

GROWING WITH GOD'S GRACE IN GLASGOW AND GALLOWAY

The first MAP is born!

St Augustine's Dumbarton has been working with the MAP process for two years, long before it became policy to encourage congregations to follow such a process as part of the diocesan strategic intention for growth. With the help of a MAP Facilitator, a small group from the congregation has been working hard over the past three months to refine the existing plans and graft them onto the diocesan vine. The resultant Mission Action Plan (MAP) was signed on Sunday January 15th during the main service.

Their Rector, the Revd Kenny Macaulay, writes that 'it's been a long slog, the culmination of two years' hard work, with a lot of navel-gazing, a lot of affirmation of current ministries, and lots of hopes and dreams for the future. The MAP ensures that we don't stand still, or rest on our laurels, but continue to grow in our witness, ministry and mission.' It is a detailed document taking into account the needs and hopes of the neighbourhood in which the charge is set, and the ways in which St Augustine's can deepen their work within and for their local community.

Kenny goes on to suggest that though the MAP exercise may appear to be a daunting one, especially to smaller charges, nevertheless, 'if done properly, it should be a positive exercise which commends, affirms and supports the little charges who struggle on struggling on!'

Well done to the Dumbarton congregation for setting their goals so smartly – in every sense! - for the coming year, and to encouraging us all in this way. We look forward to others following their pioneering lead.

Community Audit

One of the strengths of St Augustine's MAP is the detailed knowledge it displays of the needs of the neighbourhood in which it is set. There is now a downloadable resource available on the Growth Strategy web-site to enable congregations to do just that. Entitled *Conducting a Community Audit*, this short workbook details all the tools needed carry out a survey of your local community. <http://md.glasgow.anglican.org/diocesan-growth-strategy/>

Enthusiastic response

There has been a terrific response from charges to MAP-ping! 17 congregations have now embarked upon the process. Huge thanks go to the Facilitators for their willingness to give of their time and energy to accompany these congregations on their journey of discovery in 2012. This work could not happen without such dedication and energy, and for that we are truly grateful.

Ian Barcroft and Anne Tomlinson