

Chairman's Report July '09

Singo Family. During the month at each 9.30am Sunday mass at the Our Father, the congregations has linked with the Singo family in detention to show solidarity and unity with them. Children and adults go round the altar to sing. The family appreciate this gesture and it is good for parishioners to be in touch with them in their prayers. Some parishioners have said it is a very special and moving moment of the mass for them.

Annual Archdiocesan Good Shepherd Mass took place here on Tuesday 9th June at 1.15pm with Archbishop Patrick, Nugent Care, and many schools of the Archdiocese. The Nugent Care authorities seem to like coming here (2nd time) and so did the schools. About 800 people were in Church and the schools gave a lot of money to Nugent Care.

Catenian Association - Charity quiz & hotpot supper was held on Friday 12th June at 7.30 pm in the Priory Club.

Sunday 14th June 2009 - Feast of Corpus Christi 23 children from St. Mary's Primary School made their 1st Holy Communion, with over 500 people in attendance at a combined Mass that went very well with Fr. Ambrose presiding and preaching. A lot commented on how well it went.

Home is a Holy Place Tuesday 16th June, 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. A gathering of all involved in Family Life organised by the Bishops of England and Wales. Fr. Tony Slingo and Veronica Murphy of the Archdiocese led the session to help us discern with our Pastoral Area how to move ahead. Only a few attended, but those who came enjoyed it, were enthused and impressed: a lot of good ideas were generated and we hope to build on these for the future.

Saturday 20th June Sr. Veronica held a coffee morning in support of the Singo Family. The sum of £560 was raised and thanks go to all who baked, helped on the day, bought produce or helped in any way. Thanks also go to those who continue to give donations to the Singo's fund including the KSC who gave £500. There will be further expenses for the parish in regard the family; by law (2002 Act of Parliament) no asylum seekers are allowed to work until they receive residency.

Leyland St. Mary's Scout Group on Saturday 20th June held a massive birthday party in the church garden from 11:30 till 5:00 in celebration of the end of 50 years scouting. It was a great success despite doubts about the weather. There were probably over 100 people in attendance who were fed and had great entertainment.

Sunday 21st June. 27 children from St Anne's Primary School made their 1st Holy Communion. Again over 500 people were present at this combined Mass and it was well organised by those behind it. Fr. Jonathan presided and preached. Many were very impressed by the way it was done.

Saturday 27th Our Parish hosted the first ever South Ribble Armed Forces Celebration 2.30pm with Councillors and present and past members of the armed forces representatives. This was a first all over the nation, and 200 different services like ours took place. Ours was a short service to celebrate all the armed forces do for peace and justice in our world and to pray for those in danger. Afterwards there were ample refreshments. One former soldier of our parish rang to say how much he appreciated the celebration which was made more special by the presence of the One Voice Choir and the Land girls. Refreshments were very good and people stayed to chat and mingle for much longer than the service, and afterwards all the left over food went with people taking it home. With no fuss or effort, and not a part of the original plan, £65 was made for an army charity for those members of the forces injured in war. The South Ribble authorities told us how much they appreciate coming to our Church and the hospitality they receive.

Sunday 28th June the children of St. Anne's and St. Mary's Primary schools joined together with their families and parishioners in a celebration of their 1st Holy Communion at 9.30 Mass. About 25 young people came which was not a large turn out, but they all benefitted and enjoyed it.

Catenian Mass for vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life was celebrated at 11.00 Mass. The Mass marked the installation of Tony Jones to the Presidency of the recently formed South Ribble Circle 347. We had two bishops in Church on the feast of Sts Peter and Paul, as the Archbishop called by after saying mass at St. Catherine's.

Spanish Exchange Those involved in the Spanish exchange arranged a mass at 6pm in the evening followed by a bbq and games on the lawn. It was an excellent last day for the Spaniards, and the sense of family with them was a usual benefit for our young people, both in the youth group and those that hosted them, as well as for the Spanish youth.

All six members of the PPC up for re-election have been returned to office without the need for a ballot

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz - Talented teenagers, with a little help will perform this popular musical on Thursday 2nd, Friday 3rd, and Saturday 4th July 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Please encourage all to attend what I am sure will be an excellent event.

Finally two more events to support are the Summer Fairs at St Anne's (6 pm) and St Mary's (5.30 - 7.30 pm) this coming Friday