

Minutes of meeting: Tuesday 18 March 2014 at 8:00pm

Venue: 73 Queen Mary Avenue
Present: Beryl Shannon (Chair), Teresa Pollard, Bishop Tripp, Liam Harnett, Sheila Johnstone, Cathie Honour, Christine Davis, Julie Sheahan, Mark Eaden
Apologies: Barbara Harnett,
Minutes: Mark Eaden

Meditation: Theresa read a passage from "*Jesus Today: A Spirituality of Radical Freedom*" by Albert Nolan.

This led to discussions on 'being critical without being judgmental', the notion of 'reward for leading a good life' and the concept of 'living for the moment without fear of the past'

Informing Ourselves

We discussed The Common Good paras. 51-53 on *Subsidiarity and solidarity*.

Debate was kicked off by Bishop Howard with the idea that the responsibility for remedial measures following the recent floods could possibly have been dealt with more effectively on a local level, and that the input from senior government politicians and officials was unnecessary - yet national policy on farming and funding for flood protection works has arguably exacerbated the scale of the flooding (if not directly caused it through poor land management).

At a local level we discussed subsidiarity in the context of the closure of St Helier hospital - are we well informed enough to be able to debate the merits of closure in terms of local impact, when much of the argument is emotional? But should the government be able to make executive decisions on 'local' health-care issues without consultation?

Beryl raised the question of subsidiarity in the Church, bemoaning the lack of it. Our Pope Francis gives us hope that subsidiarity will once again become part of the modern church.

Next month we will move on to paras. 90, 91 & 92 on *The world of work*.

Reports

Mary's Meals: A collection has been arranged - for date?

Fair Trade: A £25 pound donation to the parish to pay for the heating that was left on has been graciously refused by the Canon Acton. Action: Liam (outstanding?) It was noted that the diocese wishes to become a Fairtrade Diocese, and we are listed as one of the parishes which holds this status.

Ethical actions –
April: Buy Fairtrade Chocolate for Easter
May: Use natural cleaning products, e.g. clear vinegar or bicarbonate of soda
June: Walk to Church,

Charity of the Year: The Passage and been very impressed. We could help them not only by fundraising but also collecting food, clothes or by volunteering. It was unanimously agreed to support them this year. Mark to bring more information to the next meeting and will draft an article for "Talkabout". A coffee morning will be arranged for May/June (**actionee?**)

Margaret Duffy will be asked to talk about The Passage at that meeting. Advertising for the coffee morning will be posted at Sacred Heart also.

Relaunch of Group: Bishop Tripp will talk to Terry Brown about a speaker to address Masses one Sunday, with a view to a follow up meeting the following week. If we are to involve younger working people, we will need a larger membership so that the commitment is not too heavy.

Treasurer's report: £174.65

AOB:

Nine-mile long Pink Scarf... "Wook against Weapons" organised by Wimbledon CND.

"Sense and Nonsense - Assisted Dying" paper by the Catholic Bishops Conference of England & Wales - forwarded to the group by Christine via email on 20th March.

Next meeting: Tuesday 8th April at 8.00 pm

Chair:

Minutes:

Venue:

Meditation:

Grace was said