

**St Mary's Leyland
Parish Council**

Wednesday 10th April 2013

PRESENT: Fr Jonathan, Lesley Raven, Christine Lemmon, Edward Almond, Gaye Beirne, Fr John, Fr Stephen, Fr Paul, Tim Sullivan, Sue Mills, Sr Veronica, Liz McGrath, Alex Anthony, Jeremy Watson, Judy Gammans.

APOLOGIES: Ann Ward, Peter Barron, Walter Courtney,
PRAYER: Led by Fr Jonathan

MINUTES: Accepted as a true record of our last meeting.

PARISH EVENTS:

- Lenten Reconciliation Service
- Easter Sunday and Holy Week Services
- Feast of The Divine Mercy - Mass
- Sacramental Programme
- New Head of St Anne's Liz Darnell appointed
- The sad passing of Fr Justin Caldwell
- Wedding Preparation Course
- Baptism Course
- The tragic deaths of Mother and Daughter Lauren Thornton (Year 6 St. Anne's Primary School) and Kelly Webster whose funeral is to be held in our church when the bodies are released. The teachers at St Anne's held a gathering of mainly year 6 children and their parents on the Friday after Easter simply to come together, grieve and pray. There was a short service led by Mr Barrett who spoke beautifully to the children helping them to grieve positively. The children wrote cards and prayers and Fr Jonathan helped Mr Barrett in the short service. Fr Jonathan pointed out to us at the PPC how blessed we are with our schools and their teachers.

COMMENTS ON HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY:

Every service throughout the Easter Season was very special and beautifully undertaken by our priests and well attended by our parishioners. Three new parishioners joined our church at the vigil Mass.

Many of the members remarked on the beautiful sermons we were blessed with.

Times of the Vigil Mass were discussed and it was agreed that we should perhaps start this Mass a little earlier next Easter at 8pm as it was 10.45 before it finished which was difficult for those with children and the elderly.

The Altar Servers were also highly praised for their part in making our Easter services so very special.

REVERENCE OF ALL AT HOLY COMMUNION:

The practice of genuflecting, making the sign of the Cross or bowing before stepping forward to receive Holy Communion was discussed at some length. After discussing a number of issues it was agreed that our priests would meet together to agree a way forward and how to promote the issue.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME:

Tim Sullivan welcomed Jackie Matthews who kindly joined our meeting to update us on the work being undertaken with our young people to prepare them for Confirmation and Holy Communion.

Jackie also gave us an insight into the order the celebration would follow and of the dress codes for the young people receiving the Sacraments.

One Mass only will take place on both Confirmation Sundays and that will be at 10am. There will be a confirmation and first Holy Communion Mass for High School candidates on Thursday 9 May at 7pm.

GARDEN PARTY

Jackie and Lesley also updated us on the preparations for the Parish Garden Party which will take place on 9th June this year. Raffle tickets will be sold in church from next week. There will be on Sunday Mass at 10.30am.

ELECTIONS FOR PPC:

These are due in June for six of our members: Ann, Gaye, Liz, Sue, Alex and Edward. They will all consider re-applying for these positions. The Parish will be informed in May in order that nominations can be put forward.

AOB:

*Judy informed the meeting that Pastor Adeyinka of the African church had emailed her and would be inviting us to a service to get to know them better. Fr Jonathan suggested it maybe an opportunity for a few of us to go along.

*Fr Jonathan informed us that there is a note in the bulletin explaining the situation with The Update magazine and that we may have a new editor / co-ordinator.

*Tim asked if the slips could be returned for attendance at the Knights of St Columba Dinner as soon as possible

DATE OF NEXT PPC MEETING - Wednesday 1st May 2013

CHAIRPERSON – Edward Almond