



The Anglican Centre in Rome

promoting Christian Unity in a divided world

President – The Archbishop of Canterbury
Patron – The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster
Chairman – Bishop Stephen Platten
Director – Archbishop David Moxon KNZM

NEWSLETTER FOR DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES &

UK FRIENDS OF THE ANGLICAN CENTRE IN ROME

Number 8 – May 2017

PROMOTE INTEREST – PROMOTE PRAYER – PROMOTE FUNDING

1. Introduction

This third newsletter of the year follows Newsletter 7 closely to inform you primarily of the appointment of the new UK Development Officer. We are delighted to welcome Catherine Pepinster who until recently served as Editor of *The Tablet*. It also provides an update of some of the events which take place during the next two months and of an important event in the Northern Province in October.

2. UK Development Officer

The following press release occurred on 18 April 2017:

The Governors of the Anglican Centre in Rome are delighted to announce the appointment of Catherine Pepinster as the UK Development Officer for the Anglican Centre in Rome. For the last thirteen years Catherine has been Editor of *The Tablet* and as such brings a wealth of experience and understanding of the ecumenical scene.

Catherine's role will be to co-ordinate the fundraising activities of the Centre in the United Kingdom, working with our UK Development Committee, chaired by the Revd Dr Jamie Hawkey, the Dean of Clare College, Cambridge, to plan and implement marketing and fundraising activities to ensure that annual running costs of the Centre are fully funded and to deliver The Golden Jubilee Appeal campaign to raise £3million in the UK to endow the activities of the Centre for the longer term. The Golden Jubilee Appeal was launched by the Archbishop of Canterbury last October during his memorable visit to Rome to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Anglican Centre.

Dr Jamie Hawkey, Chairman of the UK Development Committee, said

Catherine Pepinster brings immense experience and distinction as a highly-respected journalist of international standing, and as a prominent Roman Catholic utterly committed to the goal of Christian Unity. We look forward to harnessing her energy, vision and imagination, especially as we continue to develop our Endowment Appeal which will ensure the Centre's exciting work well into the future."

Ms Catherine Pepinster said

As someone with both a Catholic and Anglican family, I am personally deeply committed to furthering the ecumenical cause. During the last 13 years as editor of *The Tablet*, I saw at close hand the vital work of the Anglican Centre. When I visited the Centre during its fiftieth anniversary celebrations last year I was particularly struck by the goodwill that it has generated and the strong partnerships that exist between Catholics and Anglicans, not least between Pope Francis and the Archbishop of Canterbury. I am delighted to now help develop and sustain the Anglican Centre's work to build relations between the Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church.

The Right Revd Dr Stephen Platten, Chairman, said

This is splendid news. Catherine brings enormous knowledge, enthusiasm and experience from within the Roman Catholic community and beyond. This will broaden the network that the Anglican Centre serves both in Britain and worldwide.

3. UK Development Committee

The UK committee structure has been streamlined. There is now one committee with eight members under the chairmanship of The Reverend Dr James Hawkey who is now Dean of Clare College, Cambridge having been Precentor of Westminster Abbey. The Reverend Canon Mark Williams, Vicar of St John the Divine, Kennington in the Diocese of Southwark, is Vice Chairman. The other members are:

The Reverend Martin Macdonald – Governor and Treasurer; The Reverend Barry Nichols - Secretary to the Governors; The Reverend Lesley Perry - PR and Communications; Dr James Thomson – UK Friends and Diocesan Representatives and The Right Reverend Norman Banks. There is one Vacancy. Each member has a specific responsibility. The Committee will meet six times a year.

Others who have served in a variety of capacities will remain as the UK Consultants Group and will meet at least once a year.

It is our hope that this reorganisation will result in greater efficiency and improved communication.

4. Current Events

- **Vespers at Westminster Cathedral – Friday 19 May 2017, starting at 1600**
Details are contained in the attached poster and have been previously circulated.
- **The Anglican Communion Day of Prayer for The Anglican Centre in Rome – Sunday 28 May 2017**
Dr James Hawkey has circulated this letter to the Cathedral Deans:

Each year in the Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer, the Sunday nearest the feast of St Augustine of Canterbury is designated as a Communion-wide day of prayer for the work of the Anglican Centre in Rome. I write to ask you to pray for us and with us this year on Sunday 28th May. Alongside all the other elements of development to which the Centre is currently committed, our first priority is prayer for the unity of the Church, and for a common witness to Christ in the life of the world. We would be immensely grateful if you and your Precentor would consider praying for the Centre on 28th May.

As you know, 2016 marked the Anglican Centre's Golden Jubilee. We had some extraordinary celebrations in Rome and in the UK. Pope Francis and Archbishop Justin celebrated Vespers together in San Gregorio al Celio last October, when pairs of Anglican and Roman Catholic bishops were commissioned by Pope and Archbishop for joint mission in their own contexts. In January, HRH The Prince of Wales honoured the Centre with his presence at a reception to celebrate the Golden Jubilee in Lambeth Palace, and at the beginning of March, Archbishop Moxon presided at the historic first celebration of Anglican Choral Evensong in St Peter's Basilica. The Choir of Merton College, Oxford, sang this remarkably moving service in the sanctuary at the Altar of Chair, and the Secretary of the Congregation of Divine Worship, Archbishop Arthur Roche, preached. Our English network of Diocesan representatives for the Centre to galvanize support and interest across the whole country is now complete, and we are about to pioneer similar groups in Scotland and Ireland. Archbishop Moxon visited the Northern Province for several full days in January, and many more people are getting involved in the Centre's work. Archbishop Bernard Ntahoturi of Burundi will succeed Archbishop Moxon in September this year, and we look forward to the many gifts he will bring to the role.

The Centre's main challenges continue to be financial. We have made a good start with our Golden Jubilee Appeal, but the annual funding of the Centre's work remains a pressing need until we have established a satisfactory endowment. Many of our supporters have generously pledged the donation of their collection from services on Sunday 28th May, and if you felt able to do the same we would be profoundly grateful.

Above all, please do join us in prayer on Sunday 28th May in thanksgiving and hope as we echo the Lord's own prayer, that his followers may be one, that the world may believe. We are immensely grateful for your continuing support.

Any help you can give promoting this important day in your diocese and its parishes will be much appreciated. **Please promote interest, promote prayer and if possible promote the idea of a collection to support the Centre's work.**

- **Visit to St Albans Abbey – Thursday 22 June 2017, starting at 1700**

A poster with details of this event is attached. We are most grateful to Mr Christopher Melliush, UK Consultant, for his initiative in organising this occasion which is being held on the Feast-day of St Alban, first Martyr of Britain.

1700 Choral Evensong; 1800 Tour of the Abbey; 1900 reception with a welcome by the Dean of St Albans and an update about the work of the Centre.

5. Future Events

- **Tuesday 27 June 2017 in Chester Cathedral (1900-2100)**
1900 Lecture by Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB, Ampleforth Abbey, Member of ARCIC III;
2015 Refreshments; 2045 Compline
Cost £6.50 per person. To book – Box Office, Chester Cathedral, 01244500959;
www.chestercathedral.com Any profit will be passed to The Anglican Centre in Rome.
- **Thursday 5 October 2017 – *The Anniversary of Opening of the Centre***
- **Saturday 14 October 2017 at Ampleforth and Stanbrook Abbeys (1030 -1600)**
OPENING DOORS – The role of Benedictine Hospitality in the Ecumenical Movement
Arranged by The Reverend John Bennett – Diocesan Representative Leeds - Details attached
- **Thursday 30 November 2017 – *The Feast day of St Andrew at Westminster Abbey (1800-2000)***
Annual UK Friends' EUCHARIST, Reception and Talk

Please save the date – details will be published later.

6. Director's Blog

The following items are on the centre website:

1 December 2016	A presentation on Anglican Social Theology by Archbishop David Moxon
26 January 2017	David Moxon's speech in the presence of HRH The Prince of Wales
27 February 2017	The Chief Pastor of Rome - Reflections on Pope Francis' visit to All Saints' Anglican Church in Rome
13 March 2017	One Church, one faith, one Lord - an account of the first Anglican Evensong at St Peter's Basilica
22 March 2017	Planting and watering - a sermon preached by Bishop Stephen Platten on the 51st anniversary of the dedication of the Anglican Centre – attached.

7. Church of England Year Book 2017

The Year Book has again been published and there is an up to date entry about the Centre. Reference is made to the Diocesan Representatives and that there is a list on the Centre website. This has not happened yet but with the agreement of the Diocesan Representatives I would hope to enter a list with the following information:

DIOCESE – NAME – EMAIL ADDRESS

I would be glad to receive any comments from Diocesan Representatives before this is done.

8. Church of Ireland

The Reverend Canon Niall Sloane, *Rector of Holy Trinity, Kilinney, Dublin*, is establishing a support group for the Centre in the Church of Ireland. We welcome this initiative and will look forward to hearing how this work progresses.

9. Work in your Dioceses

I would be very happy to receive reports of events held in your dioceses for the Anglican Centre in Rome for publishing in this Newsletter.

With appreciation and thanks for all you are doing to

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James P S Thomson, *Convenor*

Feast-day of Ss Philip and James 2017