A few words from the Vicarage ...



Just when you we thought it was all over in terms of our Rose Queen, up popped something else! This is a gift which keeps on giving ... for at our Parish Eucharist on Sunday, 14th July I dedicated and blessed the 'Rose Queen' Cruet Set – a lovely gift to commemorate Siân's year as Rose Queen.

This Set is inscribed with one vessel showing:

To St Paul's with thanks and fond memories from Sian and retinue, Lytham Rose Queen 2012/2013 whilst the other records the names of all ten young people who formed the retinue:

Sian, Katie, Olivia, Hannah, Francine, Ella, Charlotte, Leila, Kelsey, Jack.

Not only is this a most generous and welcome gift, it is also a lasting reminder to us all of the dedication and sacrifice made by these ten young people on behalf of our parish.

It is easy to forget what goes on behind the scenes when we reflect upon the 'big occasions' when all we see is the pomp and circumstance of a procession or a parade. But these events don't just happen by chance — a lot of preparation is needed to ensure that everyone plays their full part in the proceedings ... and that they look their best.

No one sets off for an important occasion, even as a spectator, without preparing for it ... and to commit to a full year of 'important occasions' was no mean feat. This is a measure of the dedication and sacrifice made by these

young people – and their families, friends and supporters. Our Rose Queen Committee was instrumental in striving to achieve the success we have all had the privilege of witnessing this last year, and we owe a debt of gratitude to them too

Each time we use the 'Rose Queen' Cruet Set we will be reminded of this year and of these young members of our church family. It is fitting too that the use to which it is put will be a constant reminder of our Lord's sacrifice – as we come before His table to feast in the Holy meal of the ultimate sacrifice at the Eucharist.

Now that the holiday season is upon us, may I take this opportunity to thank everyone for your support and hard work. I hope that this may be for you a time of reflection, refreshment and renewal – whether you are able to get away or are staying at home.

God bless you all,

Your Vicar, $Fr \mathcal{D}$.