

Editor's Note

I am very grateful to all contributors and trust that any minor editing that has been done, mainly due to considerations of space and page layout, has not been to the detriment of the entries.

It is hoped that this little directory can be updated on a regular basis so any suggestions for improvement - or for additional items to be included - will be gratefully received and given very serious consideration.

I hope that it proves of interest and of use to new and old parishioners alike - and that you enjoy reading it.

Special thanks are due to Sarah Down who collated all the entries and to Janet Regan for her meticulous proof reading.

(J. B.)

April 2010

Diocese of Plymouth

St Augustine of Hippo

St Austell

Parish Directory

Times of Masses

SATURDAY	6.00pm
SUNDAY	8.30am
SUNDAY	10.30am
Monday	8.30am (occ)
Tuesday	7.00pm
Wednesday	10.30am
Thursday	7.00pm
Friday	10.30am

**In the absence of a priest during the week
an alternative liturgy will be celebrated.**

Parish Priest Fr Robert Draper

Deacon Rev John Sanders

Plymouth Diocese - Vision Statement

Christopher Bishop of Plymouth

invites us all to become more fully:

A Celebrating Church

expressing what we believe in our worship,
engaging with the gift of liturgy and
allowing ourselves to be renewed by it.

A Caring Church

seeking to understand the sufferings
of those around us, reaching out
and being Christ to one another
and serving the world.

A Learning Church

deepening our understanding of our faith,
humbling ourselves to learn from Our Lord and each other
and discovering our true nature as the Body of Christ.

A Living Church

empowering all around us with the presence and joy
of the Holy Spirit,
proclaiming Christ to the world
and being faithful to our mission.

*The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has
anointed me to set the downtrodden free and give to
the blind new sight. He has sent me to bring the good
news to the poor, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour,
to proclaim liberty to captives. (Luke 4: 18-19)*

visitors to take up gifts at the Offertory and ensure that
enough seats are available.

During Mass

Welcomers ensure that late-comers occupy the rear seats
in the church. They provide ushers during Holy Communion
and ensure that those who are infirm receive communion
at their seats.

After Mass

Part of the duty of a welcomer is to collect and store the
hymn books and music sheets following the service. Hymn
books left in the pews are also collected for storage. They
also hand out the Parish Newsletter to those leaving the
church.

Finally, the welcomer is there for the benefit of parishioners
and visitors to provide information on parish activities.

Being a welcomer improves one's knowledge of the working
of the church and its facilities. It enables the welcomer
to get to know other parishioners. It also ensures that you
arrive at Mass in good time!

Recruitment

This is generally done by example although occasionally
gentle persuasion may be required. Sometimes of course
the direct approach is best.

Means of contact

This may be done before/after Mass or via the Parish
Office

They are able to take expenses out of donations but few if any do this.

8.30am Mass

Tea and coffee, croissants and rolls are served after the 8.30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month and every Sunday during August. On Easter Sunday there is a special Celebration Breakfast which also includes special bread, hard boiled eggs and fair-trade chocolate mini eggs.

These refreshments are provided, prepared and served by a happy band of volunteers, some of whom have been doing so for years.

Welcomers

Welcomers are parishioners who have accepted the responsibility to be, often, the first contact with the parish and church at Mass and other services.

They therefore provide a happy smiling face, are informative and ensure a dignified and reverent entrance to the main body of the church in support of the parish priest before, during and after Mass and other celebrations, all to provide a good experience for the congregation.

Before Mass

Welcomers ensure an uncluttered entrance to the church; prepare hymn books and music sheets and hand them out; provide information on facilities; encourage children to attend the children's liturgy; request parishioners/

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Foreword

St Augustine's church is the place where we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, and that is the heart of our life as Catholics. But that Catholic life expresses itself in many and various ways. A lot of what you will read in here is directly related to the celebration of Mass—that is as it should be for the Mass is the source and summit of our Christian life. But that Christian belonging leads people into all sorts of activity in the cause of the Gospel.

St Iraneus said that the Glory of God was man and woman fully alive—I like to think that might be true of a parish too. Being fully alive means taking seriously our call to be a celebrating, caring, learning and living church. Those four characteristics are part of the Diocesan Vision Statement, and help us to focus on making sure that we take seriously those key aspects as a Catholic Parish in this diocese. The groups and activities outlined in this directory indicate something of how we try to do that. I know that there is a great deal more that is not recorded. I know there is a lot more we can do, nonetheless reading this I hope that, like me, you will be encouraged and affirmed to be part of St Augustine's parish.

Most importantly it is my privilege as parish priest here to be able to thank all those whose efforts are recorded here for their ministry and service to us all — and to the wider community. God bless you.

Fr Robert Draper

Membership

- Open to any parishioner
- Either by invitation or request and with approval of Parish Priest

Contact

Sarah Down (Secretary) or Sharon Mileham (Chairman)
via the Parish Office (01726) 73838

Refreshments on Sunday

We have a dedicated group of volunteers who year after year provide coffee, tea, biscuits and squash to all parishioners and visitors every Sunday after the 10.30 Mass and on special feast days.

A rota is made out each year which includes all phone numbers. Twelve couples recruit their families and friends to help and they take the same month each year. If for any reason they need to change their month this is arranged. After finishing their month they are asked to contact the next person on the rota as a reminder.

New members are recruited by asking individuals directly and they are shown how to operate the boiler etc.

The church provides the tea, coffee, sugar and squash and the volunteers buy four pints of milk and biscuits each week.

Pastoral Co-ordinating Group (PCG)

The PCG

- Advises the Parish Priest, when requested, on all parish matters
- Supports parish life by ensuring that short/mid/long term plans are engaged
- Aspires to represent every person in the parish
- Seeks to relate to *all* parish groups and meetings - either formally or informally
- Discusses openly matters put before it and aims at consensus
- Seeks, through its members, the ideas and opinions of parishioners
- Co-ordinates parish events/special collections to avoid conflict
- Respects confidentiality when applicable.

The Chairman's role is to chair the monthly meeting in such a way as to ensure that the above aims are met and to be available to consult with the Parish Priest when time or confidentiality necessitates.

Meetings

- Second Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm
- Parishioners are welcome to attend, confidentiality permitting.

Being in touch

Most of the life of the parish is co-ordinated through the **parish office** attached to the church and the presbytery. There is usually someone there each weekday morning to deal with most parish business either in person or by phone (01726) 73838.

Most parish events and activities are advertised in the parish newsletter published each week—copies are given out after all Sunday masses.

The notice boards in the church porch carry a wide variety of information about the parish—including a two monthly parish diary—and the wider community.

Also in the porch are some small pamphlets dealing with different aspects of parish life—marriage, baptism, young people, becoming a Catholic and so forth. Please use them especially for friends and family who do not attend mass themselves regularly.

At Lent and Advent a letter is delivered to all addresses in the parish records to keep people in touch for Easter and Christmas. We are grateful to parishioners for delivering these.

Best of all communication happens by word of mouth—pass on information to those near you and also let us know of anything affecting parishioners or others.

OUR CELEBRATING CHURCH

Altar Servers

St Augustine's currently has seven adult servers and three children. Invitations are periodically extended to parishioners, both children and adults, to consider becoming altar servers. Training and continuing formation usually takes place during October to coincide with the new school year, which is considered appropriate for children - but training and formation are ongoing.

The fundamental principles underlying the ministry in the training of servers are:-

1. That servers recognise themselves as part of the celebrating church, not apart from it.
2. That they facilitate the smooth running of the liturgy.
3. That they be aware of what is going on around them on the sanctuary.
4. That they have an economy of movement, leading on to perhaps the most important attribute...
5. That they be invisible.

The overall aim within this ministry is to train our servers to be competent, prayerful and aware of the dignity of their role in the liturgy. Finally, all servers are trained in and become fully conversant with the Child Protection procedures of the diocese.

All enquiries to Paul Hyland (MC / Co-ordinator)
(01726) 850378 or via the Parish Office.

Parish Web Site

www.augustineofhippo.org.uk/

Web Master: Lionel Rigby Tel (01726) 75903

E-mail lionel.rigby@virgin.net

The web site was created by Mark Gibbens. Unfortunately Mark moved away and the site was not updated, so in my limited capacity I have inherited it.

The site is now updated quite regularly, generally once a week, using the news letter given out on Sundays as a source for news information, or on demand should something suddenly arise.

The site can be developed further but for this I could do with ideas from others or material from others. Meanwhile I carry on doing what I think best.

Things I intend to add in the near future are:

1. More current photographs
2. A page on anniversaries (deaths) split into monthly sections. The current month would be automatically displayed with scroll bar to locate other months.
3. Pages for Baptisms & Weddings showing brief details and if possible relevant pictures. This would build up over a period of time to form some form of historical record.

Unfortunately the site is not viewed by others very often, as can be seen by the low hit counter value. (L. R.)

Meetings are announced in the parish newsletter.

Activities undertaken by our local council vary from encouraging young people to partake in conferences and competitions organised nationally by the Order, campaigning against legislation that favours abortion and euthanasia, supporting national and local charities and gathering to pray for the good of the Church and our members, past and present.

More information can be obtained by contacting John Ballard on (01726) 61206

The Linen Rota

The Linen Rota consists of a group of up to twelve ladies (at present there are ten), who take home the altar linen for the period of one month and return it laundered, starched and ironed, ready for use again at the Table of the Lord.

All the ladies on the rota carry out this ministry conscientiously and unobtrusively. We would, of course, be happy to welcome men to the rota, and in the past one lady's husband willingly helped out with the ironing.

From time to time, after constant laundering, some of the items need to be replaced and we then call upon the ladies of the Sewing Group, who make what is required and the various boxes of Purificators, Corporals or Palls are once again topped up.

Anyone interested in carrying out this ministry can contact Jenny Sanders on (01726) 74911 or the Parish Office.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Liturgy of the Word for the children of the parish is provided by a group of ten liturgists at the 10.30 Mass on Sunday mornings throughout the year and at the Lord's Passion, Good Friday.

At present we have one group of children of all ages, but as the numbers of very young children increase again we hope to split into two groups, one for pre-school children and the other from school age upwards, as we have had in the past.

We use the Complete Children's Liturgy by Katie Thompson, which provides a complete programme for every Sunday and major feast.

The liturgists prepare their sessions to allow the children to listen to and understand the Word of God at their own level. The sessions include the Gospel reading and a discussion or perhaps acting-out, sorry prayers or the children's own intentions and an activity.

In accordance with Diocesan Guidelines, all the liturgists have had the necessary C.R.B. Checks, which would apply to anyone interested in this very rewarding ministry. Should anyone be interested then please contact Jenny Sanders on (01726) 74911 or contact the Parish Office.

Eucharistic Ministers

At St Augustine's the lay ministry of Eucharistic Minister is undertaken by some forty people.

An induction course is undertaken by all prospective Eucharistic Ministers prior to commissioning. Their role is to assist the priest to distribute the Precious Body and Blood of Christ at all Masses and to take the Body of Christ to the sick and housebound.

A rota system is in place which lasts for thirteen weeks. Ten Ministers are required at the three Sunday Masses. A separate rota covers special occasions such as Easter and Christmas.

Communion is taken to the sick and housebound who are at home, in hospital, at the hospice or in residential or nursing homes. A visit by Fr Robert is made first.

Over a dozen ministers go out to the sick and housebound and if possible cover the area where they live. No one goes out without having first been shown by another minister, who accompanies them until they feel confident to go out on their own. Each has their own communion bag. The number of sick at any one time can be as many as fifteen.

Spiritual guidance is undertaken by Fr Robert and Deacon John or another invited person. Yearly invitations are sent to the churches in the Cornwall Deanery inviting Eucharistic Ministers to come together for a day or afternoon of spiritual guidance.

The Gardens

I am responsible for the upkeep of the gardens and am usually around all day on Fridays. The work involves grass cutting, planting, weeding etc. I also ensure the front of the church is free of litter and any unwanted items.

I make a regular survey of all trees, pruning where possible or advising the need for tree surgeons and overseeing their work. Preparing the Memorial Garden for interments, and making good is part of my duties, as is keeping a record of all interments. I make sure all dead flowers etc are removed and that this garden is kept to a high standard.

Given the extensive grounds, any plants, shrubs or bulbs are always welcome.

Paul Briscoe (Gardener)

Knights of St Columba

The Knights of St Columba are an Order of Catholic laymen dedicated to the service of the Church and the good of mankind. The organisation, which is non-political and essentially democratic, exists to support the mission of the Catholic Church and at the same time to work for the spiritual and material good of the members and their families.

Our local Council is Council 420. It is based in Bodmin and is the only remaining KSC Council in Cornwall. We meet, however, alternately in Bodmin and at St Augustine's Church, St Austell. Meetings are currently held every three months on the last Sunday of the month at 3.30 pm.

For more information on making a Will or the advantages of leaving your estate or part of it to the Church - pick up a form from the Church Porch or contact:

The Diocesan Financial Secretary,

Rosary House,

Fore St.,

Heavitree,

Exeter EX1 2QJ

Tel (01392) 55046

The Diocese is a registered charity (number 213227)

Friendship Group

We hold a meeting every month and are open to all.

We consist at present of fourteen members, the bulk of whom are widows.

Our meeting starts with Prayers and a Reading followed by Minutes and an up-date on any sick members. We enjoy a quiz or games, followed by tea and biscuits plus general chit-chat. There is a raffle each month and the proceeds go to charity. We end with closing prayers.

Our main function is keeping in touch in time of need, offering support by prayer, phone or letter.

For further details, contact Trudy Whiston (Co-ordinator)
Telephone (01726) 63206

Flower Group

The Flower group has sixteen ladies at the moment, many established members and several new members. We are always ready to welcome new members who can join by contacting myself on (01726) 850378 or after mass or via the parish office.

Our aim is to enhance the liturgy of the church and mark the feasts and seasons. We do this by using flowers, foliage, twigs or rocks to highlight and focus on the different areas of the church at varying times.

There is a yearly rota where each member is responsible for staging arrangements for a fortnight at a time. At Christmas and Easter all available members work together as the whole church is decorated. We also work as a group when arranging flowers for weddings.

In 2006 we had a very successful flower festival. The theme was THE SAINTS. There were thirty arrangements, many arranged by our own members, with a few from people from other churches.

Normally we have two meetings a year and at least one social get-together or outing to a local garden. In 2009 we visited Lamorran gardens (we all recommend a visit if you've not been) followed by a super meal at a local inn. A great day with superb weather.

We now run monthly workshops called 'Fun with Flowers' which everyone is welcome to attend. We endeavour to do a different theme each month e.g. Seasonal, Recycle, Style and Structure. The form of the evening is a demon-

stration, followed by 'hands on' for those who wish with refreshments and a raffle. These evenings have been very successful, great fun and hopefully informative.

Details of future events are advertised in the weekly newsletter.

Angela Hyland (Flower Group Co-ordinator)

Music Group

The ministry of the music Group is to support the liturgical worship of the Church, regularly at 10.30 a.m. Mass on Sundays and also for the major celebrations of the Church. We meet to practise from 6.00—7.00 p.m. on Friday evenings. New singers and musicians are always most welcome to join us. Please contact Teresa Fooks, Tel: 01726 72857

Prayers of the Faithful (Bidding Prayers)

The prayers of the faithful at Sunday Mass are the prayers which we as a community wish to offer; they are prayers which relate to the readings and themes of the mass of the day. This is an important ministry, open to all of us, to help us in our communal prayer.

At present existing groups are invited to write prayers for the Sunday liturgy. To ensure a smooth operating of the system, Pam Murray arranges the rota and notifies parish groups in good time. Please communicate with her

Legacy

A Parish has enormous costs to meet:

- ensuring that its church is a suitable home for the Blessed Sacrament and for the people who worship there. This entails regular and, often expensive, maintenance and repair, and occasionally, improvements. There is also the presbytery to consider and administrative and social areas.
- looking after its clergy serving in the parish - their housing expenses and personal income.
- making its contribution to the many and varied needs of the Diocese—its work in our schools and seminaries, the training of priests and deacons, the support of the Bishop and the provision for priests who are sick or retired, child protection and many other activities.
- playing its part in the spiritual and pastoral life of the local community, the Diocese and the universal church.

Making a Will is the only way you can be sure that your property and belongings go exactly where you want them to go. If you have no surviving relatives and die without a Will, your estate would pass to the state.

If your estate would be subject to Inheritance Tax:

Any legacy to the Plymouth Diocesan Trust (whether for general use or for use in your parish) will be exempt from Inheritance Tax and will reduce the overall tax liability of your estate.

Overall, for every pound that you give, the Church will get an extra 28p. So if you give £2 per week, that's £104 in a year from your taxed income—allowing the Church to reclaim an extra £29.12.

You make a "Gift Aid declaration" to the Church, either in writing or verbally. The Church can then reclaim the tax you have paid. There has to be a record of what you give, so we ask you either to use envelopes for cash, give by cheque or give by bankers order. The declaration will cover everything you give.

It costs you absolutely nothing! You are giving to the Church anyway, this simply asks the Government to redirect to the Church some of the tax you have paid them.

What should I do now for the Church to benefit from my tax?

Simply contact your Parish Organiser for a Diocesan Gift Aid Form or for any further information:

The name of your Parish Organiser is Tom Regan

Tel: (Home number) (01726) 815532

(Parish Office) (01726) 73838

regarding any issues such as timing or particular Sundays you would like to prepare the prayers for. Paul Hyland makes sure the prayers are used on the right Sunday and will make any necessary adjustments. He is also able to respond to sudden issues in the news.

Fr Robert suggests that usually five brief petitions is adequate; they should normally follow a sequence praying for:

- The Church and its leaders (in wide sense)
- Those in authority in this country and/or the world
- Any particular current issue (e.g. natural disaster)
- Those in need of special prayer at this time
- The dead

More information is to be found in the Notes for Guidance (Bidding Prayers) obtainable from the office or sacristy.

A Provisions Basket for Homeless People and Refugees is in the Narthex

It forms part of the Offertory Procession at all weekend Masses. The basket is emptied regularly and the contents are given to local agencies helping the homeless and to the Masiandae Centre for Refugees in Plymouth.

Donations of tinned and dried food are always welcomed. There is a list of suggested foods in the narthex. (Please make sure all food is still in date.)

Readers

At St Augustine's the lay ministry of Reader is undertaken by some thirty-six people.

A rota system is in place which lasts for thirteen weeks. Nine Readers are required to cover the three Sunday Masses, a different person for each reading and the Responsorial Psalm. A separate rota covers special occasions such as Easter and Christmas.

A 'Guide for Readers' is available giving practical advice and an explanation of the message of the Sunday Readings throughout the year. Whenever possible extra help is provided to improve the proclaiming of the Word.

The quarterly rota is drawn up by Rosemary Jeffries who can be contacted via the parish office.

Sewing Group

Aims and purposes within the parish:-

1. Repairs to vestments, making altar linen.
2. New projects: i.e. Banners and hangings for the church, Baptismal collars for young children and albs for the adults being received.
3. Mother Teresa knitting, sewing etc. Now for 'Feed the Children' charity, in conjunction with and with the blessing of the Missionaries of Charity.
4. Craftwork for fêtes and bazaars.
5. Fellowship and support among members.

Meetings are held on a regular basis when a project is

Parish Debt

We are very proud of our Church building and the resources we have at St Augustine's—they certainly help us to have a very active parish life.

The new church and its facilities were built and opened in 1990. The cost was approximately £750,000. A third of that cost was raised at that time locally. A third was given as a grant from the Diocese and the balance was given as a loan by the Diocese.

By April 2009 the debt had been reduced to £26,000.

A legacy, left to the parish by a former parishioner has enabled the debt to be paid off.

We are very grateful for this legacy and to all those who so generously donated and helped over the years to pay off the loan.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid is the scheme used by charities and donors to reclaim tax on charitable giving. It means that if you are a tax payer the Church can reclaim tax on all your donations, increasing income by almost a third on top of what you give. It can cover all giving, whether by weekly or monthly offertory, irregular donations or single one-off donations. Your tax is repaid to charities at the basic rate equivalent, but as long as you have paid enough tax, whatever the rate, then your giving is eligible.

Finance

The parish has a Finance Committee composed of: Fr Robert, Deacon John Sanders, Mrs Sarah Down, Mrs Judith Pearce, Mrs Karen Waters and Mr Tom Regan.

The accounts are compiled and prepared by the Parish Secretary, Mrs Down. I am the Gift Aid Organiser and Treasurer.

Finance Meetings take place at least twice a year. All members are in regular contact and are able to discuss areas of finance as required.

The parish has an annual Open Meeting, usually in early Summer. Copies of the previous three years' accounts are distributed and discussed. Copies are available in the Narthex throughout the year for parishioners and visitors.

The previous year's accounts are used as a Budget guide for the following year's control.

All appeals for increasing Finance such as General Giving and Gift Aid are discussed at Finance Committee meetings.

Four members of the Finance Committee are on the Parish Co-ordinating Group, which enables the committee to keep abreast of the ongoing requirements of the various groups within the parish.

Tom Regan

Tel (01726) 815532

email address tjregan@fsmail.net

being worked on. For instance, for 2010 there are plans for new Lent, Advent and November banners. At other times our 6/7 regular members work on items 1, 3 and 4 above, at home in their spare time!

The Sewing Group was formed in 1996 primarily to make banners for hanging in the church for the various seasons and festivals, helping us to reflect on particular events in the liturgical calendar.

We have learnt from each other and found we have talents we didn't know we had. We talk about our faith and support each other, sharing our experiences outside the church. Most meetings are full of warmth, love, caring and concern. We hope that our work provides a friendly welcome into the church for parishioners and visitors alike and that our work enhances our Celebrating Church.

Ann Bassett (Co-ordinator) Tel (01726) 61211

ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

~ REPOSITORY ~

ST CUTHBERT MAYNE ROOM

AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES

CARDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS ~

SELECTION OF RELIGIOUS ITEMS ~

BIBLES, MISSALS, GIFTS ETC.

OUR CARING CHURCH

Apostleship of the Sea

Apostleship of the Sea is the Catholic Ministry to Sailors.

The parish of St Austell is the parish for the port of Fowey.

Under the regional Lay Chaplain, Brian Cassidy, the parish currently has trained four ship visitors who visit the crews on board their ships in the ports twice weekly, welcoming them to the area, providing a service of help and hospitality, offering a listening ear and helping to uphold their rights and dignity.

As 90% of world trade is carried by ship and up to 60% of seafarers come from a Catholic background, there is a real need for both practical and spiritual support. These international crews can spend up to ten months of each year at sea and away from home and family.

Within the parish there is a growing band of supporters who both pray for seafarers and provide practical support to the ship visitors through an Apostolate of Prayer that meets every two months within the parish.

New members are always welcome.

Port Chaplain:- Deacon Brian Cassidy Mob: 7760769124

who is based at St Mary & St Petroc R C Church, Bodmin.

Ann Bassett is our parish contact for AOS. She can be contacted on (01726) 61211

tionships, to seek a common mind, and to make decisions together;

(b) to encourage churches to worship, pray and reflect together on the nature and purpose of the church in the light of its mission - each church sharing with others the treasures of its tradition;

(c) to enable the churches to live and share the Gospel, to evangelise together and to take further steps towards fuller unity;

(d) to enable the churches to respond to the needs of society and to witness to the Gospel together.

Regular meetings take place throughout each year to discuss and formulate joint responses to the various needs and activities in which the Churches participate in a spirit of cooperation, witness and unity.

If you are interested in this mission, for further details, contact Fr. Robert or Deacon John.

St Petroc's Society

(Serving single homeless people in Cornwall)

**would like to thank all parishioners for their
generous gifts of food and clothing over the years.**

Please keep on giving.

We are always short of sleeping bags.

Visit our website ~ www.stpetrocs.org.uk

Telephone ~ 01872 264153

Address ~ 8 City Rd Truro TR1 2JJ

controversial to our setup and write to our Members of Parliament or whatever we deem necessary.

Each year we nominate a special charity whom we support as we are able. We also arrange a summer outing and Christmas Lunch when we really enjoy ourselves.

We would welcome any new members, so just come along one Tuesday evening to join us, or if you would prefer, contact St Austell 74735 for more information and an introduction.

Sylvia Ryan (Chairman)

Churches Together in St. Austell (CTSA).

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ST AUSTELL unites in pilgrimage those Churches in the greater St Austell area which, acknowledging God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit, commit themselves:-

- to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is His body; and
- to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The aims of Churches Together in St Austell are:-

(a) to enable the churches, as pilgrims together, to explore the Christian faith together, to develop mutual rela-

Bereavement Support

The Death of a loved one is one of the most traumatic experiences of our lives and the journey through bereavement can be a very isolating and disturbing experience. There is no way we can prepare ourselves for this journey because only when it has begun do we discover how our grief will manifest itself.

Everyone's journey of coping with grief is different, but there are five well known stages many people go through. Shock and Numbness; Sadness and Depression; Anger; Guilt; Acceptance. Between these stages and over different lengths of time we drift forwards and backwards sometimes in a confusion of human emotions and can feel very unwell ourselves.

Here at St Augustine's we are very sensitive towards our mourning members of the family of the Church. We support the bereaved by having a Month Mind Mass. This mass brings a little comfort and healing to the grieving in the knowledge that we are still thinking and praying for them and for the loved one who has died.

As time goes on, we understand that special anniversaries and family celebrations can be very difficult and painful. Contact is made, with reassurance of our thoughts and prayers, just before the first Christmas and at the first anniversary of the death.

Occasionally, a photograph and candle are placed near the Memorial Book at the time of the funeral. The

Memorial Book is a constant reminder of our deceased parishioners. During Easter Week we have a Memorial Mass for those who have died over the previous two years. At the beginning of this mass candles bearing the names of deceased loved ones are lit from the Paschal Candle and placed along the Sanctuary steps by family members or friends. In its gentleness, this mass brings the deceased back to us by strengthening the memories and it helps the healing process by lifting the spirits of the grieving.

Janet Regan Tel (01726) 815532

Blessed Mother Teresa Group

Aims and purposes within the parish:

1. Support the Missionaries of Charity with our prayers.
2. Now we are no longer able to send blankets, knitted items etc to India (stopped 2005) we do these works now for **FEED THE CHILDREN** charity which sends to Africa with the blessing of the Missionaries of Charity.
3. We work in conjunction with the Parish Sewing Group. We also support the **APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA** with knitted hats and clothing, and toiletry supplies, especially at Christmas time.

Meetings: We do not meet on a regular basis but knit etc from home. We meet up with 7/8 groups from all over Cornwall for our Annual Quiet Day in October, when we exchange news, updates and fellowship.

nical and business expertise.

Membership is by invitation to men over 21 years who are and remain practising Catholics.

Circle President: George Phillips Tel (01726) 844611

Catholic Women's League

We have 18-20 members. We meet the last Tuesday of the month at St Augustine's after Mass at 7.30 pm. Occasionally we meet in the afternoons to accommodate the older members etc.

Our aims are to support our Parish Priest whenever necessary, to be involved in all Parish needs, support various charities and promote ecumenism among other things.

We have a speaker most months on all manner of subjects of interest and as our ecumenical outreach we invite other churches to some of our events and we support the Women's World Day of Prayer.

We have one or two day Retreats to encourage our spiritual life, one with the nuns at Padstow and the yearly one with Fr David at his Retreat Centre.

We often invite the parish to our meetings, especially to our Lenten Lunch, cream teas for the Children's Hospice South West and our Cheese and Wine and Auction Evening. These we hold every year and we also invite them to any other evening that may be of interest to them.

We are also aware of things happening that might be

The gardens are maintained by a part-time gardener. Regular inspections and remedial work are carried out on an ongoing basis.

Tom Regan

Tel: (01726) 815532 email: tjregan@fsmail.net

The Catenians (Duchy of Cornwall Circle 131)

The Catenian Association is an international brotherhood of Catholic men, active within their individual parishes. They meet socially monthly to offer friendship and support to each other and their families.

Meetings take place monthly on the first Tuesday. They are preceded by an informal dinner at which brothers exchange views, problems, family matters and parish matters in a relaxed and confidential way.

There is a quarterly ladies' lunch to which the wives and families are invited, thus increasing the circle of friends across the parishes covered by the Circle. On *Gaudete* Sunday a Christmas party is held for wives, families and guests.

Visiting gentlemen are welcomed to all functions.

Ad hoc functions are arranged throughout the year, typically river trips, visits to gardens, support for special masses at Plymouth and the occasional theatre visit.

Parish Clergy may call upon a Catenian who will usually agree to help. Catenians provide an available pool of tech-

Newsletters are received from the Sisters 2/3 times a year.

Co-ordinator: Ann Bassett Tel (01726) 61211

Justice and Peace Group

The present group was formed in 1998 to encourage parish participation in the Covenant with the Poor, which marked the diocese's commitment to justice and peace issues at the turn of the millennium. The priorities laid out in our Parish Covenant remain our guiding principles and they are updated regularly.

We see it as our role to pray for peace, to raise awareness in the parish, to advise the parish priest on Justice and Peace matters and to support our parish CAFOD representative, who is a member of the J&P group.

We are not a fundraising group as such but in Advent and Lent we co-ordinate seasonal giving by organising the Advent Giving Tree and Lenten Alms and suggesting suitable charities. We also speak briefly after Mass the week before the two annual CAFOD Fast Days.

Members represent various interests: CAFOD; Traidcraft; FOSTAH (Friends of St Austell Homeless); St Petroc's Society; Refugees; Pax Christi and, until recently, Amnesty International - however we hope to continue to support Amnesty's work for prisoners of conscience.

The group is open to all. We even have interested members from outside the church and are keen to work with

other denominations in the town. Meetings are held every first Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm in St Cuthbert Mayne room after the evening service. All meetings are minuted and copies of the minutes are circulated at the Pastoral Co-ordination Group meeting the following Thursday. This ensures good communication and effective action.

Anyone interested in joining us can simply come along to a meeting or ring John Ballard on 01726 61206 or contact the parish office.

Pastoral Care in Hospital

As a parish we are very concerned that, when any member of the parish is in hospital, they have the pastoral care they need at that time. It is always helpful if you can let the parish office know if you or anyone close to you from the parish is in hospital or is going into hospital. In that way we can arrange for visits, anointing and Holy Communion when appropriate.

For **St Austell (Penrice) and Fowey Hospitals and Mount Edgcombe Hospice**, pastoral care and Chaplaincy is based at St Augustine's (01726) 73838.

For **Treliske Hospital, Truro**, you should contact St Piran's Catholic Church at Truro (01872 272291) or the Hospital Chaplaincy Office (01872 252883) or the Roman Catholic Hospital Chaplain, Sister Carmel on (01209 215806).

For **Derriford Hospital in Plymouth** the Catholic

Take and Read

Take and Read is a way of studying the bible in a reflective and prayerful way within a group. The group follows the "Take and Read" books written/edited by Father Adrian Graffy and in this year of the Church 2009/2010 we are using the book "The Gospel according to Luke". The sessions, held on the second Tuesday of each month, last approximately one hour and are open to anyone who would like to come along and join this 'self help' group. For further information please contact the Parish Office in the first instance.

OUR LIVING CHURCH

Buildings

The ongoing maintenance of the buildings is controlled through Deacon John Sanders and Mr Tom Regan.

The redecoration of the buildings is carried out over a 6/7 year cycle.

Safety Inspections are carried out for Health and safety and Insurance purposes as follows:

Gas Safety Inspections Annually

Portable Electrical Test Annually

Safety Alarm System Annually

Electric Installations Five Yearly

Structural Survey Five Yearly

SAFFA GROUP

The Saffa Youth Group is a group for young people in school years 5 to 8 (10 years old to 13 years old approximately). Our principal aim is to bring these young people together in a relaxed atmosphere to socialise within a faith group.

We meet nine or ten times a year on a Saturday afternoon from 2.30 until 5.30 during which time we have a variety of activities such as quizzes, drama, arts and crafts and prayer, based on a theme connected with our Catholic Faith. There is also social time and games to enable them to keep in touch with each other as they attend several different schools in the area.

We invite new members to the group by a notice in the parish newsletter at the commencement of the new academic year. We also gather new contact details from the catechism groups and when possible visit the most senior catechism group in their final term before they leave catechism, to talk to them about the Saffa group. Once we have registered each young person as a member, they are sent a calendar of dates for the next year and they receive an individual invitation, by post, to each event.

The contact details for the group are via the Parish Office or to Sue Phillips (01726) 61500

Chaplain is Father Martin Rossman on (01752 667433) or the Hospital Chaplaincy Office (01752 792313).

For **Bodmin Community Hospital** you should contact the Catholic Church in Bodmin on (01208 72833)

For **St Michael's Hayle**, you should contact the Catholic Church in St Ives (01736 796412)

Working for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

The Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support Council runs a centre in Plymouth, called the Masiandae Centre, to cater for the needs of refugees and asylum seekers.

St Augustine's Justice and Peace group is very concerned about the problems faced by the centre at present and tries to react accordingly.

Since Plymouth is a good distance away, we are currently directing our efforts to the contribution of food and the type of clothing they might need. Donations of money are given whenever possible.

This is achieved mainly by:

- The Provisions Basket which is left in the narthex and given regular publicity. Food donated in the basket is also shared with local homeless.
- The Advent Giving Tree, which attracts gifts in kind and also donations of money.
- Occasional gifts during the year.

Deliveries are made regularly to Plymouth by car. We

remain open to any advice or offers of help that we may receive. The Co-ordinator is Dorothy O'Shea, who may be contacted via the Paris Office.

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults

The church has adopted a National Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult policy. The church recognises the personal dignity and rights of children and vulnerable adults towards whom it has a special responsibility. The church and individual members of it undertake to do all in their power to create a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults.

The role of the Safeguarding Representative is to ensure members of groups involved with ministries working with children are aware of national policies and received appropriate training. The Representative is responsible for the administration and paperwork, references and completion of the criminal records disclosure process for volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults.

The Representative is a link between the parish and the diocesan Safeguarding Office.

We are all responsible for the protection of children and vulnerable adults and responding appropriately. If anyone has a concern about the well being of a child or vulnerable adult this should be communicated directly to the Representative or relevant statutory agency.

Safeguarding representative: Karen Walters

Tel 01726 842371 E-mail karenwaters@hotmail.co.uk

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

This group has been running in St Austell Parish since 1988. Over the years we have been pleased to have welcomed many new converts. We have only had one year in all that time with no enquiries.

We meet once a week from September until Easter.

Our meetings are normally in three sessions:

- 1.** Opening Prayers and explorations of the Sunday readings.
- 2.** A main theme such as "Catholics and Mary" or "The Mass" or "Prayer" and many more.
- 3.** We end with prayers - either night prayers or we prepare a liturgy of our own.

After Easter the group continues to meet for several more weeks to explore how they now feel, now that they are in full communion with us.

Each year during August we put a message in the parish newsletter asking if there is anyone who would like to come to our meetings. We also encourage parishioners to let us know if they have had any enquiries about becoming a Catholic.

We are proud of the fact that most of our converts are now very involved in parish life and a great joy to us all.

Pauline Grigg (RCIA Co-ordinator)

Marriage Preparation

No, no, we are not talking here about wedding dresses, bouquets, venues or table plans. We are talking about preparing couples with life skills for the ups and downs of marriage, which begin somewhere after the honeymoon is over and just before the thank you letters are written and posted!

After the wedding date has been set and before the deposits are paid on the above, we encourage couples to come to a Marriage Preparation Session. With a great deal of humour and sharing of stories the facilitators guide the couples through talks, quizzes and questionnaires which will help them to unravel their expectations of marriage, how they will achieve this and the realistic truths about what their partners think about that! We talk about communication, respect, relationships, compromise and commitment but above all to cherish each other.

Marriage is a blessed union of two people, drawn together by the God-given gift of love. A love that with nurturing grows richer and deeper as time goes by. A good marriage is sustaining, healing and a safe place to grow with confidence into the people God wants us to be.

Couples go away with plenty of food for thought and discussion. They also know that there is support within the parish during this time and long after the wedding day.

Janet Regan Tel (01726) 815532

Traidcraft

At St Augustine's we are fully committed to supporting Fair Trade. We do this mainly through 'Traidcraft'. Traidcraft works in partnership with poor and small scale producer groups and is committed to investing in their development, thus helping them to build sustainable businesses. Traidcraft also lobbies governments to help those disadvantaged by unfair trade agreements. Once a month, after all weekend masses we have a **Traidcraft Stall** (Look out for dates in the [Newsletter](#) and on the [Notice Board](#) in the porch) where all can buy from a large variety of fairly traded goods. We also try to ensure that all refreshments regularly served on church premises are fairly traded.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL

ST CUTHBERT MAYNE ROOM

EVERY MONTH AFTER WEEKEND MASSES

Fairly traded tea, coffee and sugar

Palestinian olive oil

Fairtrade chocolate and sweets

Fairtrade cereals and biscuits

Fairly traded handicrafts and gifts

... AND MUCH MORE

OUR LEARNING CHURCH

Baptism Preparation Group

This group has been running in St Augustine's Parish for about twelve years.

Its main function is to make sure that parents are fully aware of what they are taking on in asking for baptism for their children and to make sure that they understand the commitment of bringing up their children in the faith.

We aim to involve all the family and make the actual day very special for them. A member of the baptismal team is always with them during the baptism to make sure they feel loved and wanted.

After baptism we keep in contact with the families by sending a card for the first six years on the anniversary. The last card we send also contains a letter for the parents informing them that it is now time for their child to prepare for First Holy Communion.

Even when families are lapsed from the faith this quite often brings them back to us - so a little dual purpose here.

Pauline Grigg

Baptism Co-ordinator

Children's Catechesis

The catechists and children meet together every Wednesday afternoon from 4.30pm until 5.30pm during term time. (Although most of our children arrive earlier for the all important drink and a biscuit!)

Our children follow the "Walk with me" religious education programme which also encourages family involvement. Children are welcome to join us once they are six years old, Year 2 at school.

There are three groups, Group 1 - our youngest children; Group 2 - 7-8 years old, preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and Group 3 - our older children, where we focus on the Gospel and how it relates to the world today.

As Co-ordinator, my function is to be the first point of contact for parents, whether it is to register their child/ children or to pass on any necessary information. I arrange occasional meetings with the catechists and liaise with Father Robert whenever necessary. I ensure that there is adequate equipment/material for each child - including the biscuits! And notify parents of any changes to our regular sessions, i.e. Children's Penitential Service, Ash Wednesday Service, Children's Advent Party etc.

If you would like your child to join the Catechism Class to learn more about their faith and have some fun too, please contact me, Jenny Sanders, on (01726) 74911 or phone the Parish Office.