Past and present members of the Faith and Justice Commission gathered at Katherine House with old and new friends on a wild evening in March to celebrate Fr. Frank McCauley's many years of service as President of the Commission.

Frank's retirement because of ill health ended an era — over 20 years of establishment, slow growth, creative development and revitalisation for the Commission, supported always by his friendship and insight. Frank's experience of the Church in the developing world, together with his keen interest in and knowledge of contemporary issues of justice and peace, have given him both the wisdom the Commission has needed over the years and the sensitivity to let people exercise their own gifts and responsibilities. We have truly been enabled and enriched by his residency — not least because he has left us to get on with things!

So we celebrated, enjoyed the buffet and did lots of talking. Our gift reflected his love of gadgets, music and travel. In his response he spoke of his deep love of the Church that expresses itself in the Covenant values of justice and peace for which we strive. The terrible weather and severe virus infections together prevented some valued friends from joining us, but we had a very enjoyable evening nevertheless. We were particularly glad to welcome our new President, Fr. Peter Kinsella, with whom we look forward to continuing the enthusiastic collaboration, mutual support and reflection which are at the heart of our work.

Anne McGough

Frank McCauley (right) hands over to new president Peter Kinsella

Below … Frank receives a present from the commission, presented by Anne McGough