

Cornerstone

Caritas Diocese of Salford



2012 – 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



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FOREWORD

This is I think the tenth occasion on which I have been privileged to write a few words of introduction to Cornerstone Day Centre's Annual Report. Each occasion has been one of mixed emotions. No one can take satisfaction from a challenge which seems to grow bigger and more complex year after year. But the response of the staff, volunteers and donors has been, and continues to be, one from which I and the family of God in Salford Diocese derive comfort, and in which we can take great pride.



Before announcing his retirement, Pope Benedict pronounced this year as a year of evangelisation. His successor Francis has made clear that success will be marked by what we do, rather more than what we declare. Deeds not words! And the focus of our action? The poor!

The great corporal works of mercy - sheltering the homeless and feeding the hungry - are central to the call of the Holy Father to each and every one of us. The Cornerstone family has been 'on message' since its earliest days. (It is, after all, a message which was first proclaimed two thousand years ago!) Each year the project seems to renew, refresh and redouble its endeavours. It has evolved into a source of knowledge and information, a centre of excellence and expertise and a hallmark of what it is to be truly human.

On behalf of the diocesan family I extend to everyone involved congratulations and heartfelt thanks and an assurance of my prayers that all who come to Cornerstone will continue, through you, to experience God's unconditional love for each and every one of us.

+ Terence J. Brain

+ Terence J. Brain

Bishop of Salford

The law of unintended consequences is as enduring as it is inescapable. When Henry VIII entrusted the task of 'dissolving' England's monasteries to Thomas Cromwell, he not only uprooted countless monastic communities but further impoverished the disadvantaged who, when crops failed or illness and disability struck, turned to the monks and their convent based counterparts for food and shelter. Half a century later, Henry's daughter, Elizabeth I, introduced the Poor Law which offered the carrot of relief alongside the sticks of social isolation and stigma. So harsh was the framework that many of those charged with enforcement sought ways to mitigate many of its cruellest elements.

Two centuries later - 1832 - The political establishment, now driving the World's first industrial revolution, viewed the Elizabethan Poor Law as inimical to the perceived need for a numerous, cheap labour force. The Commission of the Poor Law reported in 1834. It recommended a system based on two main principles - those of (1) less eligibility and (2) the workhouse test. The former which asserted that a claimant should receive less in cash and kind than could be earned by the meanest labourer. The latter demanded that such assistance could only be offered within the punitive precincts of the workhouse.

The Poor Law of 1834 survived on paper at least, until 1948 when the National Health Service Act 1946 and the National Assistance Act 1948 ushered in the Welfare State. The network of workhouses had long since ceased to function as such. In embracing the Beveridge proposals, the Atlee government finally put to rest the principle of less eligibility. Hansard recorded that on 1st July 1948 the Poor Law died.

Many commentators see 1st April 2013 as the day on which it rose, phoenix like from the ashes. It is of course too early to assess whether such a claim can be made for the raft of reforms ushered in by the incumbent Secretary for Work and Pensions. Whether history will judge such measures as 'The Bedroom Tax', 'The Benefits Cap', 'Universal Credit' etc as regressive or progressive demands a degree of academic restraint. This is not a luxury those of us working at Cornerstone enjoy. The more combative approaches emerging from Whitehall since the earliest days of the

Coalition have been hitting those not in work, the disabled and those seeking asylum, for many months. Disruptions to or withdrawal of benefits has given rise to a phenomenon mentioned (for the first time) in last year's report, namely, food poverty. There is a feeling that 'we aint seen nothing yet!' To the anxieties of poverty campaigners must not be added those of social housing providers who fear that a combination of Bedroom Tax, Universal Benefit and the reshaping (reduction) of Council Tax Credit will increase the trickle of evictions to a flood. Should that happen some of the water is certain to lap against the steps of Cornerstone.

The words of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI written in 2009 anticipate our current challenges. "From a social point of view systems of protection and welfare are finding it hard and could find it even harder in the future to pursue their goals of the social justice in today's profoundly changed environment." He upbraids those who regard the downsizing of social security systems as the price to be paid for securing competitive advantage and asserts "that the primary capital to be safeguarded and valued is the Human Person in his or her integrity" (Caritas in Veritate (2009) Para 25).

We can only rejoice that on his inauguration a few short weeks ago Pope Francis highlighted the plight of the poor and marginalised and pledged to make the amelioration thereof his first consideration. Just two days later, on his installation as Archbishop of Canterbury, Archbishop Justin Welby made exactly the same promise.

As a project founded on Gospel values drive by the Creator's gifts and inspired his Son's love for those suffering the pangs of poverty and exclusion, Cornerstone draws boundless encouragement from the stirring words of both primate and pontiff.

Shortly after Easter - uncommonly early and somewhat arctic - Archbishop Nichols delivered a heart warming speech at the St Paul's Institute. It was entitled 'Good People'. Good people, bound by good purpose can bring about a community of virtue through the vision, commitment and relationships they form. He goes on: "To learn to live well is to practice the virtues so that what we do is right and honourable irrespective of reward and regardless of what we are obliged to do".

You'll find the whole speech on the internet, it really is quite breath-taking.

I believe that at Cornerstone you will discover, if you have not done so already, just such a community of virtue of which Archbishop Nichols speaks. It comprises Staff, Volunteers, Helpers and Donors. This Annual Report endeavours in some small way to capture what it is which makes them so incomparably special.

THE SURVEY

Last year we dipped our toes into the paddling pool of research and shared our findings with you. This year we were rather more thorough.

Introduction

Over 4 days in one week in the month of February a well briefed group of researchers asked a total of 400 centre users to tell us about themselves and their circumstances. It would be reasonable to infer from this that in any week Cornerstone is visited by almost 500 people - some of whom visit every day, many less so.

GENDER	
83%	Of Cornerstone guests were men
17%	Of Cornerstone guests were women
AGES	
39%	Of respondents were aged between 21 and 40
48%	Of respondents were aged between 41 and 60
12%	Of respondents were aged between 61 and 80
1%	Was under 21 (a further 1% was 81+)
82%	Of those questioned had no dependents
25%	Of those questioned had no other address than Cornerstone

ACCOMMODATION

16%	Lived on the Streets
12%	Lived in Hostels
9%	Were staying with Friends
4%	Were in Supported Accommodation
54%	Lived in their Own House or Flat (40% in Flats)
Only 8%	Had a Family Member living with them

HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT?

33%	Said 'Every day / nearly every day'
40%	Said 'Many times each week'
9%	Said 'Once a week'
10%	Said 'A couple of times a month'
8%	Said 'Not often'

SERVICES TAKEN UP

64%	Befriending/Socialising
22%	Pool Table
16%	Classes/Activities
63%	Clothing Shop
38%	Computers
53%	Phone
41%	Barber
37%	Shower/Shave
30%	Food Parcels
95%	Meals
48%	Advice

NATIONALITY

Cornerstone clients were drawn from at least 28 Nations. The largest group with 52% was British followed by Polish 14%; Irish 10%; Persian 3%. Eastern Europe, the Middle East and the Horn of Africa were represented as expected..... but Australia was a surprise entry!

BENEFITS

77%	Of centre users were on Benefits, 8% of whom were 'suspended'.
21%	Were not in receipt of Benefits many of whom had no regular source of income.

OTHER AGENCIES

29%	Of respondents used other agencies
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HEALTH

41%	Of respondents said they suffered from Mental ill health. Anxiety states and Depression dominated the diagnoses with Schizophrenia, Bi-Polar Disorder, Post-Traumatic Stress also featuring significantly
13%	Of centre users had Substance Abuse issues
25%	Of centre users had Alcohol Abuse issues
13%	Of respondents were not registered with a Doctor

And finally.....

HOW DID YOU FIND CORNERSTONE?

82%	Said 'Word of Mouth'
3%	'Church'
2%	'Social Services'
1%	'Town Hall'
1%	'Job Centre'
1%	'Your Leaflet'

STAFF

Our year began on an inauspicious note when one of the more longstanding members of the team encountered health issues which, after several months sick leave, led to his leaving us. Billy Duncan was devoted to Cornerstone and those it served and gave generously of himself. The dignity with which he accepted that he had given his all and needed time out touched all those of us who knew what a difficult decision this was.

Some months elapsed before the vacancy was filled. Staff vacancies are rare despite the extremely demanding nature of the work which staff undertake and a full team complement is essential to ensure such a high quality service

The challenges presented by centre users were always more extensive than hunger and shelter from the elements. But it was to deal with these fundamentals that we initially set out the stall. None of the team however was content with offering simple responses to complex problems. Year after year they, as individuals and as team members, have added to their knowledge, developed professional expertise and have acquired an unquantifiable amount of experience. They have identified the resources which were required to complement this aspirational approach and have worked steadfastly to generate the funds to acquire them.

In aggregate the team has attended a total of 28 days training on subjects including Domestic Violence, Mental Health, Welfare Benefits Reform and Homelessness. A further 9 sessions on in-house training events were also registered.

Over the years the Annual Reports have acknowledged the passion, enthusiasm, commitment and phenomenal energy of a team which routinely has gone countless extra miles to make a difference in shattered or fragmented lives. Increasingly we must learn to acknowledge an additional dimension - that of professionalism. The team is recognised by fellow professionals in the field of homelessness as equal partners, and on many occasions as leaders.

The team has come a long way over the last decade. They deserve our congratulations, our thanks and our prayers that they will continue to go from strength to strength.



Cornerstone star cast meet 'soap star' Tricia Penrose

OUR VOLUNTEERS

The foundations of Cornerstone run deep and much of their strength derives from the invaluable presence of the scores of women and men who serve food and drinks, staff the clothing store and manage a hundred and one things that underpin the smooth running of the project.

It is invidious to shine the spotlight on individuals or sub-groups because it could be regaled as ranking particular tasks or contributions as having a higher value than others, whereas in truth, without even the most modest contribution the Centre would be diminished.

In highlighting one or two 'actors' the intention is merely to illustrate the dedication of the whole group. Rob is the sandwich gatherer. We are indebted to our drivers who do the sandwich run each evening. There are two or three of them - Heroes all -

but Rob is the man who 'rides shotgun'. He darts in and out of the 'Prêt' and 'Eat' shops in town, loads up the volunteer's car, and on their return loads this modern equivalent of 'the basket of loaves and fishes' into refrigerators. The evening is well advanced by the time his task is complete. It can't be much fun cycling home on cold, dark winter nights. But that's what Rob does and always with a luminous smile and sparking eyes.

Then there was the 'heavy mob' who decorated the flat of the gentleman referred to as 'X' (above). The three volunteers continued their normal shift pattern and carried out this Herculean task as an extra! Diana, Richard, Frank (and Gary) Heroes all!!

Volunteers also chalked up 61 attendances at in-house training events (Mental Health, Drugs Awareness, Alcohol Abuse etc') and 21 attended an induction event.

By any criteria, with thirty thousand unpaid hours worked, some serious training undertaken and some quite exceptional work carried out, the contribution of our volunteers is not merely foundational, it is both inspirational and hugely impactful.

THE DIGNITY AGENDA

This section of last year's report introduced the aspirational nature of the project. The overall objective of the Caritas Trustees and the Cornerstone Team was and continues to be the upholding of Human Dignity. Catholic social teaching, the most recent exposition of which was contained in Pope Benedict's 'Caritas In Veritate', is now entering the mainstream of economics and politics. It has been endorsed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Professor Robert Skidelsky (who has discovered C.S.T. at the end of a lifetime's philosophical journey). We wished to incorporate the message of the social gospel into the built environment and the improvements unveiled just as 2011/12 ended and 2012/13 began were the first phase. Work has continued throughout the year but on a more modest scale.

The women's shower has been upgraded, the capacity of the laundry doubled, and the additional rooms enable clinical work and interviews to be conducted with dignity

and more privately. The larger of the additional spaces has enabled the centre to deliver sessions in matters as English, Music and 'Domestic Science'.

Discussions about bringing kitchen and servery closer together have twisted and turned. There is agreement on principle but the 'How?' remains contentious. A large windfall might concentrate minds and lead to a speedy resolution!!

In the last two years we have conducted two separate overlapping surveys. We have learned a great deal about who are guests are and the services they value. Perhaps in 2013/14 we will focus on Aspirations..... 'What do clients seek and what will enable them to find'. Employment is particularly important. The loss of a job is often linked with the loss of dignity, and a descent into despair. Our record vis-à-vis Homelessness is impressive.... Maybe our next target should be 'The World of Work'??



Centre 'Face-Lift' courtesy of Seddons!!

OUR DONORS

1. This is the section of the report which gives tremendous pleasure in the writing of it. Were it not for the generosity of so many corporates, charities, groups and individuals Cornerstone would be but a shadow of what it has become. 'Prêt a Manger' and 'Eat' have become established family members. They enable us to offer our guests the best of the best. Costco too, has now become an important contributor to our programme of healthy eating which defines our service. Our local Asda came aboard during the year and once a month we're allowed to canvas for donations at the main entrance. Fayreshare remains a part of our supply chain and Fr. Mulheran drives out to Baxenden every fortnight and returns with several hundred of Holland's pies. Collectively these businesses contribute to the volume, the quality and the impact of our work. This brief acknowledgment does not reflect what we owe to them and the community spirit element of their businesses.



Kevin, gathering the Asda customers 'bounty'

2. There is a number of Charitable Trusts whose constant commitment to our work has been and continues to be outstanding. These include The Hogben Family Trust, The Joseph Cox Charity, The Mary Strand Trust and Manchester Relief in Need. The Prêt Foundation, so generous to us as a donor of food, continues to fund our work with a significant grant. Grants from The Kennedy Foundation, The Peter Kershaw Trust and The Broughton Catholic Charitable Trust received in the previous year were still providing Cornerstone with reassuring solidity as the New Year commenced. We are blest to be so well supported by so many Charities who are much more than Benefactors; they are friends from whom we derive great encouragement.
3. Our Parish family network in both Salford and Shrewsbury Dioceses continues to inspire us with its steadfastness and magnanimity. A large number of Parish Priests and their Parish families have redoubled their efforts despite adverse economic conditions with the magnificent result that levels of giving already inspirational have been maintained. Quite a number of Parishes have been outstanding and merit special mention which space consideration do not allow. Were we to select just one to stand for all, it might be Fr. Ray Matus, late of the Holy name and now established in St Chads. Despite this demanding upheaval his congregation have continued its customary level of Almsgiving for the comfort of those on the margins. Deo Gratias.
4. The climate in our schools is a pointer to the future. From this perspective, given the significant and regular donations of food and toiletries classes of all ages bring to the centre, we can safely say the future looks very bright. We have come to depend on Harvest Festivals to replenish stocks of tinned and dried foods. Year after year the response is both astonishing and humbling. It cannot go unremarked, however, that the Harvest does not last quite as long these days. Not because donations are any less, but because demand is spiralling. 'Foodlessness' is not yet a word which has entered the language.....But it may and that will be a sad day for us all when it does!

5. More than 500 cheques were received and processed during the year more than half of which were from private donors. Many of them take ones breath away.....not because of the amounts involved (though some were substantial) but because of the spirit of generosity which informed the gift. Several were from grieving relatives who, though bereaved, still found time to think sensitively and kindly of those whom they considered even more troubled. Nobody, it seems sought public acknowledgment. We try to acknowledge every single gift. Sister Maria's letters evince warm responses more because they were thought to reflect the kindness of the recipients (i.e. Cornerstone) rather than the unselfishness of the givers. In defence to yourselves the 'Private' donors, we shall produce no roll call..... you know who you are, we know who you are and most importantly God knows who you are. You are blessed by the Lord and an inspiration to us. We hold each one of you in our hearts and in our prayers.

6. There were 3 main Cornerstone fundraisers this year, each one very different from the others. Pauline Murphy, a keen member of the Brixii Singers, persuaded her husband to commission a number of professional singers and musicians to accompany her choir in a performance of the Messiah at St John's Chorlton. For those who braved the atrocious weather it was an evening to remember. The North West of England Irish Association put on a Golf Day for us. It raised over £5000. In thanking them we also congratulate them on such a fantastic result. Thirdly, Anne Mitchell pulled off her (Annual) mid-winter miracle once again. St Kentigern's was full to the rafters to relive the glory days of 'Folk' in a performance by The Houghton Weavers. The event raised more than six thousand pounds which speaks volumes for Anne's many talents and Cornerstone's devoted supporters.

Although not wishing to anticipate next year's report, we shouldn't wait another twelve months to acknowledge a development which is unfolding as we go to press. Air-Energi, a global corporate with a regional presence, has

adopted Cornerstone as its 2013/14 charity. A golf day being held in May is the first of a number of initiatives aimed at raising a five figure sum in support of the dignity agenda.

(It would perhaps be unfair, to, Seddons, the builders, who donated and installed new doors, which got 'next year' off to a more secure and colourful start.)

The Result

The outcome of all this incomparable, thoughtful kindness and heart warming good will was that £235,000 flowed into our coffers. Slightly more flowed in the opposite direction. We spent £263,000. The figures are not yet final at the time of writing, and the final position might be that we run at a deficit of perhaps as much as £30,000. We have built up reserves in past years to cushion the impact of such shortfalls. It has proved to be a prudent strategy, but one which is only possible because of our donor's historic generosity. Thank you, to each and everyone concerned.

IN MEMORIAM

Twice a year staff, volunteers and donors gather for a prayerful celebration of gifts received and achievements attained. We pray for future grace and favours to continue the vital work, and we remember those members of the Cornerstone family who have died..... Some of whom would have gone unmourned, but for those of our number who cared for them, and attended their final rights.

Our thoughts are with the following 'regulars' who died during the year:

Laclair Hall
Kate Boyle
James Bray
Valijus Beinarovics
Martin Keighery
Shelley Rogers
Patrick Rafter
Noel Rogan

What the Papers say

- In 2011-12 rough sleeping in England went up by 23% and in London by a massive 43%Inside Housing
- It is estimated that 3 million tons of food is wasted each year. Much of it is fit for human consumption The Guardian, October 2012
- As many as 4.7 million Britons could be living in food poverty - Kellogs UK/Centre for Economic & business Research
- The richest families spend less than 5% total income on food. The poorest families spend more than 25% total income on food. IBID
- It is estimated that 660 000 households will be affected by the bedroom tax. 420 000 will have one or more disabled member Inside Housing, 8 March 2013
- Today's benefit cuts and housing crisis are taking us back to Victorian times. (politicians) must listen before things get worse (Green Party) Mayor of Brighton
- Like many people facing a housing crisis C. Had no family or friends to break his fall confirming the inconvenient truth that many people are only one pay packet away from homelessness. IBID
- We are definitely getting more people coming in. A lot have had their benefit changed and been left with nothing for 3 weeks or more. Angela Shannon, Manchester Evening News
- We are unique among nations grappling with a deficit in loading most of the medicine to relieve the pain on the poorest ... those in social housing, those on benefit and the disabled... Prof Peter Gooby-Taylor, University of Kent

M is a 65 year old man who had been resident in an Inner City Hostel for more than 10 years before word of mouth led him to Cornerstone 5 years ago. Being learning disabled he had and still has difficulty telling his story. Although clearly gaining much from his regular visits to Cornerstone M began to intimate that he was in difficulty. This led to staff to accompany him 'home' on one occasion. What they saw was unrelentingly bleak. His only comfort - the TV set was broken and management was unconcerned. M responded by taking short walks to the city centre seeking venues with TV in the public areas. He was attacked more than once on his journey back to his cramped and stuffy quarters. Cornerstone pursued an application for social housing on M's behalf and M was offered sheltered housing with very little delay. With no possessions of his own, the staff mounted a quest for bed, bedding and furniture.

The squalor of his former home masked a problem which quickly became apparent in his new flat M suffers from nocturnal enuresis - a legacy from a life lived largely in institutions. Staff have already delivered a mattress cover and alerted the NHS Continence Service. It is hoped that with a combination of pads and self management M will regain a degree of control, and recover that sense of dignity from which will emerge the cherry on the cake of life, which for M tastes sweeter than he could ever have imagined when squalor and exploitation drew him to seek the comfort of Cornerstone five long years ago.

X lives within a stone's throw of the centre. He'd seen people coming in and out. In particular he'd seen people with food parcels leaving the centre at the end of the day. He formed the view that people came with problems and went home with solutions and wondered if Cornerstone could help him. He'd been diagnosed with and been treated for Cancer. Nurses gave him health care and social support, but he was conscious that when left to himself he struggled to shop, cook and maintain his home. He accepted our assurances that he'd be a welcome visitor and is now deriving a lot of benefit from his regular visits across the road. He found himself returning to a domestic scene that reflected his declining health. The house and furnishings too, were spiralling downwards. Three of our regular volunteers and the centre's handy person formed themselves into a working party with a variety of brushes, scrubbing/paint/pastes, and transformed the desperately desolate domestic landscape to one reflective of the refreshing brightness of a spring morning..... with the added extras of good food and cheering company X found his life transfigured. He remains very sick but his illness no longer defines his life..... It is his relationship with Cornerstone which is the epicentre of his life and he is full of hope that it will remain so in his remaining months and, just maybe, years.

I had been married for 12 years, with a home and a job, when I started to drink heavily. This as well as massive money problems, led to me finding myself homeless, familyless, and suffering from severe depression.

Eventually I got a flat in Moss Side, but loneliness and grinding poverty affected me and I still suffer from depression. I heard about Cornerstone Centre but was very shy about visiting. I had become a recluse and lack of money meant I wasn't eating properly. Clothes were out of the question. I found that the Centre provided cheap meals and second hand clothing. I was able to eat properly and could buy bedding, towels, and household stuff, which meant my children could stay with me from time to time. This had an enormous effect on my life and mental health, and meant I wasn't always borrowing money to eat, which helped my self-esteem a lot. I was able to use the Centre's telephone when I was having problems with my Housing Association and electricity provider; and without this help I would have just hid my head in the sand until I was evicted.

I am so grateful to Cornerstone for this practical help, which has kept me from falling through the net into real despair, and in many ways has saved my life. I haven't drunk any alcohol for nearly 12 years and Cornerstone's support has helped me stick to this.

Recently, after some rent problems, a Cornerstone worker, Alex, put me in touch with the Irish Community Care Team, who hearing of my situation and previous work as a musician, put me in touch with a charity for Musicians, who awarded me a grant that cleared up my rent arrears and paid for new glasses (which I desperately needed, and would have had to wait 2 years for). They also gave me money for other things I needed and have offered to pay for Counselling that I couldn't get from my doctor. All this is down to Alex's fine, intelligent, caring work and once again I couldn't be more grateful to her, and everyone at the Centre.

The people that run the centre, give so much love and patient attention to the people that go there.

Everybody, regardless of their position, race, their religion, their addictions, or mental health problems is treated with real love and as a person that belongs to the world; and this is the first step to getting back on their feet. Whether somebody needs practical help, like laundry facilities, a mail address or even a haircut, or just a place to not be alone, they provide these things with dignity and grace, day in, day out. They are a credit to our Community and a rare example of selflessness in a 'dog eat dog world'. E.K.

MISSION STATEMENT



Our Mission, inspired by Christian values, is to create a safe, caring environment, where each person is valued and respected in a Centre which provides services and facilities to minimise the effects of poverty, distress, social exclusion or illness amongst adults.

1. Aims

To meet the needs of homeless, disadvantaged and isolated adults, by providing a basic service which will enhance their quality of life. The Centre gives companionship, support, practical help and facilitates access to other statutory and voluntary services.

2. Objectives

The aims will be met in the following objectives:

- By creating a welcoming, safe and relaxed environment for anyone visiting the Centre.
- By providing an opportunity for users to discuss their needs.
- By providing food at a very low cost (or crisis food parcels, as appropriate) for users of the Centre.
- By promoting personal hygiene amongst the Centre users through the provision of shower, shaving and laundry facilities.
- By providing good quality clothing at a very low cost or free (as appropriate).
- By assisting with the provision of basic health care and access to, and liaison with, local health services.
- By providing facilities for social, leisure and educational activities for users of the Centre.
- By liaising with other organisations, voluntary and statutory, and by directing users of the Centre to such other agencies or resources as might be appropriate.

3. Ethos

The Centre has an 'open door' policy and was established to aid and assist homeless and disadvantaged people. The Centre functions with a Christian Ethos and an Equal Opportunities Policy which does not countenance discrimination of any kind.

The Christian Ethos is central to the way the service is delivered. The core values are ones which are shared by other faiths and philosophies of life.

4. Values

- To respect the dignity of each person
- To assist the disadvantaged in our society
- To create an atmosphere of calm, warmth and welcome
- To develop relationships of respect, not condescension
- To be open to change, to the views of others and to social concerns, and then allow these to inform our actions

OUR INSPIRATION

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, “Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me”. Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?” And the King will answer, “I tell you solemnly, insofar as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me”.

(Matthew Chapter 25 ... 31 - 40)

He stood to read and they handed Him the Scroll of The Prophet Isiah ... He found the place where it was written

The spirit of the Lord had been given to me

He has sent me to bring the Good News to the poor

To proclaim liberty to captives

And to the blind new sight.

To set the downtrodden free

To proclaim the Lord's year of favour

(Luke Chapter 3 ... 17-19)



**Cornerstone Day Centre is a self
standing project under the umbrella of
Caritas Diocese of Salford**

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