monica Evans, formerly chair of the Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission, no longer in existence, has suggested that parishes with active J&P groups could meet up on a regular basis. John Ballard is to explore the possibilities by contacting Mary Conway, the J&P advisor to the Bishop. Angela Alderman is preparing a short talk to be given after Masses the weekend before the Lent Family Fast Day. There are plans to extend the area of the CAFOD notice-board by adding two jigsaw shaped card 'wings', representing the two halves of CONNECT2 - ourselves and the region we support in Ethiopia through the Cafod Jar. The Advent Giving Tree was very generously supported this year. The tree offers parishioners their own choice of which homelessness charity to support. FOSTAH were very grateful for a donation of 12 turkeys at Christmas, three of which went to the residents of the St. Petroc's flats in St. Austell, the rest going to St. Petroc's in Truro. John reported that the plans for the Homelessness Conference were well under way and that there were a wide variety of representatives involved, including our MP, Stephen Gilbert. Fr. Peter has agreed to say four masses for Justice and Peace during the course of the year.

6. REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

- **Church Heating:** The problem of cost effective and adequate heating of the peripheral areas of the Church is still under review. George Phillips reported that the current radiators in Cuthbert Mayne Room only offer background heating. He has looked into alternative electrical heating for this room. There is a choice between fixed radiant heaters or portable 'blower' type heaters. He feels that radiant heaters would be the most cost effective way of solving the problem but is going to carry out more specific and detailed research before the next meeting. Denis has been informed that the heating system is leaking water and been requested to come and investigate the problem.
- **Hymn board:** Alan Cartledge is in the process of making a new, larger board for the Church to replace the old one. The number height on the new board will be four and a half inches which should enable all parishioners to be able to read the hymn numbers clearly from all parts of the church.

7. SOCIAL MATTERS

Autumn Fayre. The post mortem meeting has not yet taken place and the report prepared by Mollie and Beryl will be looked at by the PCG at next month's meeting. It is hoped that Mollie and Beryl will be able to come to that meeting to give their feedback.

8. ECUMENICAL MATTERS

- **CTSA:** Jackie Foster ran through the key points in the CTSA minutes of their last meeting. The Big Christmas Sing was not a success this year, partly due to the weather. However it was decided to hold it on a Saturday next year in the hope that more children will be present. The CTSA Lent Course has no particular theme this year, each host church choosing its own subject for reflection. Once again there will be a Good Friday 'Walk of Witness' starting off from Holy Trinity Church. Jackie reported that the Town Council are putting together a parish plan and are keen that it reflects all activity in the town, including the churches. John Keast is anxious that all the churches in the town have some input into this and he is circulating the draft plan to all member churches of CTSA.
- **Par Churches Together:** Contrary to all expectations, the fact that the Carol Singing outside the Co-op in Par took place on Christmas Eve made it a great success and a

very festive occasion. St. Blazey Church is celebrating the Feast of St. Blaize on 3rd February with a service in the church and a paper lantern procession through St. Blazey. This is a good community celebration with the church at its heart. Christian Unity Week is being celebrated with a United Service at 6pm on 22nd January at Leek Seed Methodist Chapel. The Russian Orthodox Church is celebrating the 'Great Blessing of the Waters' in Newquay this year. The Holocaust Memorial Day will be held on Friday 27th January and it is hoped that this will be reflected in the bidding prayers for that day. Diocesan House in Truro are holding a study day on Islam on the 13th February. It is anticipated that this will be heavily over-subscribed.

- **Mevagissey Churches Together:** Service for Christian Unity on Sunday 22nd January at 4pm in St. Peter's Church, Mevagissey. Mary Phillips mentioned that Fr. Peter will be preaching at this service and asked that parishioners could be encouraged to give him their support.
- Kathy Pope is happy for parishioners to contact her via email for information about inter faith events taking place in Cornwall. Her email address is: kathypope56@gmail.com

9. AOB:

- **Concert:** It was agreed that the Mevagissey Male Choir should give a concert at St. Augustine's on either 14th/15th July, proceeds to go to the choir themselves with a donation to be given to the church.
- **Confirmation:** It was agreed that parishioners should be invited to give a donation for the gift of a bible to each of the Confirmation Candidates. A sign will be placed on the wooden collection box and a notice in the newsletter for the next three weeks.

The Meeting closed with prayer.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 21st February 2012 at 7.30pm