



ST AGNES
LONGSIGHT

PASTORAL CARE & NURTURE

Coordination Group

Meeting held on Monday 4th September 2006

Present:

Beryl, Denzil, Pearl, Stephen

1. Prayer Tree

The first tree is nearly 'full' - only one name needed. Decided to print this up and start it running. Add a new sheet in church so that a second tree can be started if necessary.

2. Prayer Time

The parish prayer time on Tuesday had been a mixed success with some weeks there being four people, other weeks just Beryl. Because of the security/safety risk of one person being on their own in church the group decided that in future the parish prayer time would be a monthly event rather than weekly. Posters with times and dates to be created.

3. Children's Toy Bags

Nearly complete. The bags have been made (Doreen), teddies made (Doreen) and Emily Reeves has been asked to purchase the soft toys for each bag. Rita has agreed to monitor the bags each week and make sure they are returned/complete etc. They should be in use by mid October.

4. Nurture: Baptism

The PCC had asked that the group fine-tune the ideas raised at its last meeting. The following policy/programme for those seeking Baptism was suggested:

- Parish Priest visits / makes initial contact with the family
- The priest visits the family home again but this time together with link person.
- The family would be asked to come to church for a service (including Junior Church) before the baptism Sunday itself and a welcome given to them.
- The Baptism Sunday itself: the link person to welcome them, help them, give the candle/certificate etc.
- After the baptism the link person to send cards on baptismal anniversary for first two years and possibly send any other information of interest to keep the family informed about St Agnes' life.

Link Person: there was discussion about who these links should be... either young congregation members who may be more welcoming for younger 'outsider' families or older member with experience etc. We would possibly need 3 or 4 link people to begin with - with them each looking after 3 or 4 candidate families a year. Denzil agreed to co-ordinate the dates for sending cards etc and then contact link people to remind them in good time.

The Baptism booklet needs to be updated and in parts re-written with this new policy in mind.

5. Prayer Cards

To help those who visit on behalf of the church it was agreed to make available prayer cards for the sick, housebound etc.

6. Leaflets

Pearl mentioned that it was thanks to Beryl handing out leaflets at Easter time in Longsight market that she became a member of St Agnes' church! It was felt that this leafleting might be done again - especially at major feasts.

7. Party for those who live alone

The previous party for those on the home communion list etc had been a great success. We should ask Evergreens for suitable dates this autumn to repeat it.

Next meeting: **Monday 13th November 2006, 11am in the Rectory**