

**A Report on the Catholic Parish
of
St. Cuthbert Mayne, Launceston**

1st May 2013 – 31st May 2014

by

Fr. David Annear P.P.

For the Parish AGM on 1st June 2014

B – Bude

L – Launceston

May 2013

- 19th L: On Pentecost Sunday seven children made their First Holy Communion and three adults were received into the Catholic Church.

June 2013

- 2nd L: Corpus Christi Procession after Mass and re-commissioning of Ministers of Holy Communion.
- B & L: A Holy Hour as part of the world-wide Day of Adoration asked for by Pope Benedict and Pope Francis.
- 9th B & L: Parish Lunch in the Hall at Launceston to celebrate Fr. David's 70th birthday. About ninety parishioners, including some guests from Sclerder and Torquay.
- 18th B & L: Fr. David completes a Health & Safety course at St. Boniface House, apparently the first priest to do so.
- 19th B: Ecumenical Coffee Morning at the URC hall to support the work of local street pastors.
- 26th L: Fr. David attends the Mayor Choosing Ceremony in the Town Hall
- 30th L: Fr. David presented with Papal Blessing at the end of Mass to commemorate his 70th birthday.

July 2013

- 1st B: Fr. David Gassor, alias Fr. David I, leaves the Presbytery for Topsham, near Exeter. Leaving cards and collections were arranged later.
- 2nd L: Courtesy call from Mgr. Robert Draper, Vicar General and former Parish Priest at Launceston.
- 5th B & L: Parish Audit by Diocesan accountants.
- L: Site meeting of architect and representatives from Diocese and Parish to progress external and internal improvements to our church and grounds.
- 13th L: First Mass of Anointing in recent times for sick and housebound parishioners. About 33 present.

August 2013

- 11th B & L: Parish Census of 2010 partially updated.
- 25th B & L: PPC Meeting held at Launceston to discuss renovation plans. About 18 present.
- 31st B: Fr. David represents the parish at the Induction of Revd. Barbara Bennett as URC Minister.

September 2013

- 14th L: Pilgrimage of the South West groups of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham. Mass and blessing with relic of the True Cross, lunch and Benediction.

October 2013

- 5th B: Harvest Festival Mass. £53 raised for CAFOD. Some of the Walk for Cornwall 2 team visit St. Peter's for Mass.
- 6th B & L: Annual Mass Count begins.
- 8th L: Special Needs group from St. Stephen's School visit our church.
- 9th B & L: Bishop Christopher's Farewell Mass at Plymouth Cathedral. Barbara Daly represents the parish.
- 13th L: First Polish Mass, preceded by confessions. In union with Pope Francis, Fr. David consecrates parish to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- 14th B: Work begins on restoration and redecoration of church sanctuary and nave.
- 19th B: Mass held in United Reformed church for next six weeks while work on our church continues.
- 27th B & L: Annual Mass Count ends: average number 202 (179 in 2012).

November 2013

- 7th L: Doors to Confessional and Sacristy adjusted to ensure easier opening. Rotten floorboards in Upper Room replaced.
- 9th L: Bishop Christopher and Bishop-elect Mark O'Toole visit church and venerate relics of St. Cuthbert Mayne.

- 11th L: Part of the perimeter fence blown down by gale. Temporarily repaired.
- 12th-13th B & L: Major Health and Safety check by Diocesan officer. Several useful recommendations made.
- 15th L: Church upgraded from II to II* as a Listed Building. It was first listed in 1993.
- 17th B & L: Presentation of Confirmation Candidates at Launceston.
- 26th L: Meeting of the Historic Churches Committee at Douai Abbey, Berkshire, gives unanimous approval to re-build the organ, re-paint the ceilings and improve the lighting in church. Exterior plans were conditionally accepted. The parish was represented by Fr. David, Richard King (Diocesan Solicitor), David Gridley (Organ Builder) and Peter Hazard (Parish Co-ordinator of Works).
- 30th L: Old garage cleared by local trader who paid £70 for various items.
- B: First Mass of Advent Sunday celebrated in restored church. Favourable reactions.

December 2013

- 1st L: 100th anniversary of Canon Langdon's death.
- from 3rd L: Coffee mornings held in the Charles Langdon Room on the first and third Tuesday of each month, organised by Arnolda Kinvig.
- 7th-14th L: Parish Christmas tree exhibited at the Festival of Christmas Trees in St. Mary Magdalene church.
- 13th L: Old garage near the old hall demolished.
- 15th L: Confessions, Polish Mass and baptism in the afternoon
- 16th B & L: Grant of £2,000 from the Diocese's Poor Mission Fund.
- L: Demolition of old hall begins.
- L: Publication of the third volume of parishioner Geoff Provis' History of Port Isaac.

- 15th-22nd L: Laurel hedge and trees planted around the perimeter fence, which is beginning to disintegrate.
- B: Presbytery garden renovated.
- 23rd L: First signs of serious water penetration in church, owing to a lethal combination of driving wind and heavy rain: continues into January and February.
- 29th B & L: 21st baptism this year. A record number.

January 2014

- 4th B: The bishops of Clifton and Northampton attend Mass, incognito, on their post-Christmas break.
- 6th L: Work begins on repair of uneven parquet flooring in the church.
- 9th B: Work begins on extension to church foyer.
- L: Letters delivered to neighbours advising them of imminent building works.
- 13th L: Work begins on re-building of the exterior church driveway.
- 16th B & L: Grant of £2,000 received from the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom.
- L: Decaying tree outside old hall finally removed.
- 17th B: Beginning of the installation of pipe choir organ by David Gridley
- L: Small landslip at the back of the church, on St. Stephen's Hill.
- 18th L: Group begins public recital of the Rosary every week after the Saturday Mass.
- 22nd L: Old well discovered under the old hall. Plans to turn it into a Holy Well were dashed when it dried up.
- L: Old hall finally demolished.
- 25th-26th B & L: St. Patrick's Mission Appeal by Fr. Francis Ayogu, a young Nigerian, raised £495.81.
- B & L: Veneration of the major relic of St. Cuthbert Mayne at both churches following Mass, before being taken to Plymouth Cathedral.
- 27th B & L: Fr. David presents the major relic to Bishop-elect Mark at the Solemn Vespers on the eve of his episcopal Ordination.

- 28th B & L: Ordination of Bishop Mark O'Toole in Plymouth Cathedral. Janet Snow and Lea Deely represent the parish.
- 29th B: New curtains for the disabled access door provided by Anne Hammond.

February 2014

- 4th L: Another large section of perimeter fencing blown down by gale-force winds.
- 6th L: Foundations of new building begun: garage, store, toilet and roof space for garden equipment.
- 8th L: Filipino Fashion Show in the Town Hall to raise money for the Typhoon Appeal to help the Philippines.
- 12th B: Windows and roof in place on new extension to foyer.
L: More perimeter fencing collapses.
- 19th L: Three teams of workers repairing perimeter fences, putting up walls of new building and shaping new drive.
- 20th L: PAT testing of all electrical equipment.
B & L: Bishop's coat of arms placed in sacristies.
- 23rd B & L: PPC Meeting in the Charles Langdon Room.
- 24th L: Ecumenical commemoration of the 475th anniversary of the Dissolution of Launceston Priory on 24th February 1539. Fr. David, dressed as a medieval monk, preached. Several of our parishioners were there. Reception afterwards.
- 26th B: PAT testing of all electrical equipment.

March 2014

- 6th B & L: Fr. David deposits old parish registers, photos and books in the Diocesan Archives at Exeter.
- 7th L: Women's World Day of Prayer held at St. Cuthbert Mayne Church.
- 14th L: Induction of Rev. Jane Everitt as Rector of Launceston.
B: New foyer painted and rear door to church installed and painted.

- 15th B: Safari Lunch for St. Loyes charity organised by Ros Dolphin.
- 19th B: URC and St. Peter's Lent Lunch. £200 was raised for CAFOD and Christian Aid.
- B & L: Transfer of the major relic of St. Cuthbert Mayne authorised by the Vatican (in theory).
- 20th B & L: Ecumenical pilgrimage to Shirwell and Barnstaple to remember the baptism of St. Cuthbert Mayne on 20th March 1544.
- 21st L: Roof joists fixed in new building.
- B: New pipe organ tuned and made ready.
- 22nd B: New organ played for the first time at Mass.
- 27th B & L: Annual Lent Penitential Service.
- 29th B: Tenant family moves into the Presbytery.

April 2014

- 2nd B: New exterior notice board fixed.
- 3rd B & L: Parish Quiet Day at Sclerder Abbey, joined by several locals.
- 6th B & L: Compilation of Mass attendance statistics going back to 1933.
- 16th B & L: Chrism Mass at Plymouth Cathedral. Liz Graham represents the parish.
- 17th L: Grant of £250 by Launceston Town Council to help towards the renovation of the churchyard.
- 18th B: Fr. David participates in the Good Friday Walk of Witness.
- 25th L: New building roofed with antique slates from the old hall.
- 27th L: Divine Mercy devotions celebrated for the first time here.

May 2014

- 1st B: Work begins on ecological extension of the car park.
- 4th L: Filipino Confirmation Candidates participate in the Flores de Mayo celebrations in Plymouth city centre and Cathedral.
- 6th L: Requiem Mass for Derek Clark, one of Launceston's best-loved parishioners.

