

**St Mary's Leyland
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Wednesday 24th May 2017**

PRAYER: Sr Veronica

WELCOME: Celia Neill (Chair)

PRESENT: Fr Jonathan, Sr Veronica, Edward Almond, Christine Lemmon, Tim Sullivan, Brian Salisbury, Alex Anthony, Jean Smith, Gaye Beirne, Lesley Raven, Jenny Hollinshead

APOLOGIES: Fr Paul, Fr Stephen, Sue Mills. In the absence of Sue Mills Jenny Hollinshead kindly volunteered to take the minutes.

ITEM 3 - ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Gaye Beirne was present at the last meeting on Wednesday 29th March 2017.

ITEM 4 - MATTERS ARISING

Items are already on the Agenda

ITEM 5 - PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORT

Easter Programme. Sacramental Programme St Anne's - 14TH May, St Catherine's - 20th May, St Mary's – 21st May

Funerals of three prominent parishioners who were very closely involved in the parish.

Maureen Courtney on 5 April,

John McDermott, 12 April

Vincent Rice, 25 April.

Divine Mercy took place on Sunday 23 April: a good turn out.

Archbishop Malcolm came to St Mary's to carry out seven Confirmations on Wednesday 26 April.

ITEM 6 – UPDATE INVOLVEMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE

This is an ongoing issue. There was discussion about how we could encourage the children who make their First Holy Communion, possibly by going into the primary schools. We also have to look at supporting the High School. Fr Jonathan expressed how much progress the High School is making and is a very good school. We must continue to support the Catholic High School in its achieving a very good standard of education and so parents will want their children to go there.

ITEM 7 - COMMENT ON EASTER PROGRAMME

Maundy Thursday – 10 children and 2 adults had their feet washed and the evening liturgy was well attended

Good Friday – Good Attendance

Easter Saturday – Good Attendance: two adults were baptised and confirmed and made their first holy communion and 5 were received into the Church, confirmed and made their first holy Communion.

Easter Sunday – 2 Mass both well attended. The morning mass at 10:00 was very lively and filled with a sense of Jesus risen from the dead.

ITEM 8- PARISH REREAT UPDATE

Fr Jonathan showed the council a short film 'Called Beyond'. Called Beyond is a programme run by the Church and volunteers about Vocations. This is not a quick fix but this is something that Fr Jonathan is very keen for the Parish to do and would like to put this in place to run in the Autumn. There is a meeting on Saturday 10th June in Liverpool. If anyone knows if anyone who would be interested, possibly people aged 17- 30 years please contact Fr Jonathan. There was also discussion regarding making contact in the future with students at Runshaw College and Newman College to see if there are any young catholic adults who would be interested.

ITEM 9 - CITIZENS UK UPDATE

Father Jonathan was unable to go but all went well.

ITEM 10 - MASS ATTENDANCE

The number of people attending Mass is still slowly going down. This is a worry but is happening everywhere, not just at St Mary's.

ITEM 11 - CRISIS FUND

Christine gave a short explanation to the council about the Crisis Fund
The Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation have donated £20,000 per year for the next 3 years to Nugent to help us provide desperately needed support through one-off grants to support families and individuals living within the Archdiocese of Liverpool where a relatively small amount of funding can make a big difference.
Funding criteria is flexible in terms of specific items we will help families or individuals purchase. However, funds can only be provided for families or individuals who are in exceptional circumstances and are facing a crisis. Head Teachers, a Parish Priest or representative of the parish, or Nugent employees can apply on behalf of families or individuals through completion of the application form, detailing the difficulties the people are experiencing and why they require this one-off financial support.

ITEM 12 - FIRST COMMUNIONS

All three school all had wonderful and special days.

We did learn as the three took place: and on the last day when St Mary's Primary School made first Holy Communions only a few were there. This was advantageous as it was much easier for those present who often are not used to attending mass to behave with due decorum. Sister Veronica gave a good strong introduction on that day asking everyone to respect and be aware that we were in a Church, and to behave accordingly.

The first communicants and their parents and families are all invited to the joint celebration on Sunday 25th June. Jenny told the council that St Catherine's have invited St Anne's and St Marys to learn the song (you have called me by our name) that they sung around the altar. Jean and Gaye also offered to help with transport if the children and teachers from St Anne's or St Mary's wished to travel up to St. Catherine's to practice with Barbara Coulton. Jenny is waiting to hear back from the head teachers at St Mary's and St Anne's.

ITEM 13 - HOW TO KEEP IN CONTACT WITH CATHOLICS WHO DO NOT REGULARLY ATTEND MASS

Item to be put on the next agenda

ITEM 14 - A.O.B.

Invitations have been sent out to local Churches.

Lesley asked for volunteers to help at the Ordination of Mike Barrett on Saturday 15th July at 11.00am. A list will be at the back of Church to ask for help, this will also help us with numbers of people who will be attending the Ordination.

Lesley had received a letter from the Dementia Group. They have asked they can come and talk to the Parish Council at our net meeting. This was agreed.

Brian Salisbury told the council about the recent Health & Safety meeting that he attended. There are a number of areas that need to be looked at. A practice fire evacuation was discussed and also lone worker policy.

On the upkeep of the Church, the windows in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel are also being replaced.

Edward Almond advised the council that there are 5 parish councillors up for re-election. Alex Anthony, Jenny Hollinshead, Edward Almond, Sue Mills and Gaye Burn.

Fr Jonathan told the council that the Faith in Action Award Ceremony will be at St Marys Church on Thursday 21st September.

St Anne's will be attending the Mass of St Peter and St Paul.

ITEM 14 - DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 12th July 2017 - 7.30pm

NOMINEES FOR CHAIR AND PRAYER

CHAIR - Alex Anthony

PRAYER – Gaye Burn