

## Laudato Si' (Live Simply) Group Meeting, May 2 2019

Present: Mark Wiggin, Anthony Brown, Grace Fellows, Andrew Brown, Antony Brown, Ella O'Doherty, Gordon Laing.

Apologies: Margaret Parsons, Susan Fellows

### **Environmental Project**

We are exploring models of environmental excellence and Wardley Hall, Lee House Centre for Mission Awareness, and a private environmental garden at Marl Hill, near Clitheroe have all said we are welcome to visit. Wardley Hall will need to be midweek but the others can be Saturday. Wardley Hall has 6,000 trees. **Anthony Brown to get some dates from the three hosts.**

We will conduct a scoping exercise to see what the three local primary schools associated with the three churches of our Parish are doing by way of the [Forest School](#) concept. Environmental issues offer scope for cross curricular teaching which is good for Ofsted. Schools are doing things like growing vegetables for food banks. School chaplains are good people to link with. We will seek volunteers to liaise with each of the schools but as an initial step **Anthony Brown will draft a letter to heads for Mark Wiggin to sign as chair of the group.**

We will explore opportunities for an environmental project within the ground of St Michael and St John's, hopefully to link with the primary school. **Anthony Brown to approach Fr John in the first instance.**

### **Live Simply Ideas**

During Lent, the newsletter featured a Live Simply idea each week and this is something we should continue throughout the year. **Grace Fellow will implement.**

An aim for our Parish is for people to commit to one (or more) Live Simply actions. Examples of what people have done so far include: buying only seasonal vegetables; using non recyclable waste to make eco bricks out of 2 litre milk bottles; changing energy supplier. **Group members should submit ideas to Andrew Brown who will compile a list.**

We discussed the idea of developing a pledge for people to commit to and wear a badge. A school competition might be a good way of designing the badge for which people would make a donation (minimum of £1 and wear in the way that people in Ireland wear a pin to mark the fact that they have signed the pledge never to drink alcohol. **To be discussed further.**

## Refugee Day Out

Mark Wiggin is liaising with Fr Uchenna of Revive who may come to Clitheroe to meet and see if a 2019 event can take place. So far we have no leader, not an onerous job with plenty of willing volunteers but a role that will carry overall responsibility. Nigel Rix, Chair of Clitheroe Partnerships is meeting the Church leaders shortly and will raise the issue of leadership and volunteers with them. Time is running out and we need to make a decision on whether the day will go ahead within the next couple of weeks. **Tom Clay has given Anthony Brown some papers (only hard copy available) which Mark Wiggin will use to have someone draw up an email list of past volunteers with a view to someone taking responsibility for organizing a meeting.**

## Refugee Sponsorship Programme

When the Refugee Day Out is settled we will explore our Parish becoming a sponsor under the Refugee Sponsorship Programme that Sean Ryan came to speak about at a Laudato Si' event in the Parish Hall on January 23<sup>rd</sup> when a lot of interest was expressed in the idea. Stonyhurst College are welcoming a family under the scheme, arriving on June 11. They have called their sponsoring group "humming birds" from a story which ended with humming birds saving the day after all the bigger animals did nothing. Stonyhurst is the first UK school to be part of the Refugee Response Programme which follows the Canadian model which has so far sponsored 300,000 refugees.

## Global Healing

We have dates for the final two dates of June 5 and June 19. The events each feature a film and discussion but no food. They will be in the Parish Hall at Clitheroe from 7.30 pm. **Anthony Brown will make posters and advertise in the Parish newsletter and on the Parish website. He will also inform the other Christian churches in Clitheroe. Margaret Parsons will publicise with the Christian Community in Sabden**

## BOB boxes

So far we have sold 30 and people at the meeting requested more. We will make available at the Global Healing events. **Anthony Brown will supply from existing stock and if necessary procure more.**

## Other events and activities

- Residential event on the environment at Swanwick in 2020
- Caritas Social Action, July 6 at the Holy Cross, Bury will feature Laudato Si' as an important theme. John Battle, former MP and champion of Church against Poverty, and Peter Fahy, ex Chief Constable of Manchester and a Diocesan Trustee, will be there.
- September 1 is World Day of Creation. This and the Harvest Festival will provide two opportunities for us to make links e.g. via bidding prayers. **Grace Fellows will seek liturgical material from the CAFOD website.**
- Seven parishes within the Diocese will be involved with Greater Manchester Citizens UK which lobbies on issue like the living wage and hate crime.