

Stephen is to write inviting people by letter and including a copy of the course (which is free) so that those unable to attend could follow the course at home if they wished. The issue of how we could encourage more men to attend was also raised.

Dates for the diary:

Sunday 19th & 26th February 2006 - Bookstall selling Lenten Books,

Saturday 25th March 2006 – Quiet Day at St Luke's, St Agnes have been invited to attend.

Ideas for Worship: It was agreed to move pews into more of a circle as last year for Holy week and to use "real" bread & wine for the Eucharist.

Lewis suggested a visit to Victoria Baths to renew our Baptismal Vows when this is possible. To be referred to PCC.

Fr Stephen informed us that the Easter Vigil was not as well attended as other services. How do we sell Holy Week in order to encourage more people to see Holy Week as a spiritual journey? It was suggested that the best way may be through a sermon with photos on the Sunday before Palm Sunday with use of OHP.

Nigel suggested giving everyone a large Masonry nail on Good Friday on entry into church. These would be put at the base of the cross during the veneration. Rudolphus and Fr Stephen to purchase the nails. A booklet of the services during Holy Week promoting the connecting theme was suggested. This would include prayers and devotions and would include everyone and also there would be an option to buy the booklet if people wished to do so.

Palm Sunday Procession; based on the experience of last year, it was agreed to meet in Crowcroft Park at 10-10am and invite Northmoor Road Methodist Church, Roby URC Church, Bethshan and St Richards RC Church to join us for a short act of worship, prior to processing to our respective churches.

Pew Bibles - some people prefer to follow the lessons in the Bible and have expressed concern that the wording is different to the version being read. It was agreed that it would be useful to incorporate the reasons for this and also the "use of incense" as part of the teaching possibly during a sermon.

Other Business: Fr Stephen informed us that no date has yet been agreed for the proposed visit of Bishop Stephen.

Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 7th March 2006 at 8pm in the Rectory.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9-45pm.



Worship Committee Notes: Tuesday 7th February 2006

The meeting opened with prayer.

Present: Fr Stephen, Lewis Njoku, Jennifer Newton, Leah Lutley, Nigel Dawkins, Rudolphus Ricketts, Daniel Walters and Joyce Green.

Fr Stephen welcomed our guest Nigel Dawkins and new committee member Daniel Walters to the meeting.

Matters Arising:

- 1) **Quiet Afternoon:** This was well received, well presented and there had been some very good feedback. Attendance was mainly women, how can we appeal for more men to participate?
- 2) **Junior Church:** This is working much better and the children are getting more involved in worship.
- 4) **Birthday List:** The list is now completed.
- 5) **Prison's Week: 20th – 26th November:** The prayer leaflet was appreciated and requests for more such focus on specific issues had been received.
- 6) **Advent Wreath:** The ring was used during Advent and was very plain and simple with no greenery. A suggestion was made to use the ring and the triangular candle - holder on alternate years. The need to forward plan in future to ensure that the ring could be decorated with greenery was noted.
- 7) **Advent Course:** The course was well attended and appreciated by those involved.
- 8) **Posada:** This was better than last year and most dates were covered.
- 9) **Additional microphone:** Costings for the microphone have not yet been received.
- 10) **Christmas Services:** Christmas Eve very good and Christmas Day was well attended and New Years day also. Epiphany Service at St Elizabeth's Reddish was good and about third of the congregation were from St Agnes. Lewis suggested that perhaps next Epiphany the service could be held at St Agnes and other churches could be invited. This will be discussed at a future planning meeting. Fr Stephen asked us to think about whether the service should be held on the Eve of the Epiphany or the day itself.

New Business:

Future Planning:

Week-Day Communion Services: It was suggested that consideration be given to the possibility of having an 11am Communion Service on "major" festivals eg; Epiphany / Ascension Day in addition to the evening service.

Dates for February:

Sunday 19th February 2006 - Nigel will be preaching at the Parish Eucharist.

Sunday 26th February 2006 - **The Archdeacon's Visit**, the Parish Eucharist will be followed by a Faith Lunch. Both the Archdeacon and his wife will be staying to lunch.

Lent: Ash Wednesday 1st March 2006 - Services with the Imposition of Ashes will be held at 11am and 7-30pm.

Stations of the Cross: will be held each Sunday evening during Lent at 6-30pm. Fr Stephen asked us to try and encourage different people to participate by asking them personally.

Lent Courses: There is no Churches together course this year.

Parish Courses – these will be held on a Wednesday commencing on 8th March 2006 for five weeks. Joyce Green will coordinate the course following the 11am Eucharist and Fr Stephen the evening course at 7-30pm. After some discussion, it was decided that the USPG Course "Life in all its Fullness" seemed more appropriate than the Missions to Seamen Course. Fr