

A few words from the Vicarage ...



You may be interested to learn that your PCC held an extra meeting in June – such is their dedication to duty! – to receive a presentation by the MAP group. You will recall that the group began its deliberations in November to consider our Mission Action Planning process.

The group has now reached its conclusions and submitted its report – which is extremely thoughtful and thought provoking. It seeks to challenge us all and to inspire us all – and the PCC accepted the report unanimously, taking ownership of the challenges ahead.

Over the coming weeks we will all learn more of what lies ahead but there is nothing to fear as it is clear from the report that we have a firm foundation here at St Paul's – one upon which we may now build in a number of ways to strengthen what we do and how we do it.

There are several areas upon which we may focus as we seek to grow our church, through increased numbers of course, but also through our individual deepening of faith, our understanding of our faith and our seeking to share our faith in a wider sense with others.

There are three sets of aims; short, medium and long term aims – we are not about to re-invent the wheel overnight but we can make a difference in these three key areas of time frames.

It is hoped that we may all embrace the various challenges in a positive frame of mind and not get caught up in the minutiae. This is an exciting opportunity for us all to re-examine our own faith, our own commitments to the church and to God, and to work together to re-style, to extend and to improve what we do as the local parish church within this community.

It is not all about what we do for ourselves; it is not all about what we do for each other; it is not all about what we do for others – it is about all of these.

We are providing copies of the MAP for everyone (and is now included on this website - see 'mission' under 'St Pauls guide'). It is hoped that we may follow the path laid out for us – a path designed to lead us forward positively with God always as our guide.

My thanks to the MAP group for all you have done.

Before closing, it is worth recording our thanks to the now 'retired' Lytham Rose Queen, Siân Thompson, and all who supported her in many and various ways. She and her attendants have represented St Paul's with dignity and have been a shining example for other young folks at all times – well done to you all.

God bless you all,

Your Vicar,

*Fr D.*