

## Addition to "About Us"

In August 2013, Church of India - CIPBC appointed Rev. Karunakara as Vicar of our church. He now celebrates the Holy Eucharist every Sunday and on Festivals. He is also present in our Church precinct on three days of the week.

Soon after his appointment to our Parish, the congregation began to see the real persona of this gentleman. He was more keen on the worldly attributes than the spiritual matters of the Parish. He was more keen to control the purse than the nourishment of the soul of his flock. He being an autocrat and a short tempered individual, the members of the congregation were beginning to lose interest in the Church. His scant knowledge of Anglican Heritage and Traditions made it difficult for the office bearers to keep this little parish together and move forward thanks to his constant opposition.

The Office Bearer brought these difficulties to the notice of the Metropolitan, Church of India – CIPBC from time to time. On October 4th. 2014 the office bearers met with the Metropolitan at Lucknow and expressed their serious reservations of Rev Karunakara and that his continuation was detrimental to their parish. After due deliberations, His Grace mentioned that there was a young ordained priest at The Union Biblical Seminary Pune (Serampore University) studying for his Masters in Theology. If were to sponsor him, we could have this seminarian as our permanent priest.

Upon the return to Whitefield the Vestry Committee was informed of the Metropolitan's offer. Immediate support to Seminarian Rev. Gabriel was authorized and actioned as we had never managed to get a resident priest (24/7) to our parish. Noticing this unanimous action by the Vestry Committee Rev. Karunakara resigned in July 2015 vide a letter to the Metropolitan casting many allegations on the Vestry Committee and requesting the Metropolitan to relive him by September 2015.

The Metropolitan accepted the resignation of Rev Karunakara and post Ven Stefan once more to our parish until Seminarian Rev Gabriel completed his studies and was able to take over as the Vicar of our Church. The Metropolitan appointed Rev Gabriel to our Parish in March 2016 and he assumed office on 1<sup>st</sup>. April 2016.

Surely our Almighty and Eternal God has His plans for our Little Church and its Congregation. We have been through many stumbling blocks and are sure that we will come across others in the future... but we are absolutely confident that our Heavenly Father will not allow us – this Little Church and its Members - to drift into a situation of no return. Every trial that we have faced has always taken us a positive step forward in our Faith and our steadfast adherence to our Anglican Heritage and Traditions.

To God be all Glory... Great things He Hath Done.