

# GOOD SHEPHERD CELEBRATION

Wednesday 28th April 2010, Leeds Cathedral



Keighley Schools Drum in  
**RAINBOW NATION**

**Lord God**

**Male and female you created us,  
People of every race and nation,  
People of rainbow-spectred identities.  
You fashioned us in your image and likeness,  
and brought us uniquely and lovingly  
into being.  
You looked on your creation with delight,  
for it was very good.  
And you gave us responsibility for each  
other and of every form of life,  
that we and they may come  
in fullness in you.  
Amen**

Leeds Cathedral vibrated to the sounds and songs of a Rainbow Nation as hundreds of pupils from all over the Diocese marked the Good Shepherd Celebration on 28th April 2010 with Bishop Arthur.

Pupils had come to the Cathedral to present to Bishop Arthur money they had raised in their school during Lent to support the work of Catholic Care.

The Catholic primary schools from Keighley - St Josephs, Our Lady of Victories and St Anne's - combined in a fine example of partnership and unity to lead the Rainbow

Nation celebration that featured a Samba Band! The theme was developed by prayers and poems that reflected the rich diversity of our communities and our differences that make us special and unique.

The music was led by the children from the three Catholic Primary Schools in Keighley, St Joseph's, Our Lady of Victories and St Anne's, supported by The Diocese of Leeds Schools Choir Programme.

Mark Wiggin, Chief Executive of Catholic Care, told the pupils present that 99 years ago a small group of nuns sat down with their Bishop to talk about how they could raise money to help the poor children of the Leeds Diocese. The answer they came up with was called the Good Shepherd Fund. Today, the money raised goes to support some of the neediest and most vulnerable children in our community who still need our help and our prayers.

Mark Wiggin added, "A Good Shepherd is someone who will help you when you get lost; someone who cares for you; someone who loves you . . . Your teachers are GOOD SHEPHERDS Your parents are GOOD SHEPHERDS Bishop Arthur is a GOOD SHEPHERD Each one of you is a GOOD SHEPHERD And above all Jesus is the GOOD SHEPHERD . . . because he loves each one of us".

Bishop Roche thanked everyone for coming and said how he always looked forward to this particular day and to being with all the children. In his homily, he announced that they had collected £36,000 on the day.

## Schools Social Work and Counselling Service

The Service continues to be provided throughout the Diocese of Leeds and operates in four of the five local education authorities in West Yorkshire and is also provided in Holy Family High School, North Yorkshire. In early 2010 the role of a part time peripatetic social worker was commissioned and an appointment made accordingly. This was as a direct result of the ongoing demand for this progressive Service. The peripatetic role was created to offer a specific service for the remaining schools in the Diocese that are not supported on a daily basis by the School Service team. The creation of the peripatetic role now offers a direct opportunity to those schools and it creates the opening for them to sample as a "free taster" the benefits of the Service and what can be available from engagement when working as an active and integral member of a schools' pastoral team. The school social workers and counsellors encounter and address many sensitive issues which often form barriers inhibiting and preventing young people from learning and reaching their full potential. These sessions are carried out either on a one to one basis or within a group work setting.

## Mental Health Service

Catholic Care's Mental Health Service offers assured tenancies to people with enduring, moderate to severe mental health problems. The aim is to enable people to live full, independent lives in a comfortable and safe environment, with a focus on maintaining good mental health and the prevention of relapse and subsequent hospital admissions. In partnership with three housing associations we manage four supported living schemes. Service beneficiaries expressed high levels of satisfaction and are positive about the support Catholic Care provides. The customer satisfaction survey concluded that 66% of all residents were very happy and 33% were happy with the support they received from Catholic Care staff. Demands for places are high with low voids in occupancy of flats. The quality assurance monitoring confirms that the Charity provides a safe and supportive service that has good personal outcomes for tenants.

## Children's Residential Services

The Residential Children's Service provides two residential homes one in Leeds and one in Bradford. Each home has independent inspections some of which are unannounced. The inspection reports confirm the excellent outcomes for education, activities and general care. We continue to invest in staff training and managers are supported to develop in-house and external training opportunities to ensure staff are suitably qualified and experienced in delivering this demanding service. The children referred to Catholic Care have greater complex needs than in the past and need more support. There has been an increase in requests from post care leavers seeking information on their time with us, as well as people undertaking family history trees. This can be time consuming involving archive searches and counselling.

## Learning Disability Services

We continue to provide individually tailored residential and supported living projects for a range of adults with wide and diverse needs. We currently support 50 adults who have learning disabilities in 10 projects, working across 5 different authorities. Quality Audits undertaken by The Care Quality Commission (CQC) this year have resulted in the 3 residential services receiving 'Adequate', 'Good' and 'Excellent' ratings. The 7 supported living services have been rated 'Excellent' following our Annual Audit. We continue to offer 3 International volunteers 10 month placements each year. They come to us through the European Volunteering Programme 'Time for God' and work at the House of Light Project.

## Holidaying in the Sun - Ibiza 2010

"Supported living works for us". We are living our way, in our own home. We are supported by a small team of staff who offer practical help and guidance in our daily lives.



We have just returned from our "Holiday in the Sun" and now it's back to work! We each have our own job - some paid employment and some voluntary work across a range of agencies. Working with the:

- Keighley Voluntary Centre
- Airedale Hospital
- Keighley and Craven People First Group - run by people with learning disabilities for people with learning disabilities.

One of our big achievements this year was working with Bradford Council and the fire services to produce a fire safety DVD which has been distributed across Yorkshire.

Well bye for now! Back to work to start saving for next year's summer holiday!

David, Tracy and Sarah

## THE ITALIAN DREAM

"Somewhere hot and getting there on a plane, as well as shopping" was the brief given to staff at Westhaven from four of the residents. We decided to look at Italy!

The first villa appeared on the PC screen - the Villa Gioianna, Umbria. Each person was shown the pictures and the accommodation explained. All were happy to continue. Of course when we looked at the cost it was way out of what we could afford, but, through the generosity of Anna, the owner of the villa, we found ourselves signing on the dotted line and it was booked. Ok, so to the flights. Done!

# HUDDERSFIELD DEANERY PROJECT

for Older People



The Huddersfield Deanery Project for Older People continues to promote the practical, social and spiritual well-being of older people in the Huddersfield Deanery area.

The Project deals with concerns of older people especially those arising from loneliness and isolation by offering many varied and inclusive lunch clubs and activity groups. The Service continues to increase the number of older people who are benefiting from a wide range of activities designed to promote health and wellbeing and enabling them to remain independent and live at home.

- The inter-generational work, called Bridge the Gap (across the generations), engages young people and older people at local high schools.
- Two lunch clubs called Thursday Friends and Friday Friends are directly managed by HDP and a further 26 are facilitated on a weekly basis for the Kirklees Luncheon Club Support Group by their dedicated worker based at HDP. There are nearly 200 volunteers involved in this work.
- A quarterly newsletter called the "Lunch Times" is designed and distributed to all our members.
- Six exercise classes happen on a weekly basis to ensure that the older people are helped to maintain their mobility and agility.

- The gardening scheme (which is full) and the handy person's scheme are two practical initiatives formed from partnership working within the area.
- A Prayer Group, which is attended by 12 people, meets fortnightly at the Presentation Convent. It provides a time of reflection and sharing and is open to all denominations.
- The office is an advice and information centre located in Bradley and older people can drop in for help and advocacy.
- Improvements to the St. Bernadette's Church Hall, with fresh newly decorated walls, and further work on the garden area have been provided by volunteers from HSBBC, and has added greatly to the quality of the environment in which many of the groups meet.
- New groups for the year are - the Craft Group, the Walking Group, and the Bingo Group. Two new groups started under KLCSG are Sit and Get Fit at Brooklands Sheltered Housing Scheme and Sit and Get Fit at New North Road Baptist Church in Huddersfield which involves a light healthy lunch and exercise.

The day arrived, 12th June, and an early start, 4am to East Midlands Airport. By 10:50 we were walking through the airport in Rome to get our hired car. In temperatures of 34c, thank goodness for air conditioning, we drove out of the city and within an hour and a half found ourselves looking at the rolling hills peppered with Cyprus and Umbrella Pine Trees and driving through small hill towns and villages.

Anna had provided excellent instructions and in no time we were driving up the Lime Tree lined drive to a large white house with blue shutters. Anna met us with smiles and we were welcomed to make Villa Gioianna our home for the week. Guess what? We did!

We opened the shutters each morning to sunshine and views of vineyards, Lake Trasimeno and the town of Castiglione del Lago in the distance. We breakfasted on the terrace and then had a dip in the pool.

We took trips to Montepulciano, Cortona, and San Feliciano, as well as walking by the lakeside. Jewellery, wallets, bags and key rings were purchased, and after a hard days shopping we enjoyed each other's company eating at some lovely restaurants.

