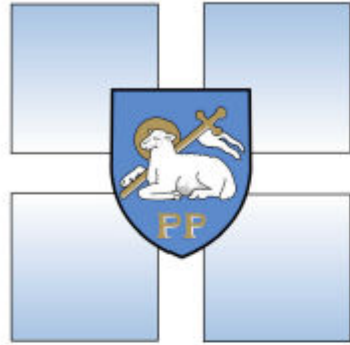


Inauguration Mass of the Deanery of Our Lady & St Wilfrid



What a wonderful occasion!

A full church with Bishop Michael Campbell celebrating and sharing this historic event.



All the deanery parishes were represented and the church was a riot of

colour with banners and displays from all over the city. The music was good—musicians and singers came from far and wide.



Other Christian churches were represented as well as members of other faiths and civic leaders.

It was brilliant to see the large numbers of priests and deacons who were present. Their support is needed if the new deanery is to succeed and make a positive contribution to the life of Preston.

Well done, Fr Tom, who spent months planning and organizing, and to all the people who contributed and took part.

(Thanks to Robert Bamber for the photos)



Edited this month by Margaret (N) & Cynthia 1



Remember this is your magazine so please continue to send us information and tell us your stories. Geoff, Lesley, Cynthia & Margaret want to hear from you. Put material in the boxes at the back of church or email enigmaarticles@hotmail.co.uk (N.B. New address)

Another busy month with lots to report. We just seem to finish the Christmas season and Lent is upon us. Five times a week we follow the beautiful, ancient liturgy of the Church, saying Morning or Evening Prayer. If you have never taken part, try it at least once before Easter. Alternatively, on Friday evening there are Lent stations at English Martyrs—not the usual rush through all 14 but a considered view of 3 using CAFOD materials. It would be good to see some new faces! Each Thursday the centre city churches have organised a short service followed by a simple lunch. Last week it was at Lune Street Methodist Church, this week the Minster and next week St Wilfrid's. On 18th, thanks to Barbara, we will be providing the food at St Ignatius' and Fr Tom will lead the service at Fishergate Baptist Church on 25th March. We hope lots of you will attend.- it is good to share prayer and food with fellow Christians.

Thoughts for Lent

Give up complaining:

focus on gratitude.

Give up pessimism:

become an optimist.

Give up harsh judgments:

think kindly thoughts.

Give up worry:

trust Divine Providence.

Give up discouragement:

be full of hope.

Give up bitterness:

turn to forgiveness.

Give up hatred:

return good for evil.

Give up negativism:

be positive.

Give up anger:

be more patient.

Give up pettiness:

become mature.

Give up gloom:

enjoy the beauty all around you.

Give up jealousy:

pray for trust.

Give up gossiping:

control your tongue.

Give up sin:

turn to virtue.

Parish Walk Well, the mystery walk turned out to be a nostalgic ramble around Fr Tom's old stomping ground of Wesham (pronounced Wes'm). As usual there was mud right from the start – I had just squeezed under a barbed wire fence when I lost my balance, grabbed the nearest person, fell in the mire and pulled poor Anthony down as well. Everyone was convulsed with laughter including our official photographer but Erica took a picture of my downfall! Fr Tom pointed out the places of note, including Fox's Biscuits, where he worked in the holidays when he was a student. We walked to Wrea Green and as the weather was fine we sat outside The Grapes and enjoyed a drink. Thanks to Fr Tom for organizing the walk and to Anthony and for the transport. See the newsletter for details of the next walk.

Fr Patrick Parish Priest of St Ignatius from 1985-1996, recently celebrated his Golden Jubilee as a Carmelite priest. He lives in Dublin but had the celebration in his home town church of St Theresa's, Banbridge, County Down. He writes



"St Theresa's church was completed a year ago. The Parish priest had invited the Bishop but he didn't turn up because he had to shingles. It was a dreadful evening (roads very dangerous) just 80 family members attended– some from quite a distance. We have a number of musicians in our family so there was plenty of music at the Mass. Afterwards we retired to the Parish Centre for refreshments and people certainly had a good excuse to leave early because of the weather but no one did. Relatives said it was good to celebrate a joyful occasion rather than a funeral. Anyway, it is a great memory to have and apparently everyone enjoyed themselves".

Fr Patrick thanks us for the card we sent him and he sends his regards to all the signatories. We wish him many more happy years in the Priesthood. *Anne Oastler*

Memories of a Child from the 2nd World War



Outside 18, St Ignatius Sq. before the railings went for the war effort

I am very grateful to Stella Guest (nee McCann), who lived in St Ignatius Square and provided the pictures and information about the Polish lads who were stationed at Weeton during the war. "There were approximately a dozen of these young men in their early twenties who met her sister Renie and friends at St Ignatius Dance Hall. This was a very popular venue well known for its wonderfully sprung dance floor and of course being connected to the church very popular with the Polish lads. Some of them were at Cracow University, before fleeing Poland."

These photos were taken in 1940-41. "An invitation to tea was given to the boys and girls, as you can see it was a little crowded. I think the 'come to tea invite' was repeated but they used to call at other times bringing butter, sugar and tea as gifts.



The 'Tea Party' with Stella, Renee, Winnie, their parents and Polish visitors

They also got shirts and socks without clothing coupons by pretending they didn't understand - they got away with it every time! They actually spoke reasonably good English."

Stella's sister Winnie remembers one of them was called Richard. He was tall, well educated, well spoken and used a long cigarette holder. He also told them he was a 'Count' so who knows.

They all moved elsewhere but Renie kept in contact with them. Sadly, the news came that all but one were killed in active service. The one survivor, Adam married a girl from Blackpool.