

## **Minutes for NE Area CAT Meeting (6) – 20<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

Venue: St Mary's Parish Hall, Burnley

Present: Fred Uttley (FU), Janet Hodgeon (JH), Monica Atherton (MA), Jackie Hindle-South (JHS), Anne Marie Coppock (AMC), Elysia Bulger (EB), Margaret Mary Taylor (MMT), Dominic Augner (DA).

Apologies: Joanne Hill (JH), Catherine Hayes (CH).

**1.1 Welcome & Opening Prayer** – DA welcomed everybody to the 6<sup>th</sup> NE Area CAT meeting and opened the proceedings by inviting everybody to introduce themselves to a new attendee MMT from Christ the King Parish in Burnley. JHS then introduced the opening prayer which was said in a responsorial manner, JHS saying the first part of each line and everybody responding with second part of the line.

### **2.1 Feedback for Harvest Fast Day (HFD) and beyond:**

**2.1.1 CAFOD in England & Wales** - DA informed meeting how CAFOD nationally had seen a drop in the HFD collection due in part to the fantastically generous £9 million plus raised during Lent 2012. The government did match the money raised; giving a fantastic £18.6 million which CAFOD is now in the process of allocating, for more information check out this CAFOD link:

<http://www.cafod.org.uk/News/Press-Centre/Press-releases/match-funding-feedback>

**2.2 Parish Activities** – Feedback from different parish groups and how CAFOD work has gone since HFD:

**2.2.1 St John the Baptist's (SJB's) & St Philip's (SP's) Padiham** – FU/JH told the group that their Outreach to the World Group had raised slightly more than normal for HFD, due in part to a talk written by FU and given by himself and JH. They also held a CAFOD Quiz Night at St Philip's Parish Hall during November for all the CAT Area. It was hosted by Mike Smith a local quiz fundraiser/organiser and raised £402. A week before Christmas they held their annual "Carols by Candlelight" concert and raised £345. Both events were advertised throughout the North East CAT Area.

**2.2.2 St John the Baptist's (SJB's) Burnley** – CH was absent from the meeting and therefore no figure was available for the amount raised for HFD. However, MA commented that the figure was lower than usual due to the bigger amount raised during Lent.

**2.2.3 St James the Less Rawtenstall** – EB informed the meeting that the amount raised for HFD was down compared to LFD, however, that was due in part to the huge response during Lent and the fact that no CAFOD talk was given at the HFD Masses. However, EB had just given a talk on the "Hungry for Change" campaign at the weekend Masses and it was going to be published in their parish newsletter and hoped for a better response for this LFD.

**3.1 "Hungry for Change" Campaign** (<http://www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Take-action-today/Hungry-for-change>) – this is the current postcard campaign, which is urging the prime-minister, David Cameron, to take the lead on tackling hunger at the G8 meetings in 2013 as he will be president of the G8 for 2013/14.

As Christians we believe that God created an abundant world. If we use the earth's resources with care and share what we have been given, we will have enough for everyone's needs. But our food system concentrates power in the hands of global companies, investors and governments, and sidelines small-scale producers and consumers across the world. This is why CAFOD's "Hungry for Change" campaign is calling for:

- Empowering aid for small-scale farmers, especially women, to help them access markets and increase their income, bargaining power and voice in decisions.
- Checks on the power of global food companies, requiring them to report on the lobbying they do and their impacts on human rights - and to ensure that workers in global supply chains get a fair deal.

CAFOD is also focusing on the choices we make about what we eat and buy. To change the global system, we need to recognise our part in it and live out our desire for a fairer food system. We want to see fundamental changes so that power is justly shared between rich and poor. It's a big task, so we're going to take it one bite at a time. From November 2012 to October 2013, we're asking you to call on Prime Minister David Cameron for a fairer food system.

**3.2 IF Campaign** - DA also informed the meeting that CAFOD along with the four other members of the British Overseas Aid Group (BOAG), Christian Aid, Oxfam, Save the Children & ActionAid, have set up the IF Campaign: <http://enoughfoodif.org>. This campaign was launched at the end of January at Somerset House with celebrity backing; it is asking the British government to take the lead on food justice, as the UK will be hosting this year's G8 summit in Northern Ireland in June. There are four main asks for this campaign:

#### Aid

Enough Food For Everyone IF we give enough aid to stop children dying from hunger and help the poorest families feed themselves.

#### Tax

Enough Food For Everyone IF governments stop big companies dodging tax in poor countries.

#### Land

Enough Food For Everyone IF we stop poor farmers being forced off their land and grow crops to feed people, not fuel cars.

#### Transparency

Enough Food For Everyone IF governments and big companies are honest and open about their actions that stop people getting enough food.

Together, we can make IF happen.

CAFOD is concentrating on the Aid part of the campaign and will be joining the big G8 mobilisation event in London on June 8<sup>th</sup>; there also may be regional events, so the CAFOD Salford Office will keep us informed or visit the CAFOD website: <http://www.cafod.org.uk>.

**3.3 Campaign Postcards** - DA showed the group the new campaign postcards and how they use the idea of the loaves and fishes being multiplied from the Gospel story of the “feeding of the 5,000”. The “fish” section of the cards are meant to be signed by one person who writes a message, prayer or pledge on the fish and then shares the other half of the campaign card, the “loaf” section with a friend who does the same on the loaf, so multiplying the action!

**3.3.1** FU said they would ask parishioners in Padiham to sign the first part of the card in church, so they could ensure at least one half of card was completed, and then people could take the other half home to share with family or friends.

**3.3.2** DA suggested to the group that if any parish wanted to do the campaign card signing after their masses, but were short of people to help, then some members of the CAT group would be willing to travel to help out with card signing. Please contact DA for help.

**4. Emmaus Meal – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm** – DA told the meeting of the spirituality/campaign event being held at St John the Baptist’s Parish Hall in Burnley on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April. It is an opportunity to come together in the Year of Faith as a group/community during our journey through Easter.

**4.1** JHS/AMC then talked about the theme and rough plan of the evening. Through breaking bread together (sharing a small sample of dishes from Kenya, Bangladesh & El Salvador) and reflecting on Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, and the experiences of our brothers and sisters who do not have enough food, our eyes will be opened to the hungry body of Christ in our midst today. They also stressed that it **is not a full evening meal**, but just a taste of the simple dishes our sisters and brothers eat overseas, so attendees should have their tea before coming.

**4.2** FU asked about the planned half day of reflection which had been planned for Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. DA informed everybody that this had been cancelled due to holding the Emmaus Meal in April.

**5. Tour de Fred Sponsored Cycle** – DA introduced this incredible upcoming sponsored event, in which our very own Fred Uttley would be taking centre stage.

**5.1** FU then shared with the group how he came up with the idea of cycling around the dioceses of England & Wales, stopping at each Catholic Cathedral or CAFOD Diocesan office, to raise funds for CAFOD’s work and highlight the “Hungry for Change” campaign.

**5.1.1** Further details for Fred’s amazing cycle can be seen below:

**Fred**, one of our own Salford volunteers, is riding to Cathedrals and CAFOD Diocesan offices across England and Wales on his very own **Tour de Fred** aiming to raise £100,000 for CAFOD & the Hungry for Change campaign. As a local lad, he’s starting from Salford Cathedral on **Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>** and ending up back here three weeks later on. Fred is not a professional cyclist! **Please consider how your parish can get involved in supporting him in this great work:**

1. Parishes can get involved by putting out sponsor sheets for parishioners to sponsor Fred, hold mini-cycling events in their parishes to cycle against hunger, e.g. 5 or 10 miles around a local park such as Towneley or parish schools could hold a sponsored cycle around their school yard.

2. At the moment we're looking for a **touring bike (not a mountain bike)** for him (frame size 19 or 20" probably – i.e. Fred is about 5'8"). So if you can help contact the Salford office on: 0161 705 0605.

3. If anyone wants to join us (I'll be going for part of the way) and cycle some or all of the way (next stop is Leeds...) just let us know. Fred can have up to about 12 people cycling with him, so if you fancy going to Leeds or just part of the way, get in touch with the Salford office.

## **6 NE Area CAT Autumn Social**

**6.1** DA told the meeting about the success of the East Area CAT who held a comedy and folk night early in February to raise money for CAFOD. The folk group, The Hometowners, and compère, Tony Downes, who hosted the night, have offered their services to other CAFOD groups who wish to hold a fundraiser.

**6.1.1** The meeting decided it was best to hold the fundraiser in mid-September at the Knights of St Columba 110 Club in Burnley. DA will contact the Hometowners & Tony Downes to check on their availability and that of the KSC 110 Club.

## **7. CAFOD Monthly Prayers**

**7.1** JHS informed the group of the new monthly prayers which are held on the last Friday of every month at St John the Baptist's Parish Hall in Burnley at 11am. The prayers take place at the same time as the monthly prayers said at Katherine House (Salford Office), so that we can pray together as one CAFOD Salford family. It has been organised to allow CAFOD supporters in the North of the diocese to come together to pray for the work of CAFOD without travelling to Manchester.

**7.1.1** JHS also reminded everybody that the prayers are published on-line just before the last Friday of each month for people to download and use at home or within their parish. To download the prayers, please visit the CAFOD Salford Blog:

<http://cafodsalford.wordpress.com>

**7.1.2** AMC/JHS informed the meeting that the February's & March's monthly prayers would not follow their usual format due to St John's holding their Lenten Friday Soup Lunches.

**Every Friday during Lent, St John's holds a CAFOD Soup Lunch after the 12 noon Mass in the Parish Hall.** Therefore during Lent only a short prayer/grace would be said before the start of the lunch, the next normal monthly prayers would be held on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 11am**: tea and toast followed by prayer.

## **8. Any Other Business (AOB) & Date of Next Meeting**

**8.1 Date of Next Meeting** – It was agreed that the next meeting would be **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm** in St Mary's Parish Hall, Burnley, prior to Harvest Fast Day.

**8.2 Send-Off Party/BBQ for the Tour de Fred** – AMC offered to hold a send off party for Fred before his epic sponsored cycle in June. The date was set for Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm at AMC's house, which is located at 22 Lower Manor Lane, Burnley, BB12 0EB. Everybody is welcome, so please come along to cheer Fred on.

**8.3 50 Fairtrade Favourites** – This is a gentle reminder for everybody, which wasn't brought up at the meeting, that if you require more copies of the CAFOD Salford's "50 Fairtrade

Favourites” recipe book, which includes recipes from members of the NE Area CAT, then please contact me: [dominic.aunger@btinternet.com](mailto:dominic.aunger@btinternet.com) or 07999 512102. It would be a great Easter gift, costs only £5 and any copies sold now would mean the whole £5 would go towards the work of CAFOD, as the costs of producing the book have been covered.

**9. Final Prayer & Goodbyes** – JHS introduced the final payer, which was said together to send us out to spread justice and bring hope and food to the poor. DA thanked everybody for coming on a bitter cold night and wished everybody good luck for LFD and beyond.