St John Fisher Merton - Justice & Peace

Minutes of meeting

Agenda

- 1 to make plans for a Food Collection in aid of Christian Care, Faith in Action and St Vincent de Paul on the weekend of 31st Jan/1st Feb;
- 2 to sketch out a plan for our activities for the coming year.

Attendees

A warm welcome to J&P newcomers: Fay, Peter, Wellington, Bernadette, Vik and others for whom we didn't get a name (apologies). And to the old guard: Julie, John, Cathie, Teresa, Barbara and Liam.

Food Collection

A food collection in aid of *Christian Care, Faith in Action and St Vincent de Paul* is to be organised by the group for the weekend of 31st Jan/1st February.

- "Shopping list" is to be distributed via the J&P email along with an appeal for volunteers to assist in collection/sorting and delivery to each of the charities Action Mark E
- Posters & other publicity, including a note in the "Fisherman's Herald" to be arranged by John G.
- All food to be stored and sorted in the Church Hall. Julie S to arrange/coordinate access.
- Volunteers for collection and sorting at each Mass are:

Saturday 6pm - Liam, Barbara, Peter, Teresa

Sunday 8am - Fay, Beryl

Sunday 9.30 - Wellington, Bernadette

Sunday 11am - Cathie, Vik,

Sunday 6.30pm - Mark E, Julie S

Volunteers to collect and distribute on Monday are:

David Poole, John G, Julie, Fay, Barbara, Cathie, after 9 am Mass

Bernadette; after 2pm

Group activities for 2015

The Justice and Peace group at SJF is not a fundraising organisation: its focus should be on raising awareness and informing itself and others of difficult issues locally, nationally and internationally that threaten social justice and the common good. We should be guided by Catholic Social Teaching.

As the group is re-forming and getting to know itself a calendar of events/activities is some way from developing. Ideas have been shared and the "old guard" has been asked to share with the group its favourite ideas from the past with a view to recycling them through the new J&P group. Nevertheless a few actions have been taken...

With the coming *General Election* this May, Bishop Howard has been keen to encourage us to organise/contribute to a "hustings". Mark E will contact Deacon Tom to discuss the possibility of getting involved with the Merton Inter-faith group.

"The Passage" is charity chosen by the group last year to receive our support through raising awareness of activities. Mark E will make contact with this charity to invite them along to the Parish to talk about their work.

Fair-Trade Fortnight - the group will again invite Anne Towner to organise a Fair-Trade sale in the Church Hall at the end of February. SJF Merton is a Fair-Trade church.

Social Media - following meetings will look at how we can take advantage of social media such as Twitter and Facebook - **are there any experts/volunteers out there?**

Meditations

Group meetings will normally start with a "meditation" on aspects of Justice and Peace in order to bring the group into the right frame of mind for the meeting. Teresa P has offered to arrange the meditation for the next meeting and provide some guidance going forward.

Treasurer

Liam briefed the group on the current funds. We will need a volunteer to take on Treasury duties.

£188.25 collected

less £ 51.00 for the Prisoners of Conscience Christmas Cards

balance *£137.25*

Next Meeting

Date TBC depending upon availability of the Church Hall or Day Chapel - Mark E to arrange. Agenda to be agreed by email through the group. Chair: Mark E. Minutes: Peter N.