

THE PARISH OF CHIRK
St. Mary's Church, Chirk & St. David's Church, Froncysyllte
(Vicar: The Rev A J Rees, 01691 778519)

PARISH NEWSLETTER No. 78 (February 2010)

At the united ecumenical service we held in January for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a prayer of commitment borrowed from the Church Together in Scotland was used. It is a prayer I hope we can all sincerely say to God:-

*Take us from where we are,
to where you want us to be;
make us not merely guardians of a heritage
but living signs of your coming Kingdom.
Fire us with passion for justice and peace
between all people.
Fill us with that faith, hope, and love,
which embody the Gospel,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit
make us one,
that the world may believe
that your name may be enthroned in our nation,
that your church may more effectively be your body.
We commit ourselves to love you, serve you,
and follow you as pilgrims not strangers.
Amen.*

I like this prayer because it is looking forward with faith in God, it is asking for grace of the Holy Spirit in us to serve our fellow-men, it is doing all for the glory of God, and it is committing us to work together as fellow-Christians for the service of Christ. It is a prayer we could usefully say both at home and in church regularly, but especially at the beginning of a new year.

At our Parish Annual Meeting in March we could then consider how, with the grace of Christ, we can fulfil these hopes and answer this prayer. Your presence and thoughts and prayers will be welcome.