



### MINISTRY QUESTIONNAIRE

This weekend we ask you to think about how we serve in the parish. Please read and then complete a questionnaire after Mass, or take it away and think about it. Many thanks. Fr John.



### THANK YOU EVERYONE

From the family of Terence Ward for Mass and Sympathy cards and condolences. Also for donations amounting to £1000 in aid of Epilepsy Fund (local branch).

### PASTORAL AREA ADVENT MEETINGS

Come to PRAY, come to REFLECT, come to MEDITATE, come to share GRATITUDE, come to TAKE ACTION!

The series of Advent meetings continues on Monday at 7.30pm in the Chapel of Joy & Hope at Sacred Heart church. Days may vary: for information contact Maria on 671046. These meetings are for ALL our parish communities. Feel welcome!

### OUR PRIESTS ARE BUSY

"Is he in? I want to see him!" or, "Father, I know its your day off. . .BUT.." What they're really saying, is "I know it's your day off...but I don't care!" We all know that we have fewer priests, but still a number of people seem to expect a priest to be available whenever they knock on the Presbytery door. Priests are human beings like everyone else and they have families, and they haven't got an unlimited supply of time and energy. Hopefully, our four priests in the Deanery (with nine parishes between them) may well last a lot longer if we try not to wear them out. If we need to see a priest, there is always the designated times for Confessions. However, if we need more time we can always request an appointment through the Sacred Heart Parish Office, which is open for business every Tuesday and Thursday morning, but we can expect to wait until Father can fit us in. Isn't that what you would expect if you wanted to see a lawyer or a dentist?

## IN THE PASTORAL AREA OF ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISHES OF **Sacred Heart, Our Lady of the Rosary and Twelve Apostles**

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**Fr. John R. Finch, Fr. Stephen Cooper**  
Deacons: Rev. Bill Parr, Rev. Dennis Vint, Rev. Tony Arrowsmith

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2006**  
**YOUR LIBERATION IS NEAR AT HAND**

### **Advent Greetings to Everyone in our Pastoral Area!**

St. Paul knew that the Model Church is a church that has a strong love. The same is surely true of a Model Pastoral Area. What we need now as much as anything is for all of us to adopt a new "mind set" based on Love. Love is the necessary foundation. If our parishes are to grow together, we must allow the love of Christ to multiply and overflow into the world. Paul prays, "The Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men." Imagine a love pouring from our Pastoral Area that is so great as to include all the people in Leigh and beyond.

Is it even practical to ask us to love all these people? Is it even humanly possible? No! Of course, it is not. But with God nothing is impossible! God can perfect that which is lacking in our faith. God can direct our ways so that we can work together across our Pastoral Area. God can increase our love and cause our love to overflow toward others. This is the mandate of the Model Pastoral Area. Not just that we encourage the faint among us, but the faint in the world. Not just that we strengthen the weak within our walls, but without as well. Not just that we inspire the discouraged in our parishes, but the disheartened in our community. Not just that we feed the hungry among us, but that we reach beyond to those all who are spiritually hungry.

Lord, let us carry your love into all the world, because we know that: There is no marriage that Christ's love cannot strengthen, There is no fellowship that His love cannot enhance, No heart that His love cannot soften, No sorrow that His love cannot relieve.

Have a good week! Fr John

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

Sat 2 December to Sun 10 December

*Weekday Masses are subject to change in the event of Funeral Masses.*

**At Sacred Heart Church, Walmesley Road**

Sat	2 Dec	6.30pm	People of the Parishes
Sun	3 Dec	9.30am	John Heneghan
Tue	5 Dec	12.00noon	Terry Johnson
Wed	6 Dec	9.30am	Matthew Vincent (12A)
Thu	7 Dec	10.30am	Funeral Mass Eileen Thackrah
Sun	10 Dec	9.30am	Frank Kennedy

**At Twelve Apostles Church, Nel Pan Lane**

Sat	2 Dec	6.30pm	Louis Hall
Wed	6 Dec	1.00pm	Funeral Service Tony Dennett
Sat	9 Dec	12.00noon	Eleanor Dunne
Sat	9 Dec	6.30pm	People of the Parishes

**At Our Lady Of The Rosary Church, Plank Lane**

Sun	3 Dec	11.00am	Sacred Heart Confraternity
Thu	7 Dec	9.30am	Doris Herlihy
Sun	10 Dec	11.00am	Special intention

**At Moss Bank Court Sheltered Accommodation, Faith Street**

Fri	8 Dec	10.00am	Gail Hampson
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**At Saint Joseph's Church, Mather Lane**

Sunday 3 Dec 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm Masses  
 Mon 4 Dec, Wed 6 Dec, Fri 8 Dec, 12 noon Masses, Thu 10.30 Funeral  
 Sunday 10 Dec 8.30am, 10.30am. (5.30pm at St Richard's)

**ADORATION—RECONCILIATION—MASS**

**SATURDAY 9 December beginning 11am**

**At TWELVE APOSTLES CHURCH**

**Collections:**

Last week's collections:- £498.80, £559.92 (SH), £239.18 (OL), £216.77 (12A). National Youth Sunday £85.38 (SH), £39.95 (OLOR), £23.88 (12A). This week's retiring collection: SVP (SH)

**Sacred Heart Lottery:** Winning Numbers: 2, 11, 13. Jackpot: £784.

Winners: NONE! Next Week's Estimated Jackpot: £900!!!

**Our Lady's Lottery Bonus Ball** No. 1. F. McCaul.

**Our Lady's 1000 Club Draw** £10 - 329, Mrs C. Ellis. £5 - 189, Mrs A. Sharkie. £3 - 503, Craig. £2 - 830, Mrs B. Ryan.

**Twelve Apostles Club**

**Jackpot Bingo and Line Dancing** every Wednesday & Sunday. Play your cards £. All welcome in club lounge. Free Pool and beer at £1.50 a pint on Sunday afternoons.

**On Wednesdays 7.30-9.00pm** at Sacred Heart church, the RCIA group meets. Our subject this tenth week is "**The Paschal Mystery**".

**THE NEW MASS ROTA BEGINS NEXT WEEKEND. BE SURE TO TAKE A COPY HOME WITH YOU!**

**PSALM RESPONSE To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**



*I will raise up for David a just shoot. Jer. 33:15*

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**

invites us to send cards showing support for Prisoners of Conscience. At Sacred Heart Church rear are cards: write a simple greeting (e.g. Best wishes, thinking of you, your name and address). The cards will be posted for you.

**CHRISTMAS FAIRS**

Sacred Heart's final total was £1838.59. Twelve Apostles raised £1025.36. There are unclaimed raffle prizes. Check notice boards please.

**BAPTISM MEETING**

Parents (all our parishes): Come this Tue 5 Dec 7.30pm to Sacred Heart house to arrange baptisms.

**NEXT SATURDAY AT TWELVE APOSTLES**

Next Saturday Twelve Apostles has the privilege of being the host church for our Pastoral Area's Saturday Holy Hour of Adoration/Confessions & 12 noon Mass. We come together at 11.00am to sit or kneel quietly in Jesus' Presence, telling Him of our needs and of our love for Him. We hope to see you there. Each week one of our four churches will take turn to play host, and we should get some idea by the New Year of how popular this is, and review accordingly.

**WEDNESDAY MASS CHANGES**

(from 9.10am at XII APOSTLES to SACRED HEART at 9.30am)

Our aim is to make the weekday Eucharist available to as many people as possible. After consultation with XII Apostles weekday Mass-goers we have decided that the Wednesday Mass at Twelve Apostles will be replaced by a 9.30am Mass at Sacred Heart. The Mass intentions will come from the Twelve Apostles list and, as far as possible, lay ministries (Readers & Eucharistic Ministers) will be exercised by people from Twelve Apostles at this Mass. I am assured by "Twelvies" that they can all get lifts to a 9.30am Mass at Sacred Heart quite easily, and also there is a good bus service into town. Should this arrangement not work out, we could always arrange a taxi service. If any one has a problem with transport please let us know asap. We know that our Sacred Heart parishioners will make our "Twelvies" feel welcome on Wednesday. Further changes can be expected for we are only learning as we go along.