



Worship & Faith

St Agnes Longsight

Worship & Faith Group Notes: Tuesday 24th February 2009

The meeting opened with prayer.

Apologies: there were no apologies for absence

Present: Fr Stephen, Jennifer Newton, Leah Lutley, Lewis Njoku, Dorothy Vernon and Joyce Green.

Matters Arising:

Microphone: The new microphone has been purchased and comes with a radio microphone for Fr Stephen to use. An extra clip is needed for the stand before it can be used.

Other Business:

Lent: It was agreed to try and encourage more people to lead the Stations of the Cross. Fr Stephen has plenty of resources for people to use.

Open Mind: The service was well received and comments received have been positive. It was nice to welcome Karen from Atherton who had seen Open Mind advertised on the St Agnes website. She has written very positive comments in the on-line guest book. Magdalene the new priest from Wilmslow Parish church and Bob Day the minister from Roby URC Church also attended and Fr. Stephen had received interesting feedback from them both. It was helpful to get feedback from a priest's perspective. Copies of relevant information have been sent to them both at their request. The use of the new Votive Stand with everyone lighting a candle to place on it was very effective and moving.

Fr. Stephen posed the following questions that may need to be addressed by this group after the Open Mind service in May.

What purpose is Open Mind serving?

Is Saturday evening the right time for the event?

A possible theme for the next Open Mind in May is Restlessness.

Intercessions on Baptismal Sundays: Fr. Stephen commented that on the whole the intercessions were excellent but after discussion, it was agreed to have set intercessions for Baptismal Sundays. These would be incorporated into the Intercessions Booklet and the information in the booklets to be discussed with the Intercessors after a Sunday morning service. Fr. Stephen is to let Jennifer know the dates for Baptisms in advance, whenever this is possible, so she can make a note of this on the Intercessor's List.

Experience Easter: This is a diocesan initiative with 6 stations and is similar in format to our Prayer and Place. To be held on Monday in Holy week from 5-30pm at St Agnes, 3 stations to be prepared by St Agnes Church, 1 by Roby URC Church and 1 by Northmoor Road Methodist Church. It enables people to "Drop In" for differing lengths of time and visit each station at their own pace. Sister Cynthia and the Church of God 7th Day is also aware of the event. There will be a Holy Communion service at 7.30pm celebrated by Revd Bob Day using the URC service.

Prayer Calendar: Fr. Stephen is to re-develop the Prayer Calendar with a new list of roads in the parish. At Evening Prayer in the week he will also include 2 names of people from the Electoral Roll in turn so they are prayed for by name. More Electoral Roll Forms are to be put at the back of church and how to get on the Electoral roll needs to be highlighted to encourage more people to enrol.

Congregational Meeting 9th March: To discuss the use of a projector in church and the way and style of worship. Fr. Stephen is to write to PCC members to encourage them all to attend.

Choir Practice: Fr. Stephen circulated a poster suggesting that choir practice be re-named Sing Praise and inviting people to come and us for an hours hymn singing. It was suggested that this commences after Easter when the nights are lighter. Lewis said that the website should still make it clear that we have a choir and

Jennifer suggested that the Words “join the choir” instead of “us” to be used on the Web Site. This was agreed.

Agape: Fr. Stephen out-lined the resources available and the format was discussed. During the Eucharist the bread used for the meal will be used. Fr. Stephen suggested that the bread in a bowl could be passed around the table in silence and then we all communicate together. We would administer the Chalice to each other around the table as on previous occasions. This was agreed. It would not be possible to incorporate the washing of the feet into the Agape.

A list to be put at the back of church on Mothering Sunday for people to sign if attending the Agape Meal in order to facilitate catering etc. Room to be prepared on the afternoon of Maundy Thursday. Meal to comprise of Fish, salad, bread, fresh fruit and wine. In the past, frozen breaded fish has been used for ease and it had also been necessary to use the cooker in the Rectory as well as the cooker in the community hall. Fr. Stephen said this would be satisfactory.

Other Easter Services will be as normal and there will be a Station of the Resurrection Service on a Sunday Evening after Easter.

Any Other Business: Some church members had asked if it would be possible to try the experiment of having the pews round the church again for a few weeks. It was agreed this item would be put on the agenda for the April meeting. Lewis said a request had been made for the terms Septuagesima and Sexagesima to be explained if used again on Weekly News Sheet. This was agreed.

The meeting closed with prayer at 9-40pm.

Date and Time of next Meeting: Tuesday 31st March 2009 at 8pm in the Rectory.