

St Mary's Leyland

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday 13 January 2016

PRAYER: Pauline Strachan

WELCOME: **Alex Anthony [Chair]**

PRESENT; **Fr Jonathan, Father Paul,** Alex Anthony, Edward Almond, Sr Veronica, Christine Lemmon, Sue Mills, Gaye Beirne, Jenny Hollinshead, Pauline Strachan, Lesley Raven, Celia Neil

APOLOGIES: Tim Sullivan, Jeremy Watson, Father Stephen

MATTERS ARISING from previous Minutes;

Fr Jonathan presented 2 enjoyable sessions of his visit to Guinea Bissau.

The Archbishop's visit to commemorate the Holy Door for the Year of Mercy was well attended.

We've had the first events for the Holy Year of Mercy.

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

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS/PARISH EVENTS:

Archbishop opening the Holy Door.

Reconciliation and Baptismal Services.

Christmas services

Scouts and Primary Schools Carol Concerts.

Slideshows of Guinea Bissau.

Appointment of new Headteacher at the High School; Phil Mooney

Flooding in Leyland and Croston communities affecting our parishioners.

Christmas Services;

All services went very well and were enjoyed by our community. Thanks to the parishioners, both individuals and groups, for all their preparations towards the Christmas events. Thanks too to those who made donations towards the wonderful flowers on the altar and around the church.

The small crib in the Narthex was well received as was the one outside by the road. The larger crib was placed on the altar this year rather than in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Could we have the cribs displaying the staggered events of Christmas? ie the three kings visit. Also perhaps announce that there is also a crib in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for quiet reflection.

The large star on the Priory House sent a warm and spiritual message to all.

Christmas cards eventually went on the notice board from the baskets. Suggestion for next year; using string and pegs for their display around the Narthex.

Due to practicalities there was no Nugent care collection this year.

HOLY YEAR OF MERCY;

Some of the following suggestions/plans have been utilised so far;

- The door decorated and framed to identify it [Hollinhursts to be involved]. Artificial plants/trees to be moved inside when not in use. The door must not be obstructed but the arch placed inside the door.
- There will be 4 stations inside church indicated by special banners.
- Suggestion to use the chapels with leaflets available nearby.
- 2 more banners displayed by the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
- Programme needs to be organised to include mass times, confessions etc
- Parishioners asked to volunteer to 'man' the doors.

- Brief pilgrimage to the Holy Door is a sign of deep devotion recognising reconciliation, Eucharist, reflection of the Pope's letter.
- There could be talks on spiritual and corporal works of Mercy.
- Best days for services; Friday evenings/Sunday afternoons perhaps once per month? First Friday Mass with KSC. Sunday Pilgrimage for different groups.
- Sick and housebound.
- Pilgrimage from each deanery to the cathedral.
- 4 big sessions with guest speakers on Mercy.
- Interactive sessions
- Short talks with discussions.
- Music etc round town eg at the market?
- Need a rota of Lay people to help.
- Clergy of the deanery to discuss when to have the openings.
- Put all information on website
- Leaflets
- Schools involvement? A day for schools – drama, service of prayer and singing

Working party; Fr Jonathan, Sr Veronica, Jenny Hollinshead, Christine Lemon, Sue Mills, deanery rep, school chaplain, Tim Sullivan, choir rep, KSC, servers, Little Church – all as possible members. Sr Veronica to think about who?

Father Jonathan will put in the Bulletin the events that are taking place in St. Helen's. Father Jonathan also mentioned that Pope Francis has spoken about consecrated people waking up the world like a mercy of God through talks about the Gift of religious life. This could be in our Deanery words from Benedictines, Jesuits, Carmelites, Franciscans, Dominicans, plus mass reconciliation and Stations of the Cross. Best times; Fridays, Sunday afternoons? Any ideas for further events would be useful.

Comment raised that few visitors have been to our parish events eg Baptismal Service.

Planning;

Pilgrimage day 26 June 2.30-4.30, or Corpus Christi 29 May?

We need to advertise more.

Deanery Schools events during the day.

Mass on Maundy Thursday morning with enactments of the Easter story from KS2 pupils and high school. Bishop Tom said he would come. Organising committee to be set up with Headteachers etc 22 March – Reconciliation for Lent 7.00pm

Heating in Church and Priory House;

House; Boilers are left on at a low level then radiators are turned up when in a particular room and down to level 2 when leave.

The church's heating has not really been tested because the weather has been so mild up to now but temperatures are set to drop this weekend.

Suggestion; to keep the doors closed for as long as possible near the end of mass in particular.

Discussion re moving the Holy Door to the usual entrance door because of access issues for 11 o'clock parishioners after 9.30am mass. Father Johnathan to speak with Margaret.

Lent;

Suggestions discussed re school's involvement.

22 March – Reconciliation service.

AOB;

Discussion re looking after the welfare of parishioners who may not have been to mass for some time, for example, due to health/family issues and who would normally attend. We need to work as a team and be aware of anyone missing.

Note to be in Bulletin asking for parishioners' awareness.

In addition new parishioners should be welcomed. There used to be a welcome pack.

Next meeting; Wednesday 24 February 2016 at 7.30pm

Chair; Tim

Prayer: Celia

Meeting closed at 9.20pm