

## CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

### REPORT 2002

#### CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

##### *Appointed by the Representative Church Body*

The Most Rev Dr RHA Eames, Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan (Chairman)

Rev Canon JM Barton

Mr PTS Breene

Mr RH Sherwood

Mr WL Dermott

Mr JJ Harris

##### *Appointed Diocesan Stewardship Advisers by the Archbishops and Bishops*

Armagh

Rev Canon JM Barton

Clogher

Rev Canon VES McKeon

Derry and Raphoe

Rev Canon RJ Stewart

Down and Dromore

Ven GA McCamley

Connor

Rev WKM Brew

Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh

Vacant

Tuam, Killala and Achonry

Mr DJ Auchmuty

Dublin and Glendalough

Rev Canon DG Moynan

Meath and Kildare

Vacant

Cashel, Waterford, Lismore, Ossory, Ferns and Leighlin

Ven KS Wilkinson

Cork, Cloyne and Ross

Mr Wm Perrott

Limerick, Ardfer, Aghadoe, Killaloe, Kilfenora, Clonfert,

Rev SM Neill

Kilmacduagh and Emily

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan (Chairman)

Rev Canon JM Barton

Very Rev H Leckey

Rev WKM Brew

Ven GA McCamley

Mr PTS Breene

Mr FGG Quayle

Mr RH Sherwood

Mr WL Dermott

Mr M Hunter, Stewardship Co-Ordinator (Ex Officio)

The Central Committee met once during 2001.

The Executive Committee met twice during 2001.

**“ENRICH YOUR LIFE AND THAT OF YOUR PARISH”**

The above heading encapsulates the Biblical Principles of Christian Stewardship put into practice. Through sharing everything with others and caring for others, as we are commanded to throughout the Scriptures, each one of us in turn is blessed with joy in abundance.

Sharing and Caring was indeed highlighted by the Parishes of Holy Trinity, Garvary (Clogher), Holy Trinity, Glencraig (Down), Castleknock and Mulhuddart with Clonsilla (Dublin), All Saints, Eglantine (Connor) and St Colmanell's, Ahoghill (Connor) during their respective Parish Development Programmes conducted by the Christian Stewardship Organisation. 150 Parish Visitors were mobilised to visit 1250 households twice during the Development Programmes.

The Review of the Christian Stewardship Organisation, carried out by a specialist church consultant from England, Mr John Truscott, has been completed.

In his Report, John has put forward a set of comprehensive recommendations for a very radical shift in policy. In doing so, he has emphasised the exemplary work and commitment of the Christian Stewardship staff and the track record of the service by the Christian Stewardship Organisation to the Church of Ireland over 40 years.

Nevertheless, he claims ‘radical change is necessary’ in the modern era including, *inter alia*, a perceived need to separate out ‘financial giving’ from ‘lay ministry’. The context for a more contemporary stewardship service should be discipleship and not fund raising. A contemporary service should be designed to impact on the whole Church and not a few parishes, combining high quality promotion and training within a model of lay ministry, ‘ownership’ by the Church as a whole and close association with the work of the Bishops. Such a service should have a ‘theological integrity, strategic impact and potential for much greater effectiveness in the work of the Kingdom of God’.

Of the numerous observations and proposals included in this Report the recommendation to close the Christian Stewardship Organisation as it is presently constituted and promoted has been enacted to take effect from 30<sup>th</sup> June 2002.

Until the 30<sup>th</sup> June the Christian Stewardship staff are continuing to:

- (1) Assist parishes in the planning stages of Development Programmes, which will take place during 2002 / 2003.
- (2) Service parishes throughout Ireland with advice on the many varied aspects of Christian Stewardship.

The Chairman and Committee wish to take this opportunity to express their sincere gratitude for the devoted, faithful and significant contribution to the life of the Church of Ireland by Mr Murray Hunter and his predecessors as Christian Stewardship Co-Ordinators, and to the other members of staff, Mrs Rosemary Patterson and Mrs Ann Drury.

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