

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY'S
Counsellors on Foreign Relations

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11th June 1974

Dear Professor Scanlon,

TO ALL MEMBERS OF ARCIC

Following a recent meeting of the Steering Committee of ARCIC, I enclose its proposals for the meeting at Grottaferrata. These include discussion of reactions to the Canterbury Statement, the Agenda for the Business Meeting, and the way the discussion of Church and Authority might proceed. The material collected and prepared on this subject has been tentatively grouped according to subject matter.

Also enclosed are copies of some of these papers:

ARCIC 101 "The Nature of Schism: How Complete Can it Ever Be?: What does it Do?: How can it be Healed?" by Bishop B.C. Butler.

ARCIC 106 "The 'Thou Art Peter' Pericope and the Easter Appearances" by Reginald H. Fuller

ARCIC 107 "The New Testament Basis for a Petrine Office, Peculiar to Peter Himself within the Apostolic College and Community" by Bishop R.P.C. Hanson

ARCIC 108 "Some Reflections on Magisterium in the Early Church" by the Very Revd. H. Chadwick

ARCIC 109 "The Redemptive Authority of Christ" A Working Paper from the Anglican/Roman Catholic Commission. S. Africa

ARCIC 110 "Some Notes on Indefectibility and Infallibility" from English ARC

ARCIC 111 "Mysterium Ecclesiae: An Anglican Comment" by Dr. E.L. Mascall

You will be receiving shortly other papers direct from the U.S.A., Canada and Rome and three more from here. With our next circulation we will also send another continuation of the Catalogue of Papers, so that delegates will be able to check that their sets are complete before the meeting.

Yours sincerely,
Colin Davey

(The Revd.) COLIN DAVEY
Assistant Chaplain

STEERING COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS FOR THE GROTTAFERRATA MEETING OF ARCIC

1. Reactions to the Canterbury Statement

Mgr. Purdy is preparing a paper on these which, supplemented by a similar paper from the Revd. Colin Davey, could form the basis for a general discussion of reactions to the Canterbury Statement at some point in the meeting at Grottaferrata. This would include the question of the publication of commentaries by members and the timing of their appearance.

2. Agenda for Business Meeting

1. Report on the Anglican/Roman Catholic Commission on Marriage (Mgr. Purdy).
2. Report on Bishop Howe's proposed additional Anglican/Roman Catholic Commission to deal with Anglican/Roman Catholic matters outside the brief of ARCIC and ARCCM. (Mgr. Purdy).
3. Written Report on National Anglican/Roman Catholic Dialogues (Colin Davey) to which members will be invited to add news or comments.
4. Report on Anglican/Orthodox and other bi-lateral dialogues (Mgr. Purdy, Prof. Fairweather).
5. Selection of material on Church and Authority for publication in journals.
6. The Graymoor Prize and the use to which it might be put.
7. Dates of future meetings: 1975 29th August - 7th September
1976 24th August - 2nd September
1977 30th August - 8th September

(It was felt that after the completion of a Report on Church and Authority the Commission would need to write a Final Report, perhaps including a revision of its earlier work, and ending with conclusions or recommendations on steps to be taken on the basis of the agreement achieved. Cardinal Willebrands' suggestion was noted, that one or two new people might be brought in at that stage, to assist the assessment of the work done from an informed outsider's viewpoint.)

3. The shape of the Discussion of Church and Authority

(1) It was felt that our discussion should begin from, and never lose sight of, the question, "What prospects are there for a restatement of religious authority in the modern western world?" (Dr. Chadwick ARCIC 5: Some observations on Authority, its nature, exercise and implications p.8) as well as bearing in mind his other question (ibid) "What today are the fundamental differences on authority which Roman Catholics and Anglicans have inherited from past history, and which still have influence over the conversation between them?"

3. (Continued)

(2) However, as with our earlier work on Eucharist and on Ministry, we should begin by re-examining what the New Testament has to say about Church and Authority, and precede this with a discussion of the authority of the New Testament itself.

Q. To what extent is the New Testament an authority in itself? In the light of current New Testament criticism and the tendency for example to separate the Gospels into three strata, the words of Jesus, the traditions and teachings of the primitive Church, and the redaction of the evangelists and their sources, what is the authority given by us today to each of these strata of tradition within Scripture, and what bearing has this on our discussion of the authority of Scripture and of Tradition?

(AOJDD 42 and 42A: Professor S.L. Greenslade "The Authority of Scripture in the recent practice of the Church of England"
Papers by Dr. Raymond Pelly and by the Canadian ARC "Vatican II's Constitution on Divine Revelation as an authoritative description of the authority of Scripture").

(3) The Commission might move on from this point to a discussion of ecclesiology and koinonia.

Q. What kind of community does it appear that the first Christians thought Christ intended them to be? From the answer to this question, what first notions do we have of authority in the Church? What obligations did the first Christians feel they had to accept in the areas of both belief and conduct? What was the relative weight of conscience, of the individual and of the community, and how was this embodied in the ordained ministry? How did the Holy Spirit operate and authority function in situations of dispute and division?

(ARCIC 102 Fr. George Tavard: "The Church as Eucharistic Community"
103 Fr. Schuyler Brown SJ and others: "The Concept of Koinonia as the basis of New Testament Ecclesiology"
Oxford Sub-Commission: "Ecclesiology in the light of Vatican II"
101 Bishop Butler: "The Nature of Schism: How Complete can it ever be?: What does it do?" How can it be Healed?"
Fr. Jean Tillard: "The Sensus Fidelium"
83 Mgr. Purdy: "Notes on Approaching the question of Church and Authority" paras. 9, 13, 18, 20.
109 South African ARC: "The Redemptive Authority of Christ"
96 Bishop Butler: "Vatican II's Ecclesiology")

(4) A further discussion might concentrate more specifically on primacy.

Q. What is the New Testament basis for a Petrine Office, peculiar to Peter himself within the apostolic college and community?

(ARCIC 107 Bishop Hanson: "The New Testament Basis for a Petrine Office, Peculiar to Peter Himself within the Apostolic College and Community".
Paper by Fr. Ahern with the same title
ARCIC 100 Lutheran/Catholic Dialogue Group: Joint Statement on Papal Primacy"
"Peter in the New Testament", ed. Raymond C. Brown and others
ARCIC 106 Professor Fuller: "The 'Thou art Peter' Pericope" in McCormick Quarterly 20 (1967) pp. 309-315)

5. The above is proposed by the Steering Committee as a springboard for discussion which will lead into the consideration of the development historically of the exercise and understanding of authority in the Church. It was felt advisable to propose opening the Commission's discussion in this way, but not yet to specify in detail the course to be followed both at Grottaferrata and subsequently.

6. The following papers will belong to the continuation of the discussion of Church and Authority at Grottaferrata and beyond:

- ARCIC 110 English ARC: "The Anglican Church, Indefectibility and Infallibility".
- ARCIC 111 Dr. Mascall: "Mysterium Ecclesiae: An Anglican Comment"
- ARCIC 36/1 H.E.W. Turner: "Infallibility"
- ARCIC 104 Fr. Ryan: "A Study of Pastor Eternus"
- Fr. Lütticken: "A Roman Catholic Approach to Infallibility"
- Fr. W.J. Ellos SJ: "'hierarchy veritatum' and the way in which dialogue develops a new type of theological discourse" (Title still to be finalised).
- Prof. G. Dunstan: "Revision of Canon Law and its implications for discussion of authority".
- ARCIC 98 "The Primacy: The Small Print of Vatican I" by Garrett Sweeney. The Clergy Review, February 1974.
- ARCIC 99/1 "The Status of Ecumenical Councils in Anglican Thought" by Dr. Henry Chadwick.
- ARCIC 99/3 Offprint from Theology containing "Comprehensiveness and the Mission of the Church" by A.M. Allchin, "A Marginal Note on Comprehensiveness" by R.P.C. Hanson and "The Thirty-Nine Articles" by A.M. Allchin.
- ARCIC 105 "Infallibility - a Secular Assessment" by P.J. Fitzpatrick.
- ARCIC 108 "Some Reflections on Magisterium in the Early Church" by Dr. Henry Chadwick.