

St John Fisher Justice and Peace Group, Meeting 28.10.04

Meeting held at 20:00 at 90 Grand Drive

Present: Liam (chair), Barbara, John, Julie K., Tom, Julia S.

Apologies: Carol, Kirsty, Cathie, Mary, Chris Burke

Informing Ourselves

Notes of the previous meeting had been circulated and were accepted.

Informing Others

Notes of the last meeting had been placed on the Notice Board.

Deacon Fred Carter has been invited by the Archbishop of Southwark to join the Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission. It was suggested that we publicise this on our notice board, with his agreement, and invite him to one of our meetings.

Multicultural Event – This went very well although the attendance was smaller than in previous years. Those present praised the very good, friendly atmosphere as well as the quality of the performances. The profit of £190 has been sent to CAFOD. Liam will write an article for Talkabout.

One World Week – Readers and members of the congregation appreciated the readings in different languages, illustrating the multicultural nature of our congregation. The readers were better introduced at some Masses than others, indicating the need to inform all involved i.e. both priests, Sr. Catherine, the writer of the Bidding prayers and other readers of the procedure.

Prisoners' Sunday – 21 November We pray for people in prison, guilty or not, but especially those who are innocent, also the victims and their families. Tom to write a Bidding prayer for this. Claire Banyard, who is a Prison Chaplain at Wandsworth, would be willing to speak at Mass on this Sunday and will approach Canon Acton to raise the matter. If this is not possible, she might be willing to write an article for Talkabout on the subject.

Peace Service – New Year's Eve, 7.30 p.m. It was suggested that Liam write an invitation to the ministers of each of the churches in Churches Together, inviting them to the service and mentioning the mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. Tom would take these to the next meeting. Tom and John would seek the original text of the service from December 02, (Liam also to look in the notes from October 02 to see who had provided the original text) and adapt this (or last year's) service for this year.

Christian Care AGM Professor Ian Robins had spoken about the mental health problems of suspected terrorists held without trial in Belmarsh prison. There have been a number of attempted suicides amongst this group, many of whom have previously suffered torture in their own countries. Anyone feeling strongly about this situation is advised to write to his or her M.P.

Prisoner of Conscience -The case of Dr Oscar Elias, devout Christian and defender of Human Rights, who was sentenced to 25 years in prison in April 2003, has been raised again by Christian Solidarity. Full details were shown on our agenda for 22.04.04 and are on the notice board.

Treasurer's Report - £73.40

Next meeting Thursday 25 November @ Liam's

Meditation Kirsty

Notes Julie K.