

**St Mary's Leyland  
Parish Council  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

**PRESENT:** Fr Jonathan, Lesley Raven, Ann Ward, Sr Veronica, Liz McGrath, Peter Barron, Sue Mills, Christine Lemmon, Edward Almond, Jeremy Watson.

**APOLOGIES:** Fr Stephen, Fr Paul, Gaye Beirne, Walter Courtney

**PRAYER:** Led by Sue Mills

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

**MATTERS ARISING:**

Edward spoke to the police again regarding Church Watch but still no information available.

1<sup>st</sup> part of the church heating project successfully completed resulting in the church being much warmer.

**PARISH EVENTS:**

- Heating restored to the church and fully operational ahead of schedule.
- African children's choir and family fast day on October 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Sacramental programme – October 7th
- High school prize giving night in the church
- PTFA launched at the High School
- Fr Cyril returned to Rome and Fr Hilary arrived.
- St Mary's awarded silver award in the Best UK Modern Church Architectural Competition. Fr Jonathan took the opportunity to show the meeting pictures of the award ceremony at Lambeth Palace.

**AGM FEEDBACK:**

The AGM was poorly attended with only 12 people in attendance. Fr Jonathan briefly referred to the accounts.

He shared the vision for our Church Community.

- To be credible our best motto is that from the gospel: *"By this will all know you are my disciples, by the love you have for one another"* (John 13: 35). This means the relationships we have with one another are central. It is Jesus himself who is our vision and he is present when two or more are gathered in his name. So we can put on the mind of Christ, and live out with some confidence our role in the town of Leyland, in our neighbourhoods, in our country and our world.
- This vision includes caring for poorer and marginalised people, for example through the Newman Fund, through our furniture scheme, through the food bank.
- It includes being open to the other Christian communities in Leyland with whom we share such good relationships. Being open to all!
- We have responsibilities also for those who suffer in the wider world, and we thank God for our work helping the poor. The recent collection for the Philippine people after the typhoon is a case in point.
- Pope Francis gives us a vision of getting out of the sacristy and into the community.

- The centre of all is the Liturgy and prayerfulness, all of which contribute to the life of living in union with God and with each other.

We should try to encourage a better attendance at the AGM next year.

### **PREPARATION for CHRISTMAS SERVICES:**

Father Jonathan talked to Martin Smith regarding the cross and crib.

Peter Barron agreed to speak/email Martin Smith and report back.

Christmas mass times have been agreed and are as follows –

Vigil Mass – 6pm

Night Mass – Carols at 9.15pm followed by mass at 10pm.

Morning Mass – 8am & 10am

It was agreed to offer parishioners the opportunity for Christmas card donations to go to the Philippine disaster fund which can also be gift aided.

### **SAFEGUARDING:**

Fr. Jonathan has recently received an important and informative letter regarding safeguarding. Steve McBride will be invited to the next meeting to cover thoroughly the content of the letter.

### **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME:**

The Sacramental programme had its second session on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November with approximately 60 children from St Mary's, St Anne's, St Catherine's, and other local primary schools. Parents are working well with the children and all enjoying the family catechesis. Each session has a special sheet produced by the diocese followed by a focus mass. The children are learning a song and the next session is in two weeks.

### **GOLDEN JUBILEE ISSUES:**

Since the last meeting Golden Jubilee pens have arrived, are selling well and have had to restock. The silver award received should be a focal point of the celebration's and used as an incentive and realisation of how architecturally beautiful our church is. All encouraged to come to the Golden Jubilee meeting next week.

**AOB:** Positive comments from many parishioners regarding the new heating system.

**DATE OF NEXT PPC MEETING:** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014 @ 7.30pm

**PRAYER:** Christine Lemmon

**CHAIRPERSON:** Peter Barron