

A few words from the Vicarage ...



Well, the rain failed to dampen our enthusiasm on the occasion of our Parish Diamond Jubilee barbecue - subtly renamed as a Jubilee 'Feast' in recognition of the fact that we didn't barbecue, having transferred everything inside – and as we also cooked inside! The atmosphere was one of celebration and was much enjoyed by those who turned out, despite the weather. In the end, we managed to serve up over 70 beef burgers and sausage baps along with a wide range of 'supporting cast' foodstuffs.

So, a huge thanks to everyone who supported this in any way – especially those who contributed time and energy as well as food. It was only right that we sought to celebrate the Queen's remarkable milestone with a community event and it was good to see so many coming along to join in the fun and fellowship.

With Easter behind us, we look forward to the long period in the church calendar which has the uninspiring title of 'Ordinary Time'; however, the expression does not carry the common understanding of 'average', it simply indicates that it is non-seasonal, lying as it does between the seasons of Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas. In fact it is far from 'ordinary', for this is when much is happening. It is now that we see those encouraging and welcome signs of growth in our gardens (weeds apart!); it is now that we are planning (and taking) our summer holidays; and it is now that we consolidate all the hard work already undertaken. Indeed, in that last category, never more so than when we will see the coming to fruition of all the hard work expended by our own Rose Queen Committee.

Whilst the weather forecasters may promise little for Lytham Club Day, I am sure we will all have a wonderful time as we come together once more united as a community and as we process in celebration to witness the crowning of the Rose Queen who will represent both St Paul's and Lytham for the ensuing year. The Rose Queen Festival has been part of Lytham Club Day since the late 19th century and we at St Paul's are delighted to present Siân Thompson as this year's Rose Queen. For the record, Siân will be the 109th Lytham Rose Queen since the tradition was begun. That tradition links the 'Clubs' element with the Church festival and we are pleased to continue that link by hosting the Rose Queen service on the Sunday following 'Club Day'. So, having begun this Ordinary Time, we are shaping up for a quite extraordinary summer.

God bless you all,

Fr D.