

Justice and Peace in Catholic Leamington

The Presbytery, 3^A Dormer Place, Leamington Spa, CV32 5AA

Meeting 144

January 20^h, 2020, at St Peter's (Flint Room)

Notes

Those present were: Jenny Armstrong, Brian Austin, Janice Austin, Christa-Maria Cross, Anne Elson, Lynda Gould, Jonathan Holden, and Diana O'Reilly.

Apologies: Wilf Feely and Anna Godwin.

The meeting opened with the SPAN prayer and a reflection on the gospel for the Third Sunday of Year A, Matthew 4: 12-23.

1. **Matters arising from the November 25th 2019 Meeting at St Peter's.**

- Jenny and Anne reported that the **Church Unity Service** at Holy Trinity Church the previous evening had been interesting and well attended.
- Brian had offered to the clergy to repeat the **Global Healing film** on climate change if they wanted it.
- Lynda had proposed, and all had agreed, by email a **Rosary intention for January** of 'We pray that in the new year world leaders may see all nations as one family of God and work together to make our world a safer and fairer place.' (On the website, Jonathan had drawn parallels with passages in Pope Francis' New Year peace message.)

2. **Rosary intention for February.**

- At Lynda's suggestion (referring to the 2020 theme of 'The God who speaks') it was agreed as: **'We pray for courage to challenge the powerful with the values of the Gospel.'**
Lynda to put on the J&P noticeboard in the church; Jonathan to enter in the Newsletter and on the website.

3. **Preparation for Lenten Stations of the Cross.**

- Janice reported that, at the meeting on Monday 13th January, it was decided to make changes to four pictures (if suitable new ones could be found) and amend the booklet accordingly. Jenny and Jonathan had offered pictures for two of the Stations, and Brian and Janice would crop one other and seek a better picture of the House of Light and Hope.
- Janice was completing the rota of readers and leaders for the Stations (starting on Monday 2nd March) – Patrick Reddin had volunteered; Anne Bracey would invite Henny Manning; Janice would approach Martina Thielmann.

4. **Poverty and Homelessness**

- Janice announced that an appeal by speakers (yet to be chosen) and a **collection for the SFG** would be made in the Catholic Leamington churches on 15th and 16th February. They hoped that the appeal might also attract new volunteers and direct donations from parishioners.
- The three Way Ahead **project workers** (including the new male worker reported at the last meeting) were very effective.
- The Christmas **lunch and pantomime** in the Salvation Army church had been very successful.

5. **Cards for Prisoners of Conscience**

- Diana said the **ACAT Easter list** of prisoners' addresses had not yet been published. She hoped to follow up with Richard Gordon his progress on involving the 'Mini-Vinnies' at St Teresa's School in **designing cards**, as well as June Arran of the St Joseph's Art Group; she would write a briefing note for Lynda to pass on to Jo Hewitt for Trinity School Pax

Christi group. Jenny would contact Emma Rayment similarly for possible involvement of the Unite youth group.

Diana to contact Richard Gordon and June Arran, and write note; Lynda to email Jo Hewitt; Jenny to contact Emma Rayment.

- Diana's projected date for the signing is the **weekend of 28th and 29th March**.
Jenny to inform Fr John and check that that date would be clear of obstacles.

6. **CAFOD**

- Brian pointed out that the Lenten **Family Fast Day** would be Friday 6th March, when it was planned to have a soup and bread meal in the Parish Hall as usual. Speakers were needed to announce in church on 29th February and 1st March that there would be a collection of the Lenten Family Fast envelopes the following weekend. Jonathan offered to cover the 11 am mass on Sunday 1st.

Other speakers on 29 February and 1 March required.

7. **LiveSimply.**

- Jenny reported on the **meeting of the LiveSimply group** the previous week, when various projects were discussed: several walk-to-church Sundays, without a prize draw but possibly with stickers for children who had come to church without riding in a car; guidance (based on Sioned Hammond-Jones' leaflet) on recycling and bulk buying to be distributed at the May Ecofest; possibly having a bin in church for items difficult to recycle, such as jewellery, unwanted mobile phones, old or foreign currency, etc. (as suggested by Margaret Dimambro). Brian noted that the next **walk in solidarity with migrants** would be on the late May Bank Holiday, 25th May.

8. **Fair Trade**

- Jenny said that **Fair Trade Fortnight** would be from 24th February to 8th March; it would be good to have someone give a talk in church on one of the two weekends within that fortnight.

9. **Any Other Business**

- Brian reported that the **Leamington Peace Festival** would be a week earlier than usual this year, on 13th and 14th June.

Brian to contact organizers soon to say the church would be open that weekend and to book two speaking slots.

When contacting Emma Rayment and Jo Hewitt, Jenny and Lynda to ask if their groups could prepare a display in church for the Peace Festival.

- Jonathan mentioned that the next ACTA meeting at St Mary's Harborne at **2 pm Sunday 23rd February** would feature a talk by the new Director of *Pax Christi* UK, Theresa Alessandro, on 'Peacebuilding and Reconciliation'.

10. **Future Meetings**

- The next meeting will be at 7.30 pm on **Monday 24 February** in St Peter's Davenport Room, when the reflection will be on the gospel for the First Sunday in Lent (Year A), Matthew 4: 1-11.
- Subsequent meetings will be at 7.30 on Mondays 30 March (Our Lady's, hall), 27 April (Davenport Room), 18 May (St Joseph's, Holy Family Room), 29 June (Davenport Room), 27 July (Our Lady's, hall), 28 September (Davenport Room), 26 October (St Joseph's, Holy Family Room), 30 November (Davenport Room); the annual review meeting will be at 2 pm on Tuesday 8 September (Davenport Room).

The meeting closed with the *Pax Christi* prayer.