

2016

Friday 1 January 2016

For the first time since he arrived at Parbold Father Gordon was present in the Parish for New Year's Day, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Saturday 9 January 2016

The excessive rain – wettest December on record – which has caused a lot of local flooding is causing havoc with the Church Tower. The three floor levels of the Tower are at least two inches deep in water. It is not certain if this is due to rain coming in through the Louvres or from the walls, because the south west walls of the Tower are soaking and dripping due to water ingress from the outside

Sunday 10 January 2016

During the night there must have been an invasion into the Sacristy Kitchen. A large 5" host, prepared for Sunday morning, was "nibbled" and 70 small hosts totally consumed – by Mice! Before Christmas it was discovered that Mice had consumed the clothing in the Mausoleum which had been used to wrap baby Jesus in storage!

Saturday 16 January 2016

The Church Boiler failed to operate for the morning Mass – with the temperature, since Wednesday, being around 4°C. Fortunately Father Gordon was able to get the Boiler back into working order. In the afternoon the first snow of the winter – which really did not lie and a temperature drop to 1°C.

Sunday 31 January 2016

15 Children were presented at 1000 Mass in preparation for their First Communions.

Thursday 4 February 2016

A record? Only one Parishioner – Deacon David – present at 1900 Mass. Admittedly there was a Parishioner from each of Ormskirk, Shevington and Wigan!

Friday 5 February 2016

A Coach load of 22 children from OLAS School departed for Nethybridge in the Cairngorms for a weekend Ski trip.

Wednesday 10 February 2016

Father Liam Durrant MHM, Regional director (Provincial) of the Mill Hill Fathers, said the 1200 Ash Wednesday Mass due to Father Gordon's absence in Scotland. Deacon David conducted the 1900 Evening Service.

Weekend 13+14 February 2016

At the weekend Masses Deacon David announced his retirement from the active Diaconate. Archbishop Malcolm had accepted his letter of resignation due to Deacon David being 75 on 14 February. Deacon David was ordained Deacon on 2 July 1989

Monday 15 February 2016

As half term commenced work started at the School on the building of a new Classroom. It is hoped that the work will be completed by 17 June.

Father Gordon returned to Ampleforth. During the week there will be Divine Office and Liturgy of the Word.

Wednesday 17 February 2016

Peter Madden led afternoon Stations of the Cross, which he will do each Wednesday in Lent to fit in with the School timetable.

Friday 19 February 2016

A group of six, the Parish Chairman, Parish Secretary, Site Manager, Senior Catechists and David Bennett, met to arrange the logistics of running the Parish in Father Gordon's absence.

Weekend 20+21 February 2016

Father Terence, Prior of Ampleforth, supplied at both Masses but did not reside in the Priory.

Sunday 21 February 2016

Abbot Patrick Barry OSB, sixth Abbot of Ampleforth (1984-1997), died at Ampleforth aged 98.

Wednesday 24 February 2016

Father Cassian Dickie OSB, from Saint Benedict's Monastery, Brownedge, came to stand in during Father Gordon's absence.

Friday 26 February 2016

Father Gordon, along with Father Prior, called to pick up some items en route for a Surgery appointment.

March 2016

Work commenced on the building of a new Classroom at the School. School Staff are now using the Church Car Park during building operations.

Thursday 3 March 2016

Father Gordon, along with Father Edgar called to collect some items.

Due to Father Cassian's different timetable the Thursday evening Mass is now at 0900 in the morning and the Friday morning Mass will be at 1900 in the evening.

Sunday 20 March 2016

The 1000 Palm Sunday Mass was a "Children's" Mass.

Monday 21 March 2016

The annual Holy Week Service of Reconciliation took place. Father Colin OSB from Brownedge once again assisted.

Saturday 26 March 2016

The Easter Vigil fire was at the back of the Church rather than on the Sanctuary.

Sunday 27 March 2016

There were supposed to be two Baptisms at the 1000 Easter Mass. Despite the relations of both parties being present the Parents and Baby of one party did not attend!

Monday 4 April 2016

The Parish Chairman, Steve Marston, whilst on Retreat at Ampleforth, visited Father Gordon.

Thursday 7 April 2016

Caroline Marston, wife of Stephen and who is Chair of School Governors, plus Catherine Bennett visited Father Gordon at Ampleforth.

Wednesday 13 April 2016

The Priory Boiler gave up the ghost. A new burner is required.

Tuesday 19 April 2016

Father Gordon called, once again, to collect some more items.

Saturday 23 April 2016

A successful Safari Supper was held in the Parish

Saturday 7 May 2016

The Grounds Manager, Ian Robinson and Jean, paid a visit to Father Gordon at Ampleforth.

Sunday 15 May 2016

There was no Little Church this morning due to Peter Madden's health and the shortage of adult helpers. An appeal was made in the weekly Notices.

The Parish Chairman and James Allen paid a visit to Father Gordon at Ampleforth.

Monday 16 May 2016

The Ampleforth Abbey Trust Property Commission spent an hour at Our Lady's familiarising themselves with the property. They were hosted by David Bennett and Ian Robinson as well as Father Cassian.

Saturday 21 May 2016

Sixteen Children made their First Holy Communion at the 1100 Mass in front of a congregation of about 200. After the Mass Refreshments and Distribution of Certificates took place in the School. Unfortunately they were conspicuous by their absence on Sunday!

Sunday 29 May 2016

The Vicar of Christ Church Parbold conducted his final Service at Christ Church before taking up his new post as Vicar in Burscough. It would appear that there will be a one year inter-regnum before his replacement is appointed.

Weekend 11 + 12 June 2016

Due to Father Gordon's absence there were no celebrations for the Queen's 90th Birthday. Fortunately the Nation did celebrate!

Sunday 12 June 2016

The combined Parish and School Fête was held after 1000 Mass. This year it was held at the School rather than in previous years at Parbold Hall.

Weekend 10+11 July 2016

The Maria Celeste! Fr Cassian was away for a week, Deacon David was away, the Parish Chairman was away, the Parish Secretary was away, the stand in Secretary was away and the Site Manager was away! Fr Stephen came from Leyland to supply. There was no singing at the Saturday 1800 Mass.

Joan Trevelyan announced her retirement from being in charge of the APF in the Parish – in particular the "little red boxes". Joan had been doing this work for forty-two years.

Sunday 17 July 2016

The Parish Chairman visited Ampleforth for three days and saw Father Gordon.

Wednesday 20 July 2016

The latest extension to the School was solemnly opened.

Saturday 23 July 2016

John Lee, brother of Parishioner Dr Clare Crossan, carved, in one day, a Statue of Our Lady in the Church grounds. He used a chain saw for the carving from the remains of a large tree trunk left for this purpose. This Statue is in memory of Clare's step-son, Joe Bleasdale, recently deceased. The Statue will be blessed after the 1000 Mass on Sunday 11 September.

Wednesday 27 July 2016

The two Parbold Churches held an Afternoon Tea Party for twenty-four seniors in Hilldale Village Hall. This was in place of the usual Rose of Parbold trip.

Thursday 4 August 2016

Charlie Reilly retired as President of the Parish SVP after holding the post for over twenty years. Jim Mellor was elected to take his place.

Sunday 14 August 2016

The Parish Chairman and the Marston Family visited Father Gordon at Ampleforth.

Monday 15 August 2016

The Site Manager, Tony Charnock and Celia, visited Father Gordon at Ampleforth.

Monday 22 August 2016

Father Gordon called on this feast of the Patronal of the Parish.

Tuesday to Friday 20-23 September 2016

Fr Julius Madaki, who supplied last September, came for a two day stay.

Weekend 24+25 September 2016

The Annual Harvest Festival took place in a well decorated Church

Weekend 1+2 October 2016

The Annual Mission Appeal was given by Fr Aidan Cadwallader, on behalf of the Josephites.

Monday 7 November 2016

Some School Staff and Governors went to Ampleforth for a 24 hour Insed. Father Gordon ate with them.

Tuesday 8 November 2016

A termly meeting of the Ampleforth Parish Fathers was held in Notre Dame Convent.

Sunday 13 November 2016

The 1000 Mass was the annual Remembrance Day Mass. It was the turn of OLAS to host the Uniformed Organisations. Over 330 attended the Mass.

Sunday 27 November 2016

The annual Advent Fayre was held in School after the 1000 Mass

Wednesday 30 November 2016

Father Gordon paid a visit and the Saltire was flying!

Weekend 3 + 4 December 2016

The Parish Chairman announced at Mass that the Police had said that no action was going to be taken concerning the historical allegations made against Father Gordon (February 15).

In the absence of Fr Cassian Fr Jonathan from Leyland said the Saturday Vigil Mass.

Saturday 10 December 2016

To commemorate Gaudete Sunday a children's Mass was held at the Saturday 1800 Mass – in place of the Sunday 1000 Mass.

Monday 19 December 2016

The Advent Service of Reconciliation was conducted by Father Cassian assisted by Father Jonathan from Leyland.

Saturday 24 December 2016

As last year the "Midnight" Mass was held at 2000 – preceded by the usual thirty minutes Carol Singing. This year Candles were not used.

Monday 26 December 2016

Father Gordon paid a visit – lunching, as usual on Boxing Day, with the Sisters in the Convent.

Sherlock Holmes required: on his visit to the Priory Fr Gordon discovered the strip lighting for the cellar lying broken on the floor. It could not have simply fallen down because its plug had been removed from its socket and a light bulb had been put in its place. Investigations found that all was in working order on 21 December, when the Site Manager had visited the cellar. The only other person who was in the cellar that week had been the Boiler maintenance man. On being contacted he told the Site Manager that it was not him! Neither the Priest in residence nor any of the Priory staff had been in the cellar between 21 and 26 December, soFr Leonard's ghost?!