

## **St Margaret Clitherow Parish Meeting**

**Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.**

**Present** – Fr. Andrew, P. Vetch, C. Guest, P. Copeland, M. James, R. James, M. Keep, C. Simpson, A. Jacquin, B. Thompson, P. Thompson, P. Irvén, M. Donizetti, A. Davies.

**Apologies** – C. Barclay, P. Donizetti, F. Romano, V. Fattorini, R. Snape. H. Ellwood, C. Ellwood.

**Minutes from last meeting** – passed as correct.

**Election of officers** – it was decided to wait and postpone AGM until the summer.

**Treasurer's Report** – bank balance on 31-12-15 was £4171-21 and cash in hand £40-25. Full report available on request.

**Maintenance** –

- Sign - P.V. has contacted the company concerned and new sign is to be erected ASAP.
- Porch/Lighting - as a result of P.V.'s meeting with Kevin Anderson from the Diocese, and as the building is now listed, the matter will be referred to the Historic Churches Commission, which is due to meet next in May. K.A. also suggested that any further requests for alterations of any kind should also be included at this time as once the Commission has agreed them they can be actioned at any time in the future. K.A. had also come up with some helpful suggestions to improve matters such as a suspended ceiling over the area in question and ideas to improve the interior lighting and to install more glass at the back of the church. This would all transform the interior. He will arrange for an architect to fully advise. **We need to think of any other ideas for our next meeting in April.** Maria mentioned the need for another fire exit door to be installed. P.V. had drawn a blank on having an automatic locking device put on main door, so Fr. A. suggested that a fire exit door could be configured to allow an automatic locking device so the church could be open during certain hours as requested by him at our last meeting,
- Sound System – P.V. is going to investigate further. There is still some problem with microphones.
- Maria raised issue of more damp patches appearing – P.V. will raise this with the architect and it is possible that funding for such repairs could be available via an application to the Historic Churches Committee, P.V. will follow this up. Grants may also be available through English Heritage.
- Car Parking – a visitor's car was recently stuck in the mud and V.F. had suggested planting some trees in that area to prevent people parking there. The visitor was so grateful for the assistance offered him by church members and gave a very generous donation of £60. M.D. will arrange for G.P. to plant some suitable trees there before Easter if possible, and also suggested erecting a plaque there in memory of Fr. Peter.

**Recent Activities** –

- Faith and Chips – everyone agreed these had been very successful and would like these sessions to continue. We will discuss further at next meeting.

- Parcevall Hall – everyone felt this had been very good and M.D. is to arrange another Retreat Day in Advent based around the Eucharist.
- Carol Service – this was very good and will be repeated this year on 11<sup>th</sup> December. Date to be publicised well in advance.

#### **Future activities –**

- Coffee Morning – Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> January.
- Lenten Lunch – Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February.

#### **AoB –**

- Fr. Andrew, C. Simpson and A. Jacquin brought a proposal from the SVP to hold Benediction followed by Afternoon Tea at St Margaret's on 11<sup>th</sup> May for the Senior Citizens of the parish. This is an open invitation and SVP will be the organisers and will provide transport and the refreshments. They will require list of names.
- P. Irven – outlined suggestions for looking afresh at the important ministry of the Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist. This involves a total of 78 people across the parish. There is a proposal to make the annual gathering for these parishioners more accessible for everyone and to make it shorter, beginning with Mass at 11:30am, an hour's input from an invited speaker, followed by lunch for those who wished to partake. This would be some time during Lent. Fr. Andrew has also indicated that more readers are needed at St Stephen's on Saturday evenings. Commissioning/Re-commissioning will take place for Eucharistic Ministers on the Feast of Corpus Christi and for Readers on Bible Sunday which is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent. M.D. mentioned Lectio Divina. This can be considered at the Gathering in Lent.
- Fr. Andrew – suggested the same times as last year for Mass at St Margaret's for Ash Wednesday, The Lord's Supper and The Lord's Passion, namely at 5pm. This seemed to work well last year.
- The Upper Wharfedale Clergy have suggested having another gathering during the summer as well as the Grassington Festival and Unity Service. This would be more of a social-type gathering, maybe outside. **Suggestions/ideas to Fr. Andrew by April.**
- Conference on 5<sup>th</sup> March at Trinity University – "A Poor Church for the Poor" – an opportunity to explore Pope Francis' challenge concerning the reality of poverty in the UK today.
- P.C. – Cath Barclay has said she is willing to organise Friday afternoon sessions during Lent prior to The Stations of the Cross. She also has some different version of the Stations which she is willing to share with all participants. Fr Andrew will advertise this around the Churches in Wharfedale and C.B. will produce further information in the coming weeks.
- P.C. asked if Harry Rowan could visit St Margaret's from time to time. Fr Andrew has already arranged for Harry to come and preach on a monthly basis.

**Next Meeting – Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April, following Mass at 7pm.**