



Worship Committee

Notes from a meeting on Tuesday 8th January 2008

The meeting opened with prayer.

Apologies: There were no apologies for this meeting.

Present: Fr Stephen, Jennifer Newton, Leah Lutley, Lewis Njoku, Dorothy Vernon and Joyce Green. Dorothy Vernon was welcomed to the meeting.

Business:

Alternative Worship: Still no reply has been received from either Simon Gatenby or Chris Howitz. The visit to the Chorlton Group of Churches Café Church was postponed due to other commitments. Jennifer informed the committee that the venue has now moved from Tom Toms to a café in the Retail Park behind Morrison's Supermarket in Chorlton. She is to find out details of their next meeting and report back.

Worship Songs: Fr Stephen suggested that one new Worship Song from Music-Praise could be introduced each month with the CD accompaniment. The words will be printed on the News Sheet. This was agreed. Lewis suggested that a practice would be needed prior to or at some point during the service

Flowers: Fr Stephen reported that the Christmas flowers were more beautiful than ever this year. There have been several complimentary comments from church members.

Saturday 17th November: The Renewal of Wedding Vows for Claire and Alex went well.

Bible Reading Fellowship Notes: The information has been put on the newsletter and we have two new subscribers. A spare booklet is to be put at the back of church for the congregation to see.

Candle List: Several people have already signed up to sponsor a candle in memory of a loved one and there appears to be more names on the list. It was agreed that perhaps more publicity is still needed and to mention it again on the newsletter.

Lent: Love Life – Live Lent 2: Good Neighbour Theme is to be used for the Wednesday morning Lent Study discussions. The discussion questions have been provided this year and will be downloaded. The children's booklets will be provided free to all Junior Church Members but it was suggested that the adults be asked to pay the cost of £1 for their booklets. This was agreed.

Stations of the Cross: There was a mixed response to the black and white "stone effect" posters last year. After discussion, it was decided to use the coloured posters this year but to use the black and white ones on alternate years.

Reading from the Lectern: A request was made for the readers to speak into the microphone, as it is difficult to hear at the back of the church. Unfortunately the microphone is not working properly at the moment. The light has also been disconnected because of a problem with the electrics. It is hoped to rectify these problems in the near future.

Tony Sparham, Rector of Wilmslow Parish Church: is retiring next month. After discussion, it was decided to send a card and a small gift from St Agnes, Fr Stephen is to contact Jackie for some ideas.

Hymn Books: Fr Stephen informed the committee that there is a new edition of Hymns Old and New, which includes additional hymns and also the readings. A discussion as to the possibility and justification of purchasing copies of the new edition was discussed. The cost is £9-99 per book and £20-00 for the music edition. It was agreed that it would be nice to have the up-dated version if possible and suggested that this could be mentioned in church.

It was also suggested that a pile of hymn books be placed by the Junior Church door for the children when they join the service.

Jennifer suggested that a Lectionary for use on the Lectern should be purchased in memory of May Camm. It was agreed that this was a good idea and should be put to the PCC. She also reminded the committee that it had been agreed to purchase something to do with flowers in memory of Gladys Chaloner.

HOPE 08: The national initiative is encouraging churches to 'do more, do it together, do it in word and action'. This is to demonstrate that the church is vibrant within the community and that by local churches working together, bigger and better things can be achieved. The Diocese are suggesting that enquirers groups eg; Alpha or Emmaus Groups be started to attract non-church people. More information will be given at the training meeting on Monday 3rd March 08 at 7-30pm at Emmanuel Church, Didsbury. Fr Stephen asked any one who would like to go to please let him know.

Holy Week: There is to be a series of dramas on BBC Television from 7-30pm – 8pm every night during Holy Week. It is suggested by the Diocese that a service could be held at 8-15pm in church following these. This does not seem a very practical timescale so it was decided to draw peoples' attention to the programmes and to encourage them to invite friends to watch the programmes with them in their home.

Holy Week Services: These will follow the usual pattern but slight changes will be incorporated in the Easter Vigil Service in accordance with the new order of common worship. This is to be discussed in more detail at next months meeting.

Readers/ Lay Readers Questionnaire: this was discussed and completed at the meeting.

Dates of Meetings 2008: It was agreed the meetings should be held on the last Tuesday in the month i.e. Tuesday 26th February, 25th March, 29th April, 27th May, 24th June, 29th July, 30th September, 28th October, 25th November 2008.

Other Business: Lewis informed the committee that several people had commented that there was no sermon at Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve or on the Sunday following Christmas. It was agreed that in future there should be a short address at these services. He also requested that consideration be given to having a short service on New Years Day. Apart from the Millennium Year and when New Years Day falls on a Sunday, this has not been the pattern at St Agnes and the question was raised as to whether there would be enough people attending to warrant a service. Fr. Stephen agreed to give the matter some thought. Fr. Stephen is also to remind members of the congregation that if children are crying during the service, they can go into the Community Hall if they wish to do so.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 26th February at 8pm in the Rectory

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9-15pm.