

**St Mary's Leyland
Parish Council
Wednesday 5th June 2013**

PRESENT: Fr Jonathan, Lesley Raven, Ann Ward, Peter Barron, Walter Courtney, Christine Lemmon, Edward Almond, Gaye Beirne, Fr Stephen, Fr Paul, Sue Mills, Jeremy Watson, Judy Gammans.

APOLOGIES: Fr John, Alex Anthony, Tim Sullivan, Sr Veronica, Liz McGrath

PRAYER: Led by Gaye

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

PARISH EVENTS:

- High School Leavers Mass
- Confirmation and Holy Communion Celebrations
- Fr John leaving our Parish
- African Night
- KSC Dinner
- Youth Mass
- HCPT Cake Stall
- Bacon Butties served after 9.30 Mass to raise funds for Mariapolis
- Catholic Family meeting

HEATING PROJECT:

Lesley reported that tenders are now in but are much higher than expected. VAT makes up a huge amount of the cost. A meeting with the lowest priced tender is scheduled for next week. The next finance meeting will then take place on 19th June. Any PPC members able to attend are invited. Approval is still needed from the Trustees. The current status of the fund raising is £75,500.

PRIORY CLUB:

Fr Jonathan reported that the situation is currently unexpectedly better than was thought. Functions are the main thing that keeps it going. It was suggested that the front of the building was looking tired and in need of a clean up or a revamp. Also the function room could be done up to attract more meetings, thereby attracting more customers. The state of the smoking shelter and the issue with rubbish being deposited is a huge problem and was also discussed. Fr Jonathan will take these issues to the relevant body to see what could be done.

GARDEN PARTY:

Everything is in place for Sundays celebration after 10.30am Mass. Sr Veronica has arranged for the tombola to be manned. Help is needed at 9am to put up stalls etc before Mass in preparation. The Scouts will be making bacon butties for sale.

PPC NOMINATIONS:

4 out of the 6 nominations are now in. There are no new members among them. The deadline for nominations is June 16th.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

Edward reported that a meeting is scheduled for Thursday and all are welcome. He has received a reply from the Abbott who has agreed to attend our celebrations on 4th April 2014. He has as yet had no reply from the Archdiocese or Lancashire Life. He has spoken to Theresa Smith regarding the choir and to Kath Cox regarding the refreshments after the Mass. He informed us that a separate celebration Dinner will be held and the Knights Dinner will go ahead as usual.

SAFEGUARDING:

Our safeguarding team are constantly following the regular updated guidelines which are taken very seriously with regard to Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults. Health and Safety also comes under this banner and new legislation is being followed closely.

AOB:

- 1) A parishioner has asked if tweezers or tongs could be used at daily Mass instead of fingers to place the Host. Lesley will ensure some are provided.
- 2) A PPC member has been asked why Kevin Ripley had to leave the Scouts. Lesley agreed to make enquiries and ask if a statement could be provided to parents by the Scout Group to clarify the matter.
- 3) Some of our parishioners feel that the message regarding reverence is being forced upon them, counter to the message from "Crossing the Threshold" which suggested people should be free to worship in their own way. Our Eucharistic Ministers are leading by example having brought this to their recent meeting and agreed its importance, much discussion took place and whilst all agreed that reverence at Holy Communion is crucial, what is in ones heart is perhaps the most important.
- 4) It has been suggested that there is too much singing of prayers by the Priest at 9.30 Mass. After discussion it was agreed that there is no easy way to please everyone and Fr Jonathan has also received some very positive feedback regarding the singing.
- 5) The choir are apparently introducing too many new hymns preventing parishioners from joining in with the singing. This was also discussed at length and should probably be put to the choir more specifically. The meeting tended to agree that people don't like too any unfamiliar hymns.
- 6) There has been several occasions when a parishioner has felt that the bidding prayers are carrying a political message. Fr Jonathan asked if Peter could ask the person to be more specific. It was discussed that sometimes it is relevant to pray for people in difficult and tragic situations even though they may have been brought on by political unrest.

DATE OF NEXT PPC MEETING - Wednesday 5th June 2013

PRAYER: Jeremy

CHAIRPERSON – Edward Almond