

BOLTON ARCHDEACONRY REPORT

AUTUMN COUNCIL 2012

The first of the festivals for the year started on 8th May at All Saints Goodshaw the last church in the Manchester Diocese in that direction. The last one in my deanery of Bury.

MAY

Quite a number from Bolton Archdeaconry went to Llandudno for the Mothers' Union Annual Meeting arriving on the 14th June at Bangor University where we stayed, some of us attended Bangor Cathedral for Choral Evensong. Early to bed, up early and off for the day in Portmeirion, what a beautiful and interesting place, quick change then off to Bangor Cathedral again for a full Mothers' Union Eucharist which was half in Welsh and half in English, this was quite an uplifting service. After this it was back to base for a buffet we bought earlier and concert (home made) On the 19th May I was asked by our Diocesan President Barbara would I like to join her at the Catholic Women's Annual Meeting, Mass and lunch. The mass was so peaceful, in a lovely chapel, it was a very enjoyable Saturday. All Christian women working in all Churches.

JUNE

I helped in the tent for lost children, nursing mothers, and baby changing facilities. This facility is well used and a good advert for the Mothers' Union. Give it a try and volunteer.

AUGUST

Our Archdeaconry visit to St Mary's Goodshaw was a lovely event we visited the wonderful Non Conformist Chapel built in 1760 just across the road from St Mary, box pews, balcony, no heating, the people walked miles in those days to meet together in prayer and listen to the word. What Faith!

After the visit we crossed over to St Mary's Church to sing Wesleyan hymns before having afternoon tea, if you didn't go you missed a treat.

Next we have our Provincial Service to look forward to and before that our Council Meeting on Saturday 3rd November at the St. Thomas Centre. The 6th December is our Diocesan Advent Carol Service at St. Ann, Manchester at 1.15pm.

Just to finish I must tell you this, I was over at my daughter Fiona's and she had a ticket for me to listen to the Vicar of Baghdad. At one point he talked about the hospital he runs, and then asked if anyone in the room was a member of Mothers' Union, I put my hand up and showed him my Mothers' Union badge, he then began to tell us what wonderful work the Mothers' Union members do in the hospital, and in church. As this is a Muslim country it is very dangerous if you are Christians, but many are becoming practising Christians at great danger to themselves and their families.

Please remember them in your prayers.

As this is my last report to Council thank you all for your support over the last six years, it has been a wonderful privilege.

God Bless.

Peggy Gathergood
Bolton Archdeaconry President.

