

ARCIE LENT 2020 Newsletter

Our new Secretary's contact details are:

The Rectory
92 Blackgate Lane
Tarleton
PR4 6UT
Mobile: 07968 753978

Our new Secretary is Fr Mark Soady SSC

Five years ago Fr Mark created a new Monastic Community. The Holywell Community is based in Abergavenny, where he has been Vicar for the past 8 years, before moving this Spring to be Rector of Tarleton & Rufford in Lancashire.

His earlier ministry included being a University and Territorial Army Chaplain. He has also served on the staff at Newport Cathedral.

Prior to Ordination he was Head of Office to Roy, Lord Jenkins of Hillhead the only British citizen to be President of the European Union.

On leaving school he trained and worked as a Psychiatric Nurse.

He has recently stood down as Secretary of the Major Churches (formerly Greater Churches) Network.

RIP

We are sad to announce the passing of Sr Ann Verena (last remaining sister of Companions of Jesus the Good Shepherd) and of Fr. Peter Huckle, former Superior of SSJE.

Sr Catherine SLG reports from February's General Synod:

Dear Sisters and Brothers

Thank you for your prayers for General Synod. I found it difficult to get a sense of what were the important issues, and what would be of most interest to you as religious. The debate which attracted most attention committed the Church of England to be carbon neutral by 2030. Given the range of buildings for which we are responsible—not only churches but clergy houses, church halls, schools, and diocesan offices—this is ambitious! It is not clear where the money can come from; nor how the Church will be able to fulfil the pledge of financial redress to survivors of clerical abuse. Of the other subjects on the agenda, I think that action on 'Paupers' Funerals' is likely to happen as bodies already exist (the Life Events team and the ecumenical Funerals Group) to take this on and to encourage cooperation between clergy and funeral directors to help local authorities

conduct such funerals with greater respect and sensitivity. Some of the other business completed at this group of sessions concerned quite complicated changes to cathedral governance, to Diocesan Boards of Education and to the rules governing elections to General Synod. The latter will come into operation this year: all the elected members retire after the July group of sessions. For the first time there is provision for electronic voting (religious communities excepted).

This is a good place for me to add a personal note. I have hugely enjoyed the privilege of being on General Synod, and have surprised everyone to whom I've mentioned it that I have enjoyed taking part in my Oxford Diocesan and Cowley Deanery Synod meetings just as much. I am very happy to stand for election for the next quinquennium, if there two eligible community members are willing to propose and second me, but I'm bound to point out that my knees and my brains are not getting any younger. I don't feel I've served with particular distinction, and it may well be that there is a brother or sister who would like the chance of taking this on, and whose community is able to spare them. The time commitment is four days in February, five days in July (and three days in the first November). Additionally, preparation can take quite a lot of time, and General Synod members are ex officio members of their diocesan and deanery synods. Anita, Philip Thomas and I and would be happy to answer any questions.

May Lent and Easter be full of blessing for you all
Sr Catherine SLG

November synod

With the Canon on Anglican Religious Communities being enacted at the November Synod, it could be a good time for us to have a stall at Synod.

If any Communities have members who would be free and willing to staff such a stall from November 23-25th please could they let Fr Mark know by emailing Sec@arice.org.uk.

SAVE THE DATE – the next Conference

A reminder that the next Conference God's calling: God's Gifts will be at Mirfield from September 1st - 4th 2021.

Fancy being a contestant on BBC Mastermind?

The Mastermind casting team have been in touch to see if any one from religious communities might be interested in taking part in this quiz show.

Auditions are currently underway so please email:
mastermind.hth@hattrick.com for an application form (it takes just 10 minutes to complete).

The deadline for applications is Monday 25th May although they will be starting auditions in the next few weeks so would encourage you to complete the application sooner rather than later.

Thanks!

Fr Mark writes: I am very grateful to Jean for the handover she gave me and her kind offer to be on the end of a phone if I need any help. I pray I shall be as efficient a Secretary as she was.

New Franciscan Novices and Postulants

Recently Br Anthony (Anthony Clarke) from Bristol and Br John Taylor (John Taylor) from Gateshead were clothed as novices. They will continue in Alnmouth Friary (where the Noviciate begins) until June when Brs Anthony and John Taylor will move to Glasshampton Monastery for a period of Enclosure.

On February 11th they welcomed Jake Brennan and Danny Garrett (from City Durham and Ashington respectively) as Postulants.