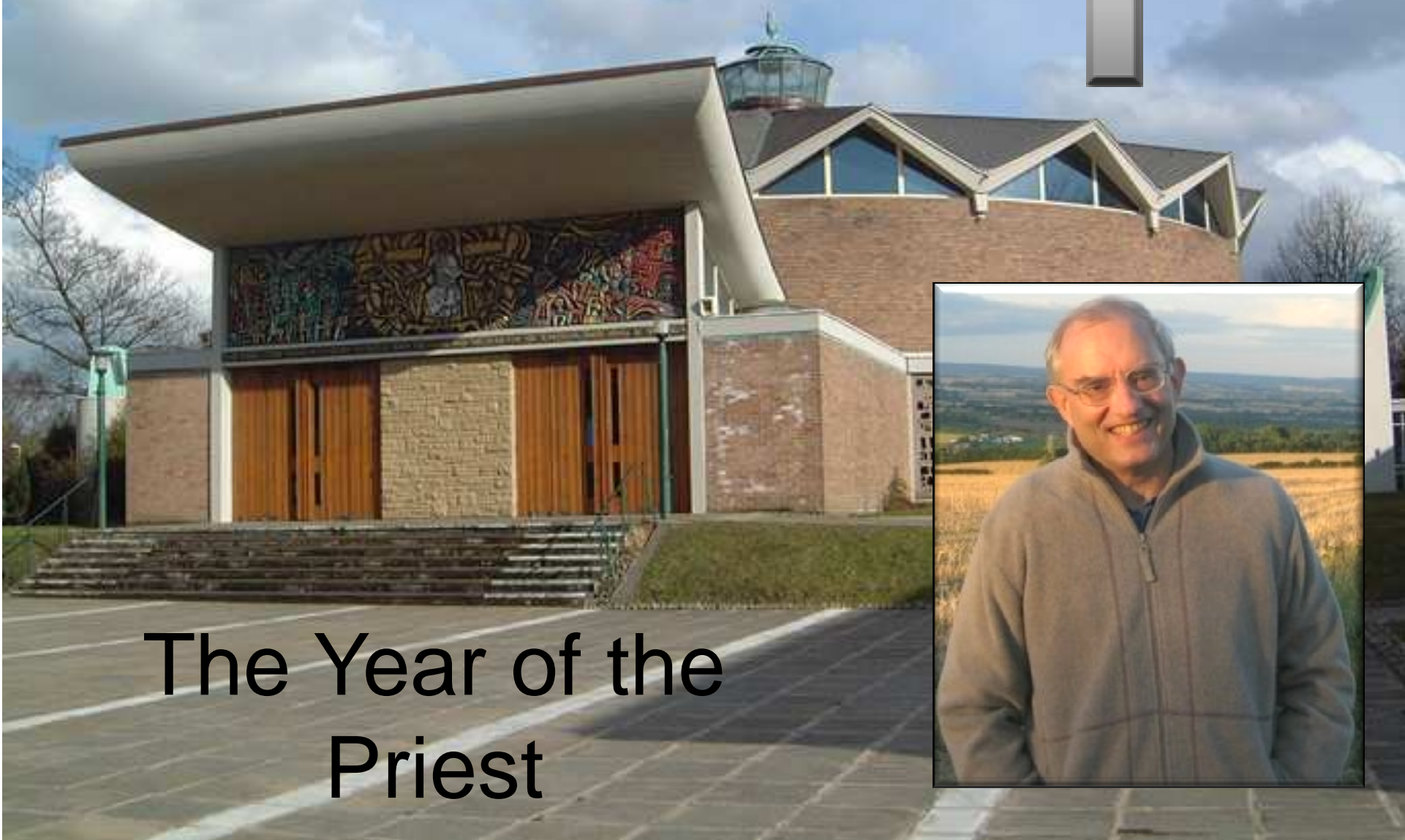


Leyland St. Mary's



The Year of the Priest



We asked you to complete this questionnaire a few weeks ago.

We would like to thank you as over 50% completed and returned the questionnaire.

It has provided us with some interesting observations that we want to share with you today.

Priesthood: Parish Questionnaire in response to discussions of the PPC.

Pope Benedict XVI has declared the year from June 2009 to June 2010 as the 'Year for Priests'.



It is a time for priests and every Catholic to look at our Catholic faith and at the priesthood itself. In living our Catholic Christian life and forming our faith the ordained priest is vital.

To help us all think about the priesthood we are presenting two questionnaires to our parishioners. This is the first questionnaire. Please hand in after mass.

What do you think a priest does?

In all of the sections below put a tick in the box next to the task if you think that **only** a priest can perform the function. You may tick as many boxes as you want in any section.

The Mass

Of the options below, which do you believe should only be done by the Priest in relation to the Mass?

- 1. Preside at Mass
- 2. Read the Gospel at Mass
- 3. Preach a homily
- 4. Organise a Mass

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>



Sacraments and life events within the Church

Other than mass, you sometimes come to church for specific sacraments and important life events. Which of the options below do you believe can only be done by the Priest?

- 1. Baptise a child/adult
- 2. Anoint the sick
- 3. Conduct a funeral
- 4. Hear Confessions
- 5. Bless a wedding
- 6. Preside at Benediction

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>



Support within the Church Community

Apart from the mass and specific sacraments the Church supports its members in a number of ways. Which of the options below do you think can only be done by the Priest?

- 1. Support those close to death
- 2. Lead the rosary
- 3. Pray over the Sick
- 4. Be a spiritual guide
- 5. Be a prayer partner
- 6. Lead a retreat
- 7. Teach the Faith
- 8. Give spiritual advice
- 9. Lead a prayer group
- 10. Administer the Parish

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
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If you wish to add any comments over the page, please do so

Why did we ask you?

We wanted to raise awareness of the importance of the ordained priesthood and the role of ordained priests within the life of the church

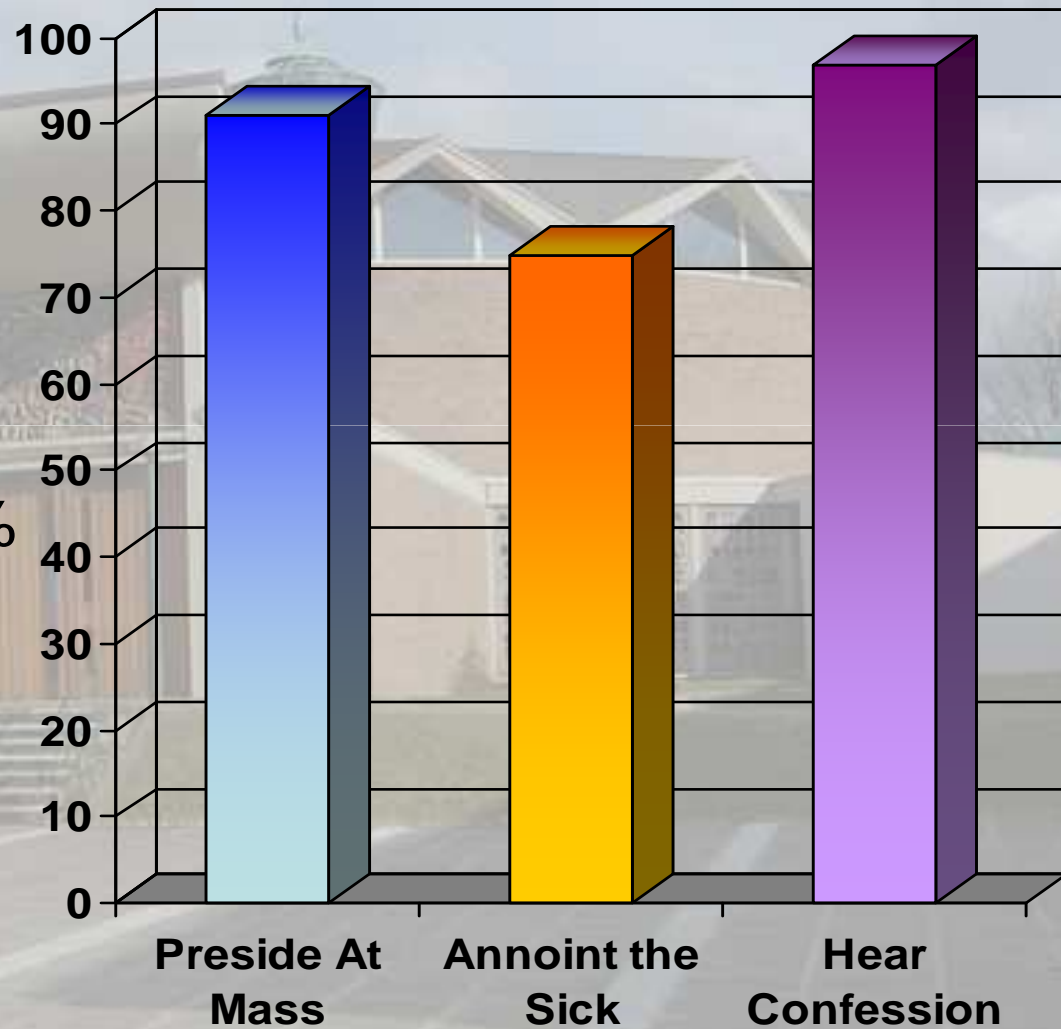
What you had to say was really important and interesting!

Categories

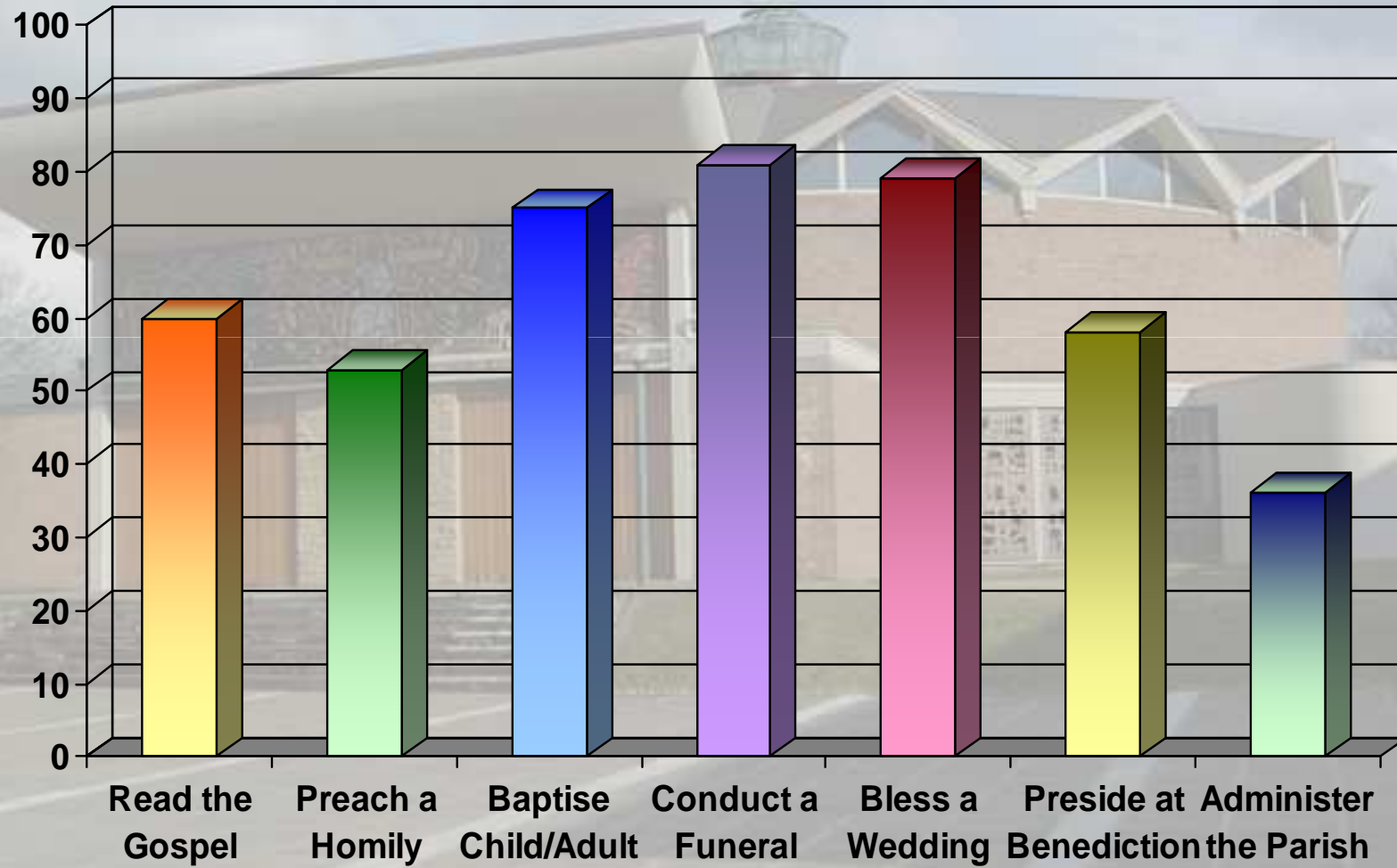
- **Category A – Only a Priest**
 - » Functions that only the Priest can perform
- **Category B – Priest Closely Involved**
 - » Times when the priest is necessarily involved with certain functions but does not have to perform the task personally
- **Category C – Important Spiritual Moments**
 - » Moments when either the Priest or a Lay Person is present
- **Category D – Teaching and Guidance**
 - » Times when either a priest or a Lay person can provide people with help

Category A – Only a Priest

- Preside at Mass – 91%
- Anoint the Sick – 75%
- Hear Confession – 97%



Category B – Priest Closely Involved

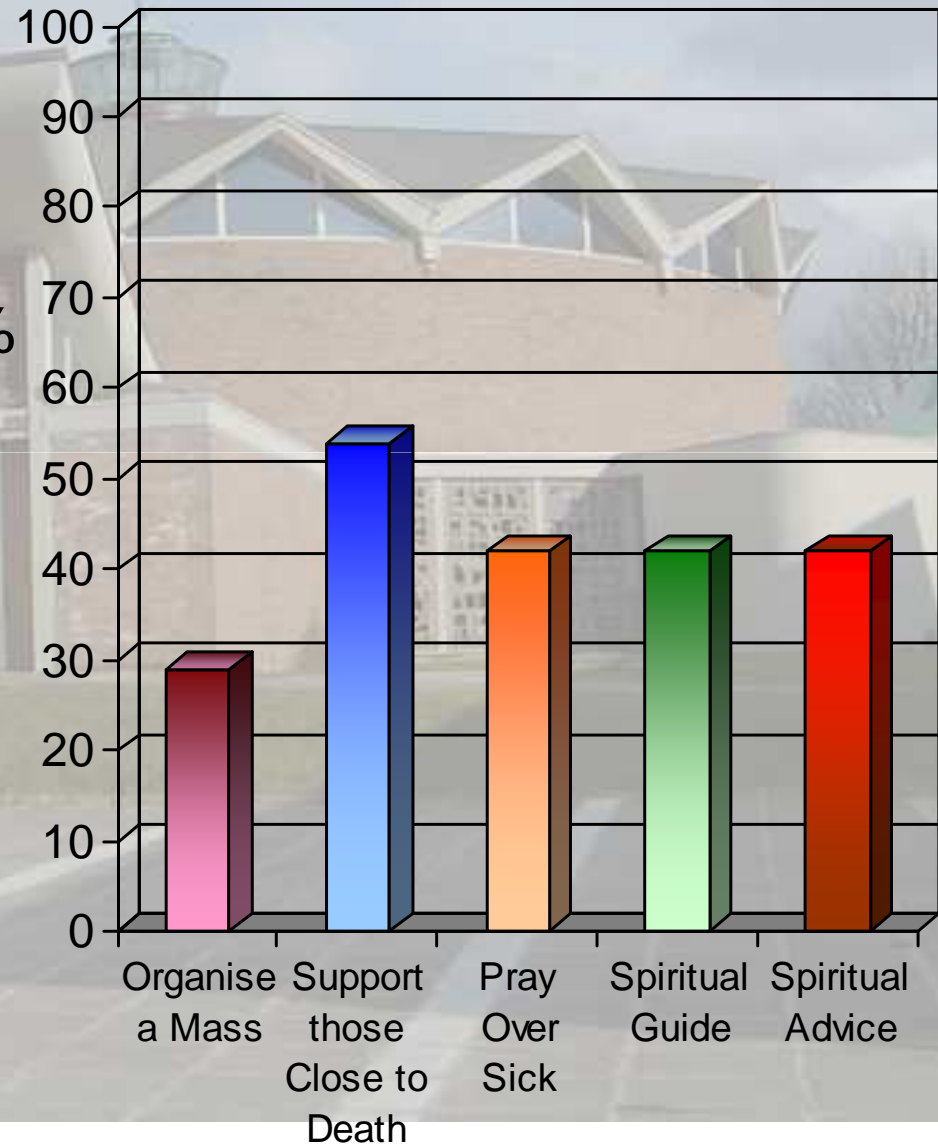


Category B – Priest Closely Involved

- Read the Gospel – 60%
- Preach a Homily – 53%
- Baptise Child/Adult – 75%
- Conduct a Funeral – 81%
- Bless a Wedding – 79%
- Preside at Benediction – 58%
- Administer the Parish – 36%

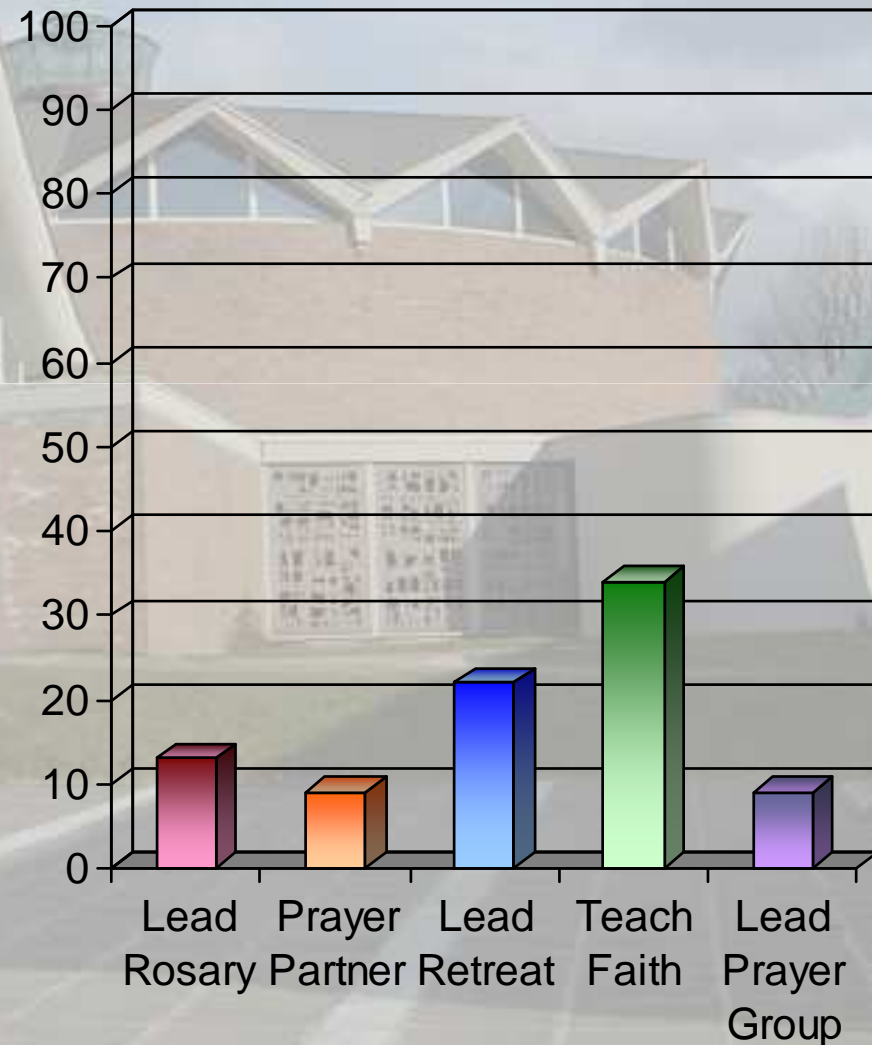
Category C – Important Spiritual Moments

- Organise a Mass – 29%
- Support Close to Death – 54%
- Pray Over Sick – 42%
- Spiritual Guide – 42%
- Spiritual Advice – 42%



Category D – Teaching and Guidance

- Lead Rosary – 13%
- Prayer Partner – 9%
- Lead Retreat – 22%
- Teach Faith – 34%
- Lead Prayer Group – 9%



What's the Result?

- Despite three different kind of masses offered there is a remarkable agreement across the congregation on how the role of the priest is viewed.
- The majority understand and know only what can be done by a priest.
- An understanding among the congregation that the laity have an important role to play within the life of the church in collaboration with the priest.

Where do we go from here?

- Have you any comments or questions?
- Speak to one of us!
- <http://www.leylandstmarys.org.uk/>
- The Pastoral Council will be following this up after Easter as your responses have highlighted to us that there is more to be explored about the relationship between the ordained priesthood and the royal priesthood (laity)