



Pastoral Care & Nurture

Notes from a meeting held on Monday 14th May 2007

Present:

Beryl, Edna, Pearl, Denzil, Stephen

1. Prayer Tree

still well used but it should be better advertised as an available prayer resource to the parish/congregation/

2. Prayer Time

steady numbers – but can it be better advertised? on the street? library poster?

3. Nurture: Baptism

some progress here with the next baptism candidate for June being linked to a parishioner.

4. Nurture: Study groups

The last Bible Study had not been a great success because it was felt to be too early. From next month, June, they will be at 11am. Keep this under review. Next Bible Study will be Monday 18th June.

9. Nurture: Funerals & Bereavement

Another discussion about bereavement issues proved to be very helpful. The theme that comes up again and again is that of loneliness. Often people just want someone to listen to them.

There was concern that even though we could set up a bereavement 'group' non-church people might feel uncomfortable in attending something where they didn't know people. And with only 15 funerals a year (during 2006) we do not have enough numbers to ensure a group would be well attended.

The group felt that we should offer bereaved people a chance to talk to someone. Then if they did want to talk, two members of this group could visit with Fr Stephen introducing them. To help us prepare we will spend some time during the next couple of meetings working on some issues around death, bereavement and faith in order to train ourselves up. We will also try to involve more interested people in this project.

10. Prayer Requests

It is now nearly a year since the new prayer request cards were introduced. They are still working well and felt to be an improvement on the previous system.

11. Welcoming new parishioners

Denzil brought a welcome pack from another church which is handed out to visitors and those moving in to the area. A similar project has been looked at here in the past but has not yet been acted upon. Perhaps this group can look at producing some sort of leaflet/booklet or welcome pack?

Next meetings: **Monday 2nd July 2007, Monday 3rd September** – both at 10.30am