

Laudato Si Meeting: July 25, 2019

Present: Mark Wiggin, Anthony Brown, Ann Cooke, Sheila Shore, Joan Leeming, Arnold Marsden, Betty Collinson

Apologies: Andrew Brown, Suzanne Brown, Antony Brown, Margaret Parsons, Dominic Aunger, Mary Brown, Pauline Wiggin.

The Pope Francis film – Pope Francis, A Man of his Word – was very well received

Sheila Shore visited St Mary's Primary School in Accrington to learn about their recycling policy. They have four coloured bins for: uncooked food, recyclable waste, non recyclable waste that can be used in eco bricks, and waste that cannot be recycled or used. The recycling policy is linked with the parish and has featured on local TV news and in the Lancashire Telegraph, mainly for their use of eco bricks in construction, outdoor furnishing and garden projects.

We agreed that our own Parish policy should be linked with the schools but we should start with the Parish. A current issue to resolve is the cost to the Parish of recycling.

We agreed a subgroup comprising Ann Cooke, Joan Leeming and Anthony Brown would meet on September 19 to formulate a Parish Policy to include Fairtrade, to present to the full group on October 2nd (Ann Cooke has booked the presbytery for 7.30 for both meetings). The Policy will cover all the churches and church halls. We will then present to the Parish Forum and Mark Wiggin will consult with Ricky Davis for the Diocese to advise on the commercial side.

Refugee Day Out and the Refugee Sponsorship Programme are currently with the Laudato Si' (Live Simply) Group. OLOTV, St Mary's and the United Reform churches will meet in September to start planning the next Refugee Day Out on 13 June 2020 and we also will raise the Sponsor a Refugee Programme at the September meeting. It will take a group of 15 to 20 volunteers to run the programme.

The group has agreed with Fr John to do a newsletter back page on recycling and we will also produce a one or two page guidance note on what can be recycled and where.

Following the successful Fairtrade stalls during Fairtrade fortnight, there will be Fairtrade stalls at regular intervals in Clitheroe and Sabden.

Fr John showed us round the gardens at the back of the church and has given the group virtually a free hand to create an environmentally friendly area for development and education. We need a plan and Mark Wiggin will approach John Foley to see if he can help us with this. There is a lot of work to be done which will probably necessitate a number of sub-groups and the involvement of the school.

The next meeting is on October 2