



CHURCH of IRELAND GENERAL SYNOD
CHURCH in SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Social Justice and Theology (RI) Sub-Committee

The work of the group in the twelve months to February 2008 comprised the following:

- *Rural Ireland after Sugar Beet* – this pastoral reflection was drafted and presented to the main committee;
- *Embracing Difference*, Canon Patrick Comerford's booklet, was published under the group's auspices in January 2008 and is intended as a resource for parishes who wish to approach the 'New Irish' in their midst;
- *Pastoralia in the Digital World* – this booklet has been drafted and presented to the main committee;
- Thought is being given to a pastoral reflection on the Church of Ireland and the travelling community;
- The Chairperson attended the conference held in Dublin to launch the encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*, from this many points of common interest and inspiration emerged.

The group is thinking, in general, about how best to take its work forward in the light of discussions held with the main committee and the Archbishop of Armagh following General Synod 2007.

FUTURE OBJECTIVES

- Production of a pastoral reflection on the Church of Ireland and the Travelling Community;
- Review of balance between publication of material and compilation of responses for answering questions put to the Church;
- Consultation with State agencies to identify new areas where useful work could be done.