

# Diocese of Galloway - Music Core Group

26 November 2001

To all Parish Musicians

Dear Everyone

Since we last wrote two music ministry days have taken place, and the core group now has its own web site!

## **WWW.GALLOWAYMUSIC.NET**

The site is in the process of being developed but presently has information on who the core group are, future and past events, copyright, a copy of the group's most recent newsletter, links to other helpful organisations, a suggestions form, and the results of our survey on parts of the Mass sung in Galloway parishes.

We plan to add pictures and maybe some sort of logo, and perhaps something on hymns books and music available. Any other ideas would be welcomed!

We're not sure whether you as parish music representatives would like to have your name, address and telephone number included on the web site. We will probably go ahead and put it on in due course, but if you would rather this didn't happen please will you let Nicola know. (We will make sure no-one is listed who doesn't want to be, and if a lot of you think this information would be best not published, then we will not go ahead with this). An alternative would be to print a list on paper and circulate it to you all with a future newsletter - would you be happy with this?

## **PAST EVENTS**

### **Dumfries**

We held a music ministry day led by Father Gerry Fitzpatrick at St Teresa' Church Hall in Dumfries on Saturday 15 September. This was the first event we have organised in the south of the diocese and we were pleased that over 20 people were able to attend, and delighted to finally meet people who had just been 'names' and 'voices over the telephone'.

We started the day with Morning Prayer, and looked at psalms, Gospel verses and other music for Advent and the Christmas season. We also considered the role of Mary in modern worship, learnt about the Jesse tree, and ended with Evening Prayer using music we had learned during the day.

We are very grateful to Father Gerry and his three cantors, Mary, Elspeth and Grace for leading the event, and to St Teresa's for letting us use their hall and providing us with tea and coffee and some excellent home baking! We look forward to visiting Dumfries again in the not too distant future.

### **Kilwinning**

On Saturday 27 October we held another event at Smithstone House. The morning was led by Noel Donnelly, who shared with us some of his own compositions and explained how they could be used during the liturgy.

In the afternoon we had a brainstorming session, chaired by Father Con Botter, about why people do and don't sing in church. We ended with music suggestions for children for Advent and Christmas, led by Christine and George Gardner from Darvel.

As usual, Smithstone House looked after us very well, and we wish to thank Father Botter and his helpers for their hospitality.

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

The next event in Dumfries will be held on 18 May 2002. We've not yet decided on the programme, but if anyone has any ideas of what they would like it to cover (and especially if you would like to lead part of the day yourself) please let us know.

Don't forget that we also have a date arranged with Rev John L Bell of the Wild Goose Resource Group - Saturday 19 October 2002 at Smithstone House.

A carol service is again being held in the Cathedral this year, led by Bishop Taylor, and involving the Diocesan Choir, and this will take place on Wednesday 19 December at 7.30 pm. There will be tea, coffee and mince pies in the hall afterwards. All are welcome.

## **OTHER MUSIC EVENTS AND COURSES**

Laudate! Music and Prayer - a Retreat for Parish Musicians given by Christopher Walker, is being held at Belmont Abbey, Hereford from 11 - 13 January 2002. The cost is £25 plus residence. For more information telephone Fr Blane Maxwell on 01432 277388 ext 208.

On 26 January a day with Stephen Dean exploring music for Lent and Easter is being held in St Andrew's Hall at St Mary's Catholic Cathedral, Edinburgh from 10 am - 4 pm. The cost is £6, and bring a packed lunch. Instrumentalists are invited to bring instruments and stands. Music used during the day will be provided. For more information telephone Eileen Stewart on 01721 724473.

A worship weekend with the Wild Goose Resource Group, 'One in the Body', is being held at Carberry Tower (near Musselburgh) from 1 - 3 February 2002. The WGRG is an expression of the Iona Community's commitment to the renewal of the public worship of the Christian Church. The weekend will be led by Mairi Munro and Alison Adam and will focus on various aspects of worship. Through workshops and discussion, participants will reflect on their own experiences of church worship in an increasingly individualised world, and explore possibilities for enabling people to participate together through music, prayer and creative use of scripture. Carberry Tower is a stately mansion house dating back to 1480 and situated in 30 acres of parkland. The cost is £75 - for more information telephone 0131 665 3135.

Also at Carberry Tower, from 26 - 28 April 2002 is a course on Signed Singing (for beginners and advanced). This will be led by Paul Whittaker, Rosie Addis, and Mary Whittaker. The weekend will have workshops for people with no previous experience of sign language, and

for those with some experience and is an opportunity both to learn some simple Christian signs and also to find out how you can make church music more accessible and welcoming for deaf people. Again the cost is £75 - for more information telephone 0131 665 3135. Please let us know of any other events you are aware of.

## **BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS**

### **Veni Emmanuel (Decani Music)**

We haven't seen a copy of it, but its flier says that Veni Emmanuel is a rich resource for Advent and Christmastide. It includes two settings of all the Psalms for the season, many of them brand new; ritual music such as Gathering and Communion music; a fascinating selection of hymns, songs and carols, some of them new or newly published; and some seasonal liturgies. It is edited by Stephen Dean, and the cost is £12.95. Contact Decani Music, 30 North Terrace, Mildenhall, Suffolk, IP28 7AB, tel 01638 716579.

### **UK Copyright Rules and Regulations - Help for the local church (by John Hudson)**

This should be compulsory reading for every church musician - but if you can fully understand it you're doing better than most! It's a very thorough guide to this complex area, and for many people will be a real 'eye opener'. It's published by the Royal School of Church Music, which is closely affiliated to the Church of England, so there are some references specifically to Anglican publications. To obtain a copy (price £4.25) telephone RSCM Music Direct on 01306 872811.

The RSCM also publish a booklet called 'A Brief Guide to Liturgical Copyright' - hopefully we'll be able to review that next time!

### **In the Midst of the Assembly (by Elaine Rendler)**

This book is by an American author, and some of the content reflects the American viewpoint. Dr Elaine Rendler has been a writer for Today's Liturgy magazine and this book presents many of her past columns from this. As you might expect then, it consists of a series of short articles ranging from one to three pages in length grouped together in sections covering (amongst others) music ministry, the Eucharistic liturgy, parts of the Mass, Masses with Children and Rites and Sacraments. It can be obtained from Decani Music, 30 North Terrace, Mildenhall, Suffolk, IP28 7AB, tel 01638 716579.

## **COVERING FOR OTHER MUSICIANS**

It's been brought to our attention that it can be difficult to find 'cover' (replacement musicians) when the 'regulars' are on holiday, or otherwise unavailable. We will therefore try and compile a list of musicians who would be able to stand in for others at weekends, and who would also be able to play at other churches for weddings and funerals, and circulate this to you.

If you are able to provide cover in other parishes, please will you send Nicola the following information.

- When are you available? (eg Saturday vigil, Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings)
- Are you always, often or only occasionally available at these times?
- Are you a cantor or an instrumentalist (and what do you play)?

What towns/areas would you be prepared to travel to?  
Are you available to play for weddings? (Just Saturdays or during the week too?)  
Would you be available to play for funerals?

### **MISCELLANEOUS . . .**

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, we are beginning to develop a small group of musicians who are willing to visit parishes on a one-off basis and provide informal music for weekend Masses. If you'd like us to visit you, then please telephone. Equally, if you'd like to be part of this group, please telephone (and it doesn't mean you'll have to attend core group 'business' meetings!).

### **TO CONCLUDE . . . SPREADING THE MESSAGE**

As ever, we welcome any suggestions for what the core group should be doing, and ways in which we can support and promote music. We hope very much to hear from you.

If you know that your neighbouring parish has not yet nominated a music contact person, or is missing opportunities to get involved in events being arranged, please talk to them and try to encourage them to get in touch!

And if you have other musicians in your own parish who would like a copy of this newsletter, please copy it for them - or direct them to the web site to read it. Please also show newsletters to your Parish Priest so that he is aware of the activities the core group is involved in.

If you are receiving this newsletter, and you are no longer involved in music in your parish, please will you let Nicola know so that the mailing list can be updated.

With best wishes, and we hope to see you soon!

The Music Core Group

Sheila Allan, 10 Dunvegan Place, Irvine, KA12 9NB	Tel 01294 271261
Rosina Gordon, 109 Sophia Crescent, Irvine, KA12 9BW	Tel 01294 277655
Lillian Devine, Iona, 92 Sinclair Street, Stevenston, KA20 4AL	Tel 01294 463881
George Gardner, 8 Mairs Road, Darvel, KA17 0LA	Tel 01560 322257
Margaret McGrath, 9 South Hamilton Street, Kilmarnock, KA1 2DW	Tel 01563 542130
Nicola Lawrence, 26 Louisa Drive, Girvan, KA26 9AH	Tel 01465 714797
Michael McCulloch, 17 George Aitken Court, Park View, Ardrossan, KA22 7DD	Tel 01294 604517
George McKeand, 5 Greenside, Irvine, KA11 1LP	Tel 01294 214837
Gordon Lawrence, 26 Louisa Drive, Girvan, KA26 9AH	Tel 01465 714797
Father Con Botter, Smithstone House, Dalry Road, Kilwinning, KA13 6PL	Tel 01294 552515.