

## Worship and Faith Group Notes: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010

The meeting opened with prayer.

**Apologies:** Apologies were received from Revd Lara Dose.

**Present:** Fr. Stephen, Jennifer Newton, Dorothy Vernon, Lewis Njoku, James Stewart (Ordinand) and Joyce Green.

Fr. Stephen welcomed James to the meeting and apologised that for various reasons it had not been possible for the group to meet in February and April as originally planned.

### Matters Arising:

**USPG Lent Course 2010:** There had been good participation in the Lent Group meetings. The Lyfe method of reading the scripture passages stimulated lively group discussions with contributions from all group members.

**Shrove Tuesday:** Service of penitence combined with evening prayer attracted a few more people to attend.

**Ash Wednesday:** Both the morning and evening services were brilliant and attendance was good at both services, 28 at the morning service and 25 in the evening. Fr. Stephen said Ash Wednesday “needs hymns” and in future perhaps hymns could be included in the morning service too. Also the number of hymns during the evening service could be reviewed as there may be too many. Dorothy Vernon she would be willing to attend and play for both services.

There was very positive feedback from the Lent prose and both the Mothering Sunday service and Stations of the Cross went well.

### Holy week:

Ecumenical Communion Service on Monday evening was not the best service and format to be reviewed for next year. St Agnes and Church of the Nazarene were well represented but no one attended from either Roby or Northmoor Road Methodist Churches. Services were very good during the rest of the week but the numbers were down at the Easter Vigil Service this year. We could try and encourage more people to participate in the service as this often encourages other family members to attend. Money was raised for the USPG during Lent.

### New Business:

**Corpus Christi Service:** Service has been arranged Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June a 7-30pm and the Dean of Manchester will be preaching. On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June Archdeacon Mark will be preaching at the Parish Eucharist at 10-30am. Fr. Stephen informed us that several guest preachers had been invited and would be coming in the near future.

**Communion services:** Fr. Stephen discussed the possibility of increasing the number of communion services by celebrating on Red Letter Saints Days. This would probably mean an extra service about once a month. If the Saints Day fell on a Friday, it would be celebrated on the eve of. It was decided to vary the times of these services ie; 8am, 11am and 7-30pm and to trial this for 12months. If there was not the Priest and two others in attendance, the service would not be celebrated. One or two of these services would be from the Book of Common Prayer. The possibility of using the Book of Common Prayer for one of the main Sunday Eucharist with hymns at some point in the year is to be considered. Also the possibility of a sung Evensong.

**Sunday Link:** Sunday Link is now available with the readings printed on the back and a month's free trial is available. At present £2.46 per week for 50 copies and cost would increase to £4.60 per week for 50 copies. However money would be saved on the cost of paper and copying the additional sheet of readings currently provided. Also time would be saved on the preparation etc. It would also be possible to incorporate the weekly newsheet. It was decided to refer this to the PCC for further discussion.

**Pew Survey 2009:** the results of the survey will be reported.

### Other Business:

**Mothering Sunday / Father's Day:** It was raised that we celebrate Mothering Sunday and now include all women but not men when many men have a nurturing role. Fr. Stephen explained that Mothering Sunday is 'old' in terms of the Church's tradition whereas Father's day is a “made up commercial day”. However we could do something more specific, for example the Mothers' Union's “What dad's Add” project for Baptism. Also we could look at the service and encompass nurturing in the widest sense encompassing men and women who nurture. To ensure more balance include a prayer for fathering. Lewis asked if it would be possible to include other people to speak during the service on occasions. Fr. Stephen said that in order to preach the person had to be licensed. However where appropriate drama and interactive sermons can be utilised as they have been in the past.

**Other Business:** There was no other business.

**Date and Time of next Meeting:** Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 8pm in the Rectory.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.25pm.