



Charity No. 1094766

Pastoral Care Project

Part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

ANNUAL REPORT

1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018

Decade of Dementia Prayer Week



12th - 19th March 2018

Pastoral Care Project,
St George's House, Gerards Way, Coleshill, B46 3FG
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www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk email: info@pastoralcareproject.org.uk
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Registered Charity No 1094766

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We wish to acknowledge support from:

Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham
Father Hudson's Care
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales
Catholic Bishops' Day for Life Fund
Catholic Mental Health Project
Conference of Religious England and Wales
Schools, parishes, religious and individuals

*Loving Father,
you are close to the broken hearted.
Look with compassion on those
whose lost memories have robbed
them of home and belonging.
Comfort and strengthen those
who care for them.
May they make their home in you.
This we ask through
Christ Our Lord.*

'Loving Father' prayer written by: Bishop David McGough. Copyright to Pastoral Care Project

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Mission Statement:

Raising awareness of the spiritual needs of the frail elderly –
enabling carers to support them in their journey to the fullness of life.

Inspired by Luke 4.18-19

The spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me;
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to proclaim release for prisoners and
recovery of sight for the blind;
to free the broken-hearted and
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

The Pastoral Care Project is a Christian organisation which, since 1995 has pioneered pastoral ministry in parishes and in the wider community, particularly care settings. In 2002 it achieved charitable status.

Working with many Christian ecumenical partners since 1995, we have raised awareness and produced resources to help alleviate the suffering and isolation felt by those living with dementia, as well as providing information and support, enabling their carers to support them in the last part of their journey to the fullness of life.

The Pastoral Care Project is rooted in Christian Spirituality and its ethos of working together with Clergy and Lay People was gained through Frances Molloy's time as a member of the Maranatha Community, and as a hospital chaplaincy lay visitor. It was whilst visiting an EMI ward she met a lady who, despite her dementia, had an awareness of others and of God and she expressed her desire to pray. It was at that time Frances was training as a leader in the 'Light out of Darkness' Spirituality Retreat Programme based on the book of the same title by the late Sr. Kathleen O'Sullivan SSL.

Sr. Kathleen's love of God; her sense of joy and her own awareness of the struggles of humanity inspired Frances. Sr. Kathleen recognised Frances' gift of enabling, and invited her onto the retreat team. The experience of the charism of sharing and enabling individuals was central for attendees in rediscovering their friendship with God, and each other. Seems there is still such a longing in people's hearts today!

Sr. Kathleen was an inspirational writer, leader and mentor until her going home to the Lord on 25th July 2007.

Lead Bishop

Rt. Rev David McGough, Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham

Board of Trustees

Mrs Sheevaun Sparkes - Chair

Mrs Glenys Roberson - Vice-Chair

Mrs Leema Philips - Treasurer

Rev. Kevin O'Connor - Secretary

Fr Stephen Beale, SDP

Miss Anne Moore

Employees

Mrs Frances Molloy

Project Manager - part-time
Retreat Leader/Prayer Guide
Parish Eucharist Minister & Reader

Mrs Joanne Metcalfe

Project/Admin Assistant – part time from Feb 2018

Mrs Maria Gallagher

Administrative Assistant – part time Jan 2000-Jan 2018

Student summer placement:

Joe Carter and Ella Carolan

Office

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Message:

RT. Rev. Bishop David McGough
Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham and Lead Bishop to Pastoral Care Project

In a recent letter Pope Francis reminded us that, far from standing above the poor, we are their debtors, since it is in reaching out to the poor that the gospel becomes more than words. It becomes a saving encounter with the Lord himself.

“Then he will answer them saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it also to me.’”

We live in a society that has all the trappings of wealth, and yet still struggles to acknowledge the cries of the poor. Poverty has many faces, one of which is dementia in all its forms. Here that most precious possession, a sense of self and belonging, begins to crumble. To the onlooker it can sometimes seem that the sufferer is dispossessed of everything that makes us truly human. It is a poverty that cannot be contained. Husbands and wives, parents and children, must suffer the loss of so much that gave meaning to their mutual sharing.

As the Pastoral Care Project presents its annual report, I pay tribute to all involved with its work. In reaching out to those suffering with dementia, and to their families, they assert that all, regardless of wealth or poverty, need to be loved and included. I pray that in their work they will continue to meet Christ in those they serve. As Pope Francis has said, we are indeed their debtors. I encourage all both to join and support this service to the poor.

Bishop David McGough
August 2018

Chair: Welcome and Introduction

A very warm welcome to all who read this annual report; we are grateful, through God's providence, to serve some of the most vulnerable in our society, and to all who supported and shared with us in our mission. This report is but a summary of the work, which I hope, expresses the richness and vastness of the support given by many people.

This twenty-fourth year of service has grown by God's grace and the widespread support of parishes, schools and care homes, not forgetting the many volunteers, both young and old, who were part of the pioneering work. I invite you to join in this year, as we will be thinking and planning ways to celebrate twenty five years of serving God and his people in 2019-20.

My own connection with serving the poor began in 1988. I responded to a request by the parish priest to join a team of people, to lead a Service of the Word for residents in sheltered housing. The team was led by Frances, who inspired me through her gentleness, understanding and faithfulness to those we met each month. As a result my faith and spirituality grew, together with an understanding of the needs of the frail and elderly.

In 1995, the early pioneering days of this charity, Frances had been invited to lead a Service of the Word in a Nursing Home, specialising in dementia care and I was invited to lead the singing, which I did for many years. Seeing a new team grow through the monthly visits was touching. It was a truly humbling experience to witness the closeness of Christ in such surroundings. Reflecting now, I particularly remember their openness and gratitude and how they were always moved by the Holy Spirit. I was richly blessed to have witnessed an amazing awakening of consciousness to the presence of Christ among us through prayer, scripture and music.

I would like to thank Frances Molloy, Project Manager, for her insight and faithfulness to all those she serves, and in recent times for the admin staff: Maria Gallagher and Joanne Metcalfe. We say a special thank you to Maria for her dedication in her administrative assistant role for eight years creatively working through challenges - we send our good wishes in her new post.

I thank all our trustees, volunteers, lay people, organisations, schools and young people, especially Joe Carter and Ella Carolan, our student placements. We thank all those who have donated and offered prayer support as noted in Treasurer page.

We are very grateful to have the continued prayer, support and inspiration of Bishop David McGough, lead bishop to the charity; his faithfulness to those with dementia at a time when there is an ever growing need has touched the lives of so many young and old, and families. His retreat and teaching days are invaluable as we continue to carry our mission of serving the poor, ever trusting in God's rich providence.

God bless you all.

Sheevaun Sparkes

Pastoral Care Project Charitable Work

Throughout this last year, the Pastoral Care Project charity has made every effort, with the limited income, to live out its mission. It has inspired and encouraged others to help many more people by taking advantage of the resources and information. We thank them in their efforts to support those in their community who are touched in some way by dementia, or have the responsibility of caring for relatives.

The annual Dementia Prayer Week© 12-19th March is a much loved and valued resource which encourages prayer, and also deepens the bond of love for the person with dementia, their family and the wider community. Dementia Prayer Week 12-19th March, marked ten years and was supported nationally - more about that later!

The following report provides an overview of what has been achieved this last year, not by us alone, that is not our way, but with the help of so many individuals in parishes, schools and religious orders, working with us in responding to a vital area of need:

April - July 2017

We appreciate the support of our own Archdiocese of Birmingham, the parishes and many diocesan parishes, schools and individuals nationally who made use of the resources, and those who sent donations to support our work.

Our work from April onwards was committed to preparing reports, financial accounts, gift aid returns, and responding to enquires. For more information please visit the blog for the many stories of monthly events (rather than repeating it word for word here). The Twitter account currently provides an important component in our mission work. The website blog offers up to date information and shared experiences.

Trustees Retreat - 14th July, Sons of Divine Providence Farm House.

For the trustees and the manager after the previous three months work, it was a very welcome change – from finance and accountability to vulnerability and renewal. The day began at Cardinal Heenan House, Upholland, where Fr Stephen Beale SDP our trustee is based. Hospitality was the essence of the day; being welcomed by care staff and residents for mass in the chapel. Afterwards a guided tour of the home and chatting with residents who warmly welcomed us and showed us their sitting room, which they had helped design.

Enjoying the spacious grounds, and the vegetable garden enroute to the farm house, before we prepared lunch and enjoyed fellowship. The afternoon was devoted to prayerful reflection, on the Fathers Love painting, concluding with anointing (Luke 4.18-19). A day of wholeness and holistic care in the most peaceful setting.

Mental Health Chaplains Retreat, Douai Abbey – 18th-20th July

The Project Manager took part in the retreat organised by the Mental Health Project, and led by Bishop Richard Moth on the theme, 'Times of Challenge and Distress – God is with us.' The retreat was for those involved in mental health and pastoral care.

August and September

The two months was busy with preparations for the Annual General Meeting in September. Two students worked with the charity during August, helping with lesson plans and videos, more about that throughout the report.

At the Annual General Meeting, the Chair presented the Annual Report and the Financial Accounts were presented by the Treasurer. The Manager gave an overview of the work ahead, before the chair introduced the speakers.

First speaker was Mr Noel Carroll, Trainer in Cow Lees Care Home, who spoke of his experience, with contributions from staff member Christine Jackson. A family carer, June McDermott, shared her story with the highs and lows of caring for her husband at home, and before his move into a nursing home. June's talk was moving and gave insight into the depth of emotions experienced during such a difficult time of adjusting to many carers and professionals into their private lives.

Following on, two speakers from St Thomas More Sixth Form Holy Spirit Academy Nuneaton, Mrs Natalie Anderton, Assistant Director and student Joe Carter; spoke passionately about HeARTS and Minds initiative, as well as their affection for the Pastoral Care Project.

Mrs Anderton, began her talk by stating that St Thomas More Sixth Form wanted to be able to give students access to God...build a relationship with God within the pillars of the Gospel. Meeting with the Pastoral Care Project was a 'light bulb moment' speaking passionately of the connection between the Holy Spirit Academy and the Pastoral Care Project; both shared the vision of God's love; recognising the gift of the old and the young and growing through family relationships. The charity helped young people to have access to God as well as understanding the challenges of dementia. The 'For Better for Worse' film and the Dementia Prayer used during Dementia Prayer Week helped break down barriers and encourage prayer among the Holy Spirit Catholic Multi Academy's 3,000 pupils ranging from 3 to 18 years. Mr Anderton expressed the Academy's commitment to the charity by offering the Lesson Plans throughout the academic year.

Joe Carter: spoke of his work experience: "While at the charity not only was I able to learn valuable skills in preparing resources and expand my knowledge of how a charity operates on a business level, but I was also able to learn about Dementia and Pastoral Care; both issues with huge significance in today's society yet so many people don't know what these phrases mean.....I am looking to maintain my links with the charity through giving assemblies in my school and sixth form and working as a volunteer as part of the charity's Hearts and Minds programme. I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight the value and job opportunities within charities for young people. Through my work here I introduced Ella who also worked a few hours to produce a film 'Touched by Music', with Glenys Roberson, the charity vice-chair, Ella and myself, she helped us understand the importance of music in pastoral care".

Following on the Lead Bishop to the charity, Bishop David McGough, spoke of the awareness generally of dementia, at work and in our families, of the frustration, the pain... and how we like to think our love will sustain everything. Using the words of Psalm 6 to express how cruel dementia can be; the fear and isolation. He reassured us, "Gods love is unbreakable and in God there is community, as referred to in Genesis 1. '...there was an emptiness...and God said, it is not good that man, (meaning man and woman), should be alone'. That touches everything that it is to be human...we become human as we reach out...it's

together we find meaning of our humanity'– speaking of God's profound commentary on life, as written in Genesis 1."

Bishop David continued by emphasising the need for resources which the charity has to offer, to help others respond to meeting the spiritual needs and the loneliness associated with dementia, quoting Ephesians 3: 14-21 "...your inner self ...Christ may grow in your hearts... until you are filled with the fullness of God.

The Mayor and Mayoress, spoke of their appreciation for all that the charity does, and in particular their own interest in music. They were delighted to hear that young people were working with the charity.

The chair thanked all the speakers and everyone who prepared the meeting and those attended. Glenys Roberson, Trustee and Musician ended the meeting by leading us in a joyous hymn, the Peruvian Gloria.

The wonderful event was brought to a close with a buffet lunch shared by wonderful people of all ages, including the Mayor and Mayoress of North Warwickshire. They and all the speakers were presented with a copy of Dementia Hope on a Difficult Journey by Dr Adrian Treloar, an exceptionally valuable resource.

October – December

Following on from the AGM, time was dedicated to updating websites and charity reports to the Charity Commission.

We also began planning for Dementia Prayer Week 12th – 19th March 2018, marking ten years. Once again the charity purchased the inset page in the Walk with Me Lent Book 2018 from Alive Publishing page, thereby making the prayer resource available to an additional two hundred and fifty thousand people, each day throughout lent.

Working with our designer to create an inset page, included the 'Loving Father' prayer by Bishop David McGough, to promote the *Decade* of Dementia Prayer Week and deepen the understanding of the importance of bringing faith alive in our communities.

Christmas Card and Charity Crib Appeal

Producing our own traditional Christmas Cards enables us to send a personal message to the individuals and families we support, as well as the people and organisations who support our charitable work.

Our thanks to the people who gave so generously to the appeal. We really do appreciate the good wishes, prayers and donations sent towards our mission

A Newsletter/Appeal and News from Around the Table was produced, offering a summary of the work done and plans the year ahead and opportunities for involvement. The Newsletter and the Card was available to download on the website News page and the Fundraising Ideas page links, for those wishing to forward on to someone or print for your own use.

January to March

It was phenomenal the growth in the number of people joining in prayer. Prayer which originated from the cry of the poor - a few people with dementia, in a care home and how it echoed beyond the shores of these islands. – Appendix 1.

From January onwards it was extremely busy with the annual Dementia Prayer Week 12-19th March 2018. The theme 'Decade of Prayer' was fitting for this the tenth year of prayer along with the invitation to pray a decade of the rosary with the person who has dementia. The decade could be said by the children at home and/or in school.

Our thanks to the Catholic Bishops Conference Day for Life Fund in sponsoring the Walk with Me inset page, and the prayer cards.

The DECADE of Dementia Prayer Week gained momentum through national participation, and globally through social media and the many missionaries societies throughout the world including EWTN. The Conference of Religious in England and Wales are one of the faithful supporters, and we were delighted to receive new enquires from representatives in churches, schools and hospital chaplaincies - see Appendix 2.

The Official Resource Pack provided many interesting and inspiring telephone conversations with clergy and schools, highlighting we all know someone who is struggling in some way from dementia, and many are looking for spiritual resources to support them, enabling them to live with purpose and meaning.

The Prayer Card was made available to order from the website shop which proved invaluable. In addition, a complimentary pack of one hundred cards were received by each Cathedral Dean for the Cathedral, and packs were also sent to Church of England Cathedrals which we have connections with.

"We wish to thank you for your very generous support before, during and following Dementia Prayer Week 12-19th March 2018. The response has been encouraging from the widespread interest shown by many Dioceses, Care Homes and individuals; a truly remarkable contribution in marking this Decade of Prayer Week for the poorest of the poor in our society (L.2.18-19), for the person where dementia is advanced and they are totally dependent on others in every aspect of their care. We also wish to thank the schools who have chosen the Pastoral Care Project as one of their Lent charities, and to the parishes who kindly offered to have a collection for our charitable work- this is so important in these difficult times." Blog 26/03/18

Several parishes and schools offered to fund raise at a later date. The whole year can be used to contribute and keep the cause alive. One example which seems to have grown since we first introduced it a few years ago is hosting the simple Bake & Share event. In addition to alms giving, it offers an opportunity to gather and create friendships among all ages. The spiritual reflection could be helpful for lent study groups

The charity's registered with totalgiving.com and offers the facility to create events page, personalising and promoting events via social media in addition to offering a facility to making online donation, which can take the strain out of hosting charity events. Please ensure Pastoral Care Project is selected when visiting totalgiving.com.

Weekday and Weekend Masses

Many parishes emailed in advance to inform us that they would be including the week in the bidding prayer at Mass or offering a specific time of prayer. Those sent early were added to our online list. The official Logo and Prayer was offered so that anyone could download it and post to their website in support of the Week of Dementia Prayer 12-19th March 2018. Sadly, a few used the prayer but posted a different charity logo, which was confusing to visitors to their site and unfair to our charity and those we support.

Parishes valued the Dementia Prayer Week Prayer in the Walk with Me Lent Book, it was easily available throughout Lent and many continued to say the prayer afterwards, which is what we had hoped for. With distribution of over two hundred and fifty thousand copies this tells us how important it is and each year it reaches more people. We valued the telephone calls, emails and letters from individuals who wished to connect with us because of our commitment to Christ's mission and being there for them in their need.

The Catholic Today Birmingham Diocesan Monthly Newspaper

The Pastoral Care Project would like to acknowledge the opportunity given by Sue Conway at Alive Publishing, by offering a platform for sharing news and information about the charity's work by writing monthly columns over many years.

General Work and New Resources

The charities administration work was attended to meticulously by Maria who stepped down in January 2018. Maria has always remained faithful to the cause and excelling through the many challenges, providing valuable input into the many resources.

Sharing our fond farewell to Maria in our last Catholic Today article, April 2018, entitled, 'opening our hearts and minds to others in love' Maria said, "The theme 'opening our hearts and minds to others in love' for me epitomises the work and mission of the Pastoral Care Project which is a cause always close to my own heart, having cared for my own relatives with dementia. It has been more than just a job to me and I have gained so much over the last eight years".

We wish Maria and her family every blessing as she continues on her providential path. Speaking of Maria's providential path, a few weeks before she finished work, a surprise email from Joanne who left on maternity leave 7 years previous....both she and Maria had worked together some years ago, and so it was a joyous moment to know that Joanne was willing to return to work. It was a Godsend to have someone with the skills and who was familiar with the resources and work of the charity.

Videos

There are many films currently on the Pastoral Care Project website; these are copyright of the charity, and are ideal resource for individuals, parishes and places of education and training.

There is more waiting to be edited and it is hoped that funding or gift in kind will help us produce them for the benefit of the community.

There has been a growing interest in more schools, with teachers telling us that there are a significant number of their pupils, and often staff, who have relatives with dementia.

Also, in lessons at senior level, dementia is often raised in class discussions and that the Pastoral Care Project connects to their Christian ethos.

The video For Better For Worse, links well with the NEW - HeARTS and Minds© initiative which started as a Sixth Form Volunteering Programme has progressed to a Lesson Plan. The donations from last year helped fund a student during the summer who created years 7, 8 and 9 Lesson Plan. This may provide information, awareness and confidence to help individuals, families and those involved in pastoral or health care, education or vocational courses – See Appendix 2.

The Pastoral Care Project summer term student Ella produced a short video Touched by Music which forms part HeARTS and Minds programme.

Instructions for my Funeral Mass/Care of the Dying document

The charity's document Instructions for my Funeral Mass is featured in the Art of Dying Well website. This document has continued to be important in its simplicity for individuals. It is interesting how it is featured in diocesan newspapers periodically, and many individuals are great promoters of it themselves.

The website shop offers effective ordering which has helped us manage enquiries in these uncertain times through the reduced income from grants.

Online shop http://www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk/store/c1/Featured_Products.html offers a simple and effective way of ordering and is accessible to parishes at a time convenient to them, thus reducing costs.

The document, Instructions for my Funeral Mass, is produced by the Pastoral Care Project and approved by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

Extract from the Message by His Eminence Vincent Gerard Cardinal Nichols within the document:

"Completing this document will make it so much easier for your family or friends to make the arrangements for your funeral at what will be a sad and difficult time for them. More importantly if your family are not Catholics, or have lapsed from the practice of their faith, or where there is no family around to ensure that your wishes are followed, it ensures that you will receive what is your right as a member of the Catholic Church."

Each year a number of clergy contacting us for the Instructions for my Funeral Mass document, share with us their concern for their parishioners, with some requiring support in talking through their choices and needing assistance with filling in the form. Many of these may be in hospital or care homes.

Many individuals telephone us for copies and they are instrumental in their parish ordering supplies. Even though the Catholic Bishops Conference and Media promote and encourage the use of the document, it is the personal experience which seems to make the most impact. For the person who is concerned about a catholic funeral rite, this document is worth completing before arranging a prepaid funeral plan.

Volunteers and Promoters

The volunteers who are registered and live locally help in the office or with annual events, prayer days and talks. Their longstanding commitment, time and talents are important and very much valued.

Whilst the number of volunteers has decreased, and that is down to rolling out the vision, the number of helpers has increased by considering the number of people nationwide who help and promoted the resources in various ways.

We can't thank each person individually. Thank you to one and all – keep up the great work! – the people we serve need you!

FUTURE PLANS – 2018/19

Annual Events

Dementia Prayer Week 12- 19th March 2019

Retreats – Days of Prayer

Networking

Links with churches, schools, organisations and individuals

Resources

HeARTS & Minds © volunteering programme with schools/care settings/parishes

School assemblies/workshops

SINGING Café© – Touched by Music

Parishes Dementia Awareness and Lay Formation/Pastoral Companions

Instructions for my Funeral Mass & Critical Illness and Care of the Dying

IT

Updating website and resources:

- Editing videos and uploading to website and photographs for website gallery
- Develop online shop resources

Recruit new trustees and new volunteers

Raise awareness of role and need of additional Trustees

Promote student volunteering /works experience

Funding

Seeking partners to further the charitable work

Grants to expand charitable work

Raise awareness of gift aid and online giving;<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/charity/pastoral-care-project> which is free from charges – what you donate is the amount the charity receives and we do not pay membership or running costs. Individuals can create their own page to make a donation however small, when they wish - it is so straightforward to do.

Celebration

25 years of our mission 2019-20

Spiritual Reflection

... and they recognised Him at the Breaking of Bread (Luke 24:35)

Some years ago one of our tenants in Hampton Wick transferred into a local EMI unit. I used to visit Donald regularly and I would celebrate the Eucharistic or bring Holy Communion. Donald suffered from dementia but whenever he saw me, he knew I am a clergyman, and he paid great reverence. That same reverence he showed to the Consecrated Host – Donald recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. His face would light up. He would join hands in prayer and then reverently receive The Lord and remain in silent prayer. Donald never remembered my name but he knew I was a priest. He would quickly forget that he had just received the Eucharist, but what of it ...? Donald was present to the Lord as much as The Lord to him.

John was another tenant in Hampton Wick. He was suddenly hospitalised and I gave him the sacraments, but John was not satisfied – “why can’t I have Mass?” he said.

The next day, after lunch, I was called urgently to John’s hospital bedside for the second time. Before I put the telephone down, I asked if I could celebrate Mass for John in the hospital? The answer was yes, so I got my things together, rushed to the hospital and hurried through the Mass. I told John not to try to respond. By 14.20 I had finished Mass in the private room with the curtains drawn for privacy. John had received the Precious Blood in drops on his tongue. John was fading but was still alive.

At three o’clock I remembered something John had said the day before – it was of his devotion to Divine Mercy, and John passed away on the dot of 15.00! We recognise Jesus at the breaking of bread but we also recognise Jesus in the dying person.

I remember Brigid who left Hampton Wick to live in a convent at Cross in Hand. She left that when she was unable to get to the chapel by herself, she would have Mass in-house.

Ten days before her 100th birthday Brigid returned to Hampton Wick. She was resident in Orione House where she died on a day or two before her 102th birthday (that she had celebrated a week in advance!) I received a telephone call to say Brigid was dying. I rushed to her, asked the paramedics if I could celebrate Mass at her bedside before they took her to hospital, and, with their permission proceeded to do so. Brigid’s faith had always been strong – she too received the Precious Blood dipped on her tongue. Brigid was ready to go to The Lord. Reluctantly we had to let Brigid go. Everyone knew the journey to the hospital was in vain – but the paramedics’ legal duty was to bring her to hospital. Brigid died before reaching hospital but she had had her wish and gone peacefully on her way ...

by Fr. Stephen Beale FDP

Financial Overview

The Pastoral Care Project is very grateful for the continued financial support received from the Archdiocese of Birmingham and Father Hudson's Care and the grant again this year, from Catholic Trust Day for Life Fund towards the Annual National Dementia Prayer Week 12th-19th March 2018.

Our thanks to the many parishes, schools and individuals for their generosity and kindness, and for taking our work to heart. Without their support, for the annual appeal by praying, giving alms, and taking collections, we would not have accomplished all that we have, for those we care about.

Our thanks to the parishes that purchased Instructions for my Funeral Mass - this not only provides an important service to parishioners, and those who may be living in care homes and have lost touch with the church, but also supports the charity's work.

The Pastoral Care Project is such a wonderful worthwhile charity which has touched the hearts of people throughout the UK and abroad. It has grown over the past twenty-four years, because of the number of people who connect with us and use the resources. For example; the annual Dementia Prayer Week. God willing, Dementia Prayer Week in 12th-19th March 2019 will reach out and touch the lives of more people.

Donations, grants and sale of resources are vital for the everyday running of the Pastoral Care Project charity, which serves the poor. This charity survives on little and offers much to encourage Eucharistic Ministry – a vital nourishment for the individual who is spiritually hungry and longing for inner peace – closeness to God.

Please consider pledging your support and help those in your community, workplace or school. There are many ways to support the charity. Purchasing Prayer Cards; not only for friends and family but people have purchased these in the past and left them in public places (libraries, shops, surgeries). Also, fundraising, whether through a donation, small regular contribution or organising an event, like our Bake and Share initiative, which can include your family, friends and neighbours. Prayer Cards can be useful to give out at the events and you can use Totalgiving.com, should you wish, to help collect donations in this way and get involved in this service of the poor as referred to in Bishop David's message.

"Giving to the poor can make up for sin, just as water can put out a blazing fire. Anyone who responds to others with acts of kindness is thinking of the future, because he will find help if he ever falls on hard times" (Sirach 3- 30,31)

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their ongoing prayer support and encouragement of this charity, for we know from the letters received people are touched by who we are, and you are working together with us in these difficult times. Donations towards our work can be made by cheque, made payable to 'Pastoral Care Project' and addressed to Frances Molloy, Project Manager, Pastoral Care Project, St George's House, Gerards Way, Coleshill, B46 3FG, or donate online via our website.

Leema Philips

Treasurer

PASTORAL CARE PROJECT

Accounts

31 March 2018

**Beasley & Co.
Chartered Accountants**

**Abbey House
105 Abbey Street
Nuneaton
Warwickshire
CV11 5BX**

PASTORAL CARE PROJECT

Charity Information

31 March 2018

Charity Trustees

Sheevaun Sparkes (Chair)
Glenys Roberson (Vice Chair)
Leema Philips (Treasurer)
Rev Stephen Beale - SDP
Rev Kevin O'Connor (Secretary)
Miss Anne Moore

Reporting accountants

Beasley & Co
Chartered Accountants
Abbey House
105 Abbey Street
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Warwickshire
CV11 5BX

Bank

The Cooperative Bank
PO Box 101
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Charity registered number

1094766

PASTORAL CARE PROJECT

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of the Pastoral Care Project Trust

I report on the receipts and payments account of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2018, which is set on page 2.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you may consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 (5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Bias of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

in connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect of the requirements
to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.

have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Beasley & Co.
Chartered Accountants
6th July 2018

PASTORAL CARE PROJECT**Receipts And Payments Account For The Year Ended****31 March 2018**

£			£
11,505.15		Balance at Bank, 1 April 2017	23,073.05
28,268.16	Receipts:	Grants and Donations	19,350.03
<u>2,328.14</u>		Resource sales and Pastoral Fees	<u>1,518.96</u>
30,596.30			20,868.99
1,833.31	Payments:	Equipment and Resources	3,587.69
11,957.98		Wages - Project Manager and Part Time Assistant	15,916.65
2,200.00		Office Rent and Services (In Kind)	2,200.00
480.00		Telephone	541.88
650.49		Postages and Stationery	654.69
163.92		Insurance	167.66
166.50		Internet	346.50
35.00		Subscriptions and licences	101.94
391.80		Travelling Expenses	295.52
363.20		AGM and Events costs	191.21
180.00		Training costs	107.55
107.00		Promotion Expenses etc -	-
-		Office costs	42.49
<u>499.20</u>		Accountancy	<u>508.80</u>
19,028.40			24,662.58
<u>23,073.05</u>		Balance at 31st March 2018	<u>19,279.46</u>

Donations

The Pastoral Care Project is reliant on donations to continue its charitable work of providing resources and raising awareness of the spiritual needs of the frail elderly – enabling carers to support them in their journey to the fullness of life. Therefore, every donation is important. Please consider sharing in our mission by making a donation. Donations can be monthly or annually or in memory of a loved one or for a special event.

Should you wish to pay directly through your bank please contact us for our bank account details. Thank you for considering our request.



Pastoral Care Project - Registered Charity No 1094766

GIFT AID

The Pastoral Care Project is grateful to individuals who send us donations. If you are a tax payer and sending a donation you may wish to complete the Gift Aid form so that the Project can reclaim tax from the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Gift Aid Declaration

Title _____ Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Please treat as Gift Aid all donations I have made to the Pastoral Care Project over the past four years and all donations I make thereafter until I advise otherwise. I understand the Pastoral Care Project will reclaim tax on every donation that I give. I understand I can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the Pastoral Care Project. *You must pay an amount of UK income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the Pastoral Care Project reclaims on your donations in the tax year (at the current rate).

Signed _____ Date _____

Post to: Project Manager, Pastoral Care Project, St George's House, Gerards Way, Coleshill B46 3FG

Opt in

We'd like to keep in touch with you about the vital work we do, our fundraising appeals and opportunities to support us, as well as the products and services you can buy. We will never sell your data and we promise to keep your details safe and secure. You can change your mind at any time by emailing info@pastoralcareproject.org.uk. This is in line with GDPR.

Thank you for considering our work.



Pastoral Care Project – Charity No 1094766

Communication/Privacy Consent Form

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

Yes, I would like to continue to receive Annual updates and information from the Pastoral Care Project (please tick)

Date: _____

This form is valid for 2 years from the date of completion

Pastoral Care Project. St George's House, Gerard's Way, Coleshill B46 3FG

Visit our websites for more information on our work.

www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk

Appendix 1: History of Dementia Prayer Week 12th-19th March

2008: Dementia Prayer Week began in 2008, during a service in a care home on 19th March, the feast of St Joseph, when a resident asked for a day of prayer. We knew this came from the Lord. The following week the Pastoral Care Project team shared the experience whilst giving a presentation to the Catholic Deanery Forum in Coventry.

Recognising that this was indeed something special Monsignor Timothy Menezes encouraged us to run it by the Archbishop, who was Rt Rev Vincent Nichols. Fr Timothy is now Vicar General in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, and we acknowledge his support, and for composing the Parish and School prayers, and working with us to create the 'Do This in Memory of Me' reflection.

With the support of Archbishop Bernard Longley in 2010 the initiative was promoted through the 'ad clerum to all diocesan clergy. Nationally it was supported by the Mental Health Project and the Catholic Bishops' Conference Day for Life grant covered the cost of the resources. A shorter prayer was written by the charity team which would be more easily remembered and included in church, care homes, or schools:

Lord, thank you for your presence this moment, holding us in your love. Help us to share your love among those who live among us with dementia, that we may see your beauty in them. Amen.

Over the last ten years the path of providence became more clear, in that the Prayer initiative which began in Lent has helped sustain the faith of people with memory loss to feel more 'at home'; the discipline and Liturgy of Lent – helped them do that. Lent stimulates their faith and helps them experience the sense of the present moment in the presence of the Lord and his people.

The monthly column in Catholic Today has also helped us to promote our resources and share our mission.

In 2016 the Dementia Prayer was first printed within the Walk with Me Lent Book, our thanks to Sue Conway at Alive Publishing. This meant it was more accessible all, and in the words of Bishop David McGough,

"Let us pray for, and with, those whose lives have been touched by dementia. In this way we become one with them, and with the Lord. Let us remember that whatever we do must flow from the mercy of God that alone transforms our hearts, enabling us to reach out with a compassionate love, making us channels of his mercy."

In 2017 Bishop David McGough composed a new prayer, 'Loving Father' for Dementia Prayer Week 12th-19th March; encouraging everyone of all ages to "remember especially the often forgotten pain of those suffering with dementia, and those who care for them."

Loving Father, you are close to the broken hearted. Look with compassion on those whose lost memories have robbed them of home and belonging. Comfort and strengthen those who care for them. May they make their home in you. This we ask through Christ Our Lord. 'Loving Father' written by: Bishop David McGough, Lead Bishop, Pastoral Care Project

The above prayer is challenging and life giving for personal or group reflection.

Appendix 2: Dementia Prayer Week 12th -19th March 2018

Conference of Religious England and Wales:

Our thanks to all the religious for disseminating information through the CoR newsletter, and for the special focus on their website home page; together reaching and supporting our neighbours in their time of need.

Television Channel EWTN:

The community confirmed that "Nuns and the Friars will continue to pray for your intentions for the next 30 days from 6th March 2018."

Carmelite Nuns in Great Britain:

The Carmelite Nuns supported the Week of prayer, and promoted it together with the work of the Pastoral Care Project on their website.

Union of Catholic Mothers Guernsey/Portsmouth Diocese.

So wonderful to hear that the members of Mothers Union distributed six hundred Prayer Cards around the island.

St John Fisher Primary School, Coventry.

7th March – "Frances led an assembly to inspire our children. We prayed. Children led their own fundraising event during playtimes." - comment. Thank you to the school for their prayer, sharing their Lent alms and being so faithful for many years to our work.

St Augustine's Catholic School/Church, Solihull.

8th March - Holy Hours and Mass with School. Visit to St Augustine's Primary School to speak about Dementia Prayer Week and Hearts and Minds initiative.

St Anne's Parish, Nuneaton.

Weekend 10th and 11th March - Pastoral Care Project Appeal Frances Molloy and student Joe Carter made the appeal at St Anne's, Nuneaton – a collection was taken for the charity.

St Joseph's Arley, Warwickshire.

Sunday -11th March - Pastoral Care Project Appeal. Sheevaun Sparkes spoke at Mass. There was also a second collection for the charity.

St Peter's RC, Bloxwich.

Week - 10th to 19th March - Fr David Doran and parish chose the Pastoral Care Project, as their Lent charity, consisting of daily prayer and Fr Doran made a parish appeal at the weekend masses. The parish Mothers Union also chose the Pastoral Care Project as their charity and committed to knitting to raise donations.

St Ambrose Barlow, Birmingham.

Weekend - 10th to 19th March - Father Paul Johnson made a Parish appeal on behalf of the Pastoral Care Project, and a daily prayer 'throughout the week in preparation for the Parish Prayer/Awareness Evening on the 19th March, led by the Pastoral Care Project team.

St Patrick & St Brigid's Parish, Ballycastle N. Ireland.

Monday 12th March – The prayer was included in daily Mass throughout the Week and mass was offered on the Friday, and for the homebound took part through the video link: <http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-patricks-and-st-brigids-church-ballycastle/> Prayer Cards had been distributed to care homes, which they have been doing for eight years.

Our Lady's & St Joseph's, Holy Spirit Academy, Nuneaton.

Monday 12th March - Assembly given by Joe Carter. The school prayed the Dementia Prayer as well as sharing their Lenten Almsgiving. Year 1 - 6 used the specially produced HeARTS and Minds ©lesson plan which was created by Joe during his summer work placement.

Birmingham East Deanery Meeting.

Tuesday 13th March - St. Ambrose Barlow - Exposition 10.30 am until 11.00am.

Toddler Group, Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Nuneaton.

Tuesday 13th March - prayer and artwork for church display, this year again they donated £50.00 to the Pastoral Care Project charity. A Certificate of appreciation was given to Ami Ashton and Prayer cards for all parents and grandparents.

St Anne's Parish, Nuneaton The Ladies Guild.

Tuesday 13th March - Talk, based on the The Loving Father© painting, responding to the group, a prayer experience of a 'care home service' was led. Comment: We were privileged to have our evening led by Frances and Sheevaun...it was a very special and prayerful evening that made us all think more deeply about the older and more vulnerable members of our community. Thank you for all you do. Kathy.

St Luke's Church, Lancs.

Thursday 15th March - Ecumenical Service St Luke's, Lancs, L23 5SE. Also distributed Dementia Prayer Week Cards among churches in the area.

Mount St Bernards Abbey, Coalville, Leics

Thursday 14th 6.45 pm Adoration - The community include the work of the Pastoral Care Project in their prayers every week.

Cardinal Heenan House, Upholland.

Sunday 18th March: Prayer Day 2-5pm Despite the sub-zero temperatures, the Cardinal Heenan House care team welcomed visitors, for an afternoon of prayer, activities, which included the children taking part. Funds from the day were for the Pastoral Care Project. More information on website <http://www.orionecare.org/cardinal-heenan-house>.

Father Stephen Beale who began the initiative of monthly prayer, named 'gather and pray' continues to offer mass on 19th day of every month for the charity, read about two more contributors on the website blog. Please do get in touch should you wish to join in.

Church of St. Peter's in Jerusalem.

Saturday March 17th: Bishop David McGough emailed to say he would be celebrating Mass on 17th. The Church was built over the house of Caiaphas, the place Jesus was taken to after his arrest in the garden of Gethsemane, and the place where Jesus was taken before the Caiaphas, the high priest, also the place where Peter denied him three times. He also had a supply of Prayer Cards for the pilgrims, from various Christian's traditions. This was an honour to know – Prayer Cards in Jerusalem particularly marking this Decade of Prayer Week.

St Benedict's Primary School, Atherstone.

Friday 16th March - HeARTS and Minds lesson plan and school liturgy; with Tea and Toast for parents and the proceeds for Pastoral Care Project. Comment: "The children undertook age appropriate activities to help foster an understanding of living with dementia... collective worship and on this day the children all wore something yellow and donated £1. It was a huge success"

St Thomas More College and Sixth Form, Holy Spirit Academy Nuneaton.

Week – 12th to 19th March - they devoted a time of prayer during the school days and Joe Carter spoke about his work experience with the Pastoral Care Project. Discussions followed the viewing of 'For Better, For Worse' film. This film has been invaluable the last few years. The work of the charity was also featured during the Ofsted inspection.

St Augustine's Catholic Church Solihull.

14th and 16th March - Exposition from 5.00-5.45pm. School children were in Church on Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th March to pray the Stations of the Cross; included in their prayers was the work of the Pastoral Care Project, and those suffering from Dementia; their carers and families. Deacon Kevin O'Connor also incorporated Prayer Week in the school assembly.

St. Peter's Secondary School, Solihull.

Deacon Kevin O'Connor from St Augustine's Catholic Church incorporated resources from our website into the school assembly.

'Still Bearing Fruit in Old Age' Coventry Methodist Hall, Coventry - 22nd March

Day of Reflection organised by Rev Pauline Warner, Chaplain to Methodist Housing Association, Abbey Park Nursing Home, Coventry.

Keynote speakers: Revd Christ Swift, Director of Chaplaincy to Methodist Homes for the Aged and Rt Rev. David McGough Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham and Lead Bishop to Pastoral Care Project charity. The Project Manager attended the afternoon sermon.

Edge Youth Group Meeting -23rd March 2018

The theme of the evening at Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Nuneaton was, 'The Holy Spirit', including a time for reflection using the Dementia Prayer Week and the HeARTS and Minds Volunteering Programme online resources.

Many young people already have a good understanding of dementia from the assemblies and lesson plans in schools; some may have experience through family members.

The Pastoral Care Project wishes to thank the EDGE group for their support in marking this Decade of Prayer Week. EDGE group is part of www.bycs.co.uk and is based in Nuneaton and Bedworth. For more information please email edgenbb@gmail.com.

Appendix 3: History of HeARTs & Minds© Volunteering Programme:

The Words mean: **H**ealth. **HeART** s - Spiritual and Singing. Minds – Mental wellbeing; **M**-Music the **S**: Senses, Sign and body Language.

Encompassing all that makes us human, and created in the image and likeness of God, Ephesians 2:10, 'we are God's work of art.' The words came to us throughout the programme; a word of confirmation of the self-worth of each person was very special.

The **HeARTs & MindS©** initiative ran from October 2014 - June 2015 at the request of St Thomas More School; inviting us to put in place a volunteering scheme whereby their students could volunteer regularly (e.g. 1 hour a week) for a set number of weeks/months to visit residents in local care homes for the elderly.

The benefits were for building and strengthening links with the local community through cross-generation interaction and contributing to the Catholic ethos of the school by valuing service to the community as well as care and respect for the elderly.

The HeARTS & Minds was successfully piloted with St Thomas More Sixth Form College student placement was in Methodist Housing Association assisted living scheme for the elderly, Nuneaton.

The Pastoral Care Project Manager and Melissa Pearce a volunteer who was a former sixth form chaplain helped develop the programme. Melissa was instrumental in connecting with a care home and co-ordinating and engaging with older students to set the programme based on our 'Pastoral Companions' parish programme, at the right level. Her six years of chaplaincy experience were an asset in giving the presentation to the school.

She is still fondly remembered by the Care Home staff and residents particularly in using her sign language skills to pray the Our Father – everyone was so moved by her presence. This was a successful pilot, with the potential to engage with younger children through lesson plans. The pilot volunteering programme was successful and presentations and lesson plans have been produced and are available on request from the Pastoral Care Project.

2107 HeARTS and Minds© Lesson Plan.

The principal and her staff from Our Lady's and St Joseph's Catholic Academy Nuneaton worked with us to produce Key stage 4 and 5 lesson plans. Our thanks to the teachers offered their time (after school) to work with us to devise this resources along with our online videos, resulting in a four-part lesson plan.

This was piloted in Year 4 with great results. Our thanks to the school for their time and expertise in helping to develop this, which was very timely and valuable resource. In addition, the school generously donated £100.00 from their Lenten Almsgiving to the Pastoral Care Project and prepared the School Mass Liturgy around the new resources. Plans were discussed with the view of rolling it out in all classes in March 2018.

Pastoral Care Project
St George's House, Gerards Way, Coleshill, B46 3FG
Telephone: 01675 434035

Pastoral Care Project is a Registered Charity 1094766
www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk
follow us on twitter @dementiaaprayer