

Dear Member

This AIF News Bulletin contains:

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3. Summary of the guidance by the German bishops on the eucharist with commentary by Ruth Reardon
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If you have any news or articles to share with members, please continue to send them to me. Please also continue to check the website and our Facebook and Twitter pages for information and articles between the bulletins.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support for the Association and its work. If you have any questions about any of the information in the bulletin, please contact me.

With best wishes

Doral Hayes
Executive Development Officer

'You live in your marriage the hopes and the difficulties of the path to Christian Unity.' Pope John Paul II, York, 1982



Association of Interchurch Families, 10 Aldersgate Street, EC1A 4HJ
info@interchurchfamilies.org.uk Tel: 020 3384 2947. www.interchurchfamilies.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 283811

Presidents: The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, Bishop Tim Thornton, The Free Churches Moderator, Rev Dr Hugh Osgood and Dr Ruth Reardon

1. AIF Jubilee Weekend 2018 – PLEASE SEND IN YOUR BOOKINGS!

Plans are now well underway for the AIF Jubilee Weekend which takes place on the 13-14 October 2018 and this will be a very special weekend marking the 50th Anniversary of the Association.

October will soon be here so those members who intend to be come but who have not yet booked please do book!

The weekend will take the theme of Jubilee and we hope that many friends and members will join us to celebrate the work of the Association. The programme is still being finalised but there will be a Evensong service led by Bishop Tim Thornton and Archbishop Bernard on the Saturday evening followed by a drinks reception and a celebratory dinner with our special guests. Our list of special guests currently includes the following friends of the Association.

- **Archbishop Bernard Longley**
- **Bishop Tim Thornton**
- **Dame Mary Tanner**
- **Rev Dr Callan Slipper, National Ecumenical Officer Church of England**
- **Bob Fyffe, General Secretary of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland**
- **Rev. Dr Paul Goodliff, General Secretary of Churches Together in England**
- **Fr Dominic Robinson**
- **Dr Elizabeth Davies, Marriage Care**
- **Prof. Thomas Knieps Port Le Roi, Chair of INTAMS and Co-ordinator of the Interchurch Families International Network**
- **Brenden and Laura Thompson**

We are blessed to have so many special guests joining us and so hope many members will be able to come and celebrate together as well as make the most of this opportunity to speak to our guests about issues concerning interchurch families.

In the spirit of the biblical theme of Jubilee and to enable more members to attend the AIF Jubilee Weekend the trustees have agreed to keep the price for the weekend at the same level as last year for adults and to allow all children in full-time education to attend at no cost!

In addition, there is also financial help available in the form of grants (or loans) - applications are heartily encouraged as we want as many people as possible to be able to join us for this very special weekend. We don't want anyone to stay away just because of the cost so please do use the help that we are pleased to give. A leaflet explaining more about the fund that supports members to attend our weekend is attached.

A booking form for the AIF 2018 Jubilee Weekend is attached to this bulletin, this a word document so members can easily complete it and email it in to the office. The form is also available to download from the AIF website at <https://www.interchurchfamilies.org.uk/members-area/conference-booking/>

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2. English Anglican Roman Catholic Committee – Celebrating 50 Meetings of Dialogue and Starting a New Chapter

The first meeting of the next quinquennial of the English Anglican Roman Catholic Committee (known by many as English ARC) took place on the 2nd July 2018 at Lambeth Palace. This meeting was predominantly an introduction for the new committee but continued into a celebration as this meeting was also the 50th Meeting of English ARC. I was attending as part of the new Anglican delegation. The new committee had their introductory session and lunch together and were then joined by previous members of the committee for refreshments, time to share stories and hear from several previous members about what they felt the dialogue had achieved so far. The day concluded with Evening Prayer in the Chapel led by Archbishop Justin Welby and during which it was lovely to see the warmth between friends across the traditions, especially Archbishop Justin and Archbishop Bernard Longley.

Bishop Tim Thornton, Bishop of Lambeth was also present for some of the day, and it was good to see our Anglican President, although he is no longer formally part of English ARC.

The new committee is smaller than it has been previously, reduced from twenty to only ten members from each tradition including the staff from the Council for Christian Unity and the Department for Dialogue and Unity. All have been asked to serve for five years initially although there is a hope that people will want to continue as in any committee of this nature, meeting only twice a year, it takes time for relationships and dialogue to develop.

The Roman Catholic members are Archbishop Bernard Longley, longstanding friend of AIF and speaker at our forthcoming AIF Jubilee Weekend, Bishop Robert Byrne, Fr Andrew Cole, Mr Claudia Gangeni, Rev Canon William Isaac, Prof. Janet Soskice, Fr Stephen Parkinson and Patricia Whitney. The Anglican delegates are Bishop Christopher Foster, Rev. Canon Andrew Davison, Bishop Jill Duff, Bishop Mike Harrison, Rev. Canon Maggie Mclean, Rev. Andrew Moughtin-Mumby, Rev. Dr Matthew Hill and myself. Rev. Dr Jeremy Worthen, Rev. Dr Callan Slipper from the Council for Christian Unity, and Canon John O'Toole and Canon Tony Churchill from the Department for Dialogue and Unity are also on the staff members on the new committee.

The agenda for forthcoming meetings is still evolving and will be very much determined by the work that emerges from ARCIC III, however, at the next meeting in November we will start by discussing church schools. I am aware that following the Mapping Exercise at the end of the last English ARC quinquennium, which highlighted interchurch families as a priority, some members may be disappointed that interchurch families are not already featured on the immediate agenda. However, during conversations "in the margins" I had discussions with those who thought they would be discussed as time progressed, so I remain hopeful.

I would be grateful for your prayers for the Anglican Roman Catholic Committee over the coming months and years, for the relationships that will emerge and the discussions that will take place and that through them we will together take real steps together towards greater unity.

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3. Summary of the guidance by the German bishops on the eucharist with commentary by Ruth Reardon

Further to the last AIF News Bulletin Ruth Reardon has written an update for AIF members summarising the guidance by the German bishops on the eucharist and providing comment. This article, as well as the full English translation can be found on the AIF website.

The full English translation and Ruth's summary of the guidance can both be found here at <https://www.interchurchfamilies.org.uk/resources/library/communion/>

The longer report including Ruth's commentary is available in the members area of the website at <https://www.interchurchfamilies.org.uk/members-area/reports-from-conferences-and-meetings/> and is also attached to this edition of the AIF News Bulletin.

4. AIF Prayer Calendar

The new edition of the AIF Prayer Calendar is already available on the AIF website here <https://www.interchurchfamilies.org.uk/resources/prayer-calendar/> but is also available for members as an attachment.

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