



Justice and Peace at St. Peter's
St Peter Apostle, Dormer Place, Leamington Spa, CV32 5AA

Meeting 120

October 23rd, 2017

Notes

Those present were: Ann Allison (for item 1), Jenny Armstrong, Brian Austin, Janice Austin, Christa-Maria Cross, Erin Doughty, Anne Elson, Anna Godwin, Sean Gough, Lynda Gould and Jonathan Holden.

Apologies: Alan Pratten and Mary Wilde.

The meeting opened with the SPAN prayer and a reflection on the gospel for the 30th Sunday of Year A, Matthew 22: 34-40.

1. CAFOD

- The Monteverdi concert on September 2nd at which Ann Allison spoke about the **Harvest Fast Day** raised £845 for CAFOD. Unfortunately, Anne Elson was prevented by time constraints from giving her prepared talk about the Harvest Fast Day at 11.30 on Sunday 8th October, though Jane Rebika spoke at the 5 pm mass the day before.
- After a training day at Romero House, Ann will be visiting about **10 local Catholic schools** for CAFOD.
- We needed to know when the **CAFOD World Gift catalogues** would be sent to the Presbytery, in order to plan their distribution after mass and (hopefully) a short talk about them at each mass.
Brian to ask CAFOD for the date; Jonathan to announce in newsletter when they are available.
- Brian mentioned that CAFOD were preparing material for issue in November supporting the Pope's '**Share the Journey**' campaign in solidarity with refugees.

2. Matters arising from the September 5th meeting

- **Trinity School Pax Christi group** had provided material for the closing liturgy at the Diocesan J&P Assembly on October 14th, though the students who had hoped to lead it were unable to attend. There was discussion of how far Trinity pupils could be asked to support parish J&P initiatives: Erin advised that it was more difficult getting them to do things on parish premises outside school hours, but there might be opportunities to integrate J&P activities into school RE classes, for example pupils sending cards themselves to prisoners of conscience. She had good contacts with Joanna Hewitt at Trinity and could share any ideas from the J&P meetings with her.
Jenny to pass the ACAT list of prisoners' addresses to Erin when it is available.
- Brian tabled a draft J&P programme for 2018 and beyond, listing agenda items and activities for each monthly meeting throughout the year. He asked those present to study and review it. Jonathan had also started a calendar of external J&P events by trawling through the internet. Brian pointed out that a detailed diary for the next four months or so is issued three times a year by NJPN, which he receives free with the Columbans' magazine 'Vocation for Justice'.
Brian to email the current copy of the NJPN diary to the J&P email list.

3. Rosary intention for November

- 'We pray for all the victims of war.'
Lynda to put on the J&P noticeboard in the church; Jonathan to enter in the Newsletter.

4. **Poverty and Homelessness**

- Janice reported that the **Saturday Friendship Group** had again received a grant of £2,000 from Leamington Town Council. The Salvation Army hostel at 13 Charlotte Street was now full. The former Mayor, Ann Morrison, had collected funds for the refurbishment of the drop-in centre: a dishwasher had been installed, and redecoration was proceeding. Following the replacement of Jonathan Chilvers by Yvonne McKinnon, the SFG had not been involved in planning for the Way Ahead Project, but Captain John Mclean had assured them that they would be brought back into strategy development.
- Janice showed those present a draft of a Warwick District Poverty Forum Directory of local services, being prepared by Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action.
- She was disappointed at the poor attendance at the Churches Together in Leamington Market Place event, though it provided good opportunities for networking. She suggested that next year there should be more effort to invite parishioners to it.

5. **Climate Change**

- Brian commented on the CAFOD 'Power to Be' campaign: since we had supported this initiative in June by distributing and sending in petition cards as requested, we need take no further action on it now.
- He had written an article in the Courier and led a workshop at the Diocesan J&P Assembly on changing to a green energy supplier. He would like those present to publicise his leaflet offering advice on this to anyone interested in switching supplier. If people did it through him rather than independently, he could ensure that £50 went to CAFOD as a result.

6. **LiveSimply**

- The LiveSimply team plan to produce three leaflets over the current year – on living simply, on living sustainably, and on living in solidarity with the poor. The first is in preparation. The next meeting of the team is at 10 am on November 10th.

7. **Christmas cards for Prisoners of Conscience**

- Jenny was to meet Diana O'Reilly for detailed planning, and hoped to work with the Confirmation group in making the cards and helping with the signing. Our preferred date for getting parishioners to sign these cards was November 18th/19th, because Diana may not be available to organize the signing after this date, but it would be dependent on when Action by Christians Against Torture publish their list on their website. (See *item 2 above on involving Trinity*.)

Jenny to confirm that date provisionally with Fr John.

3. **Any Other Business**

- Erin outlined her plan for the Parish Youth Initiative: she will focus initially on young people (age 10-25) who come to mass regularly, as well as those in Trinity School, starting with a weekly prayer group based on the following Sunday's Lectionary readings; then a regular youth group meeting aimed to help young people get to know Jesus; later she will be more pro-active in seeking out new youngsters who are not necessarily regular church-goers. She is currently looking to form a core team of people who (i) like young people, (ii) practise their faith, and (iii) want to get involved.
- She said she wanted to keep up to date with the parish J&P initiatives.
Brian to add Erin (and Sean) to the J&P email list.
- Janice proposed that the **Church Action against Poverty leaflet on Debt** should be available in the church porch. She offered to obtain a stock for this purpose. She also had contact details for a speaker on the subject.

4. **Future Meetings**

- The next meeting (which is the last meeting of the year) will be on Monday 27 November 2017 at 7.30 in the Flint Room, when the reflection will be on the gospel for the First Sunday of Advent (Year B), Mark 13: 33-37.