

## LENTEN ALMS 2007

This year, our Archbishop requests that our Lenten Alms Collections are to help Asylum Seekers. Please support this good cause generously. Thank you.

**World Day of Prayer Service:** composed by Paraguay, Friday, 2nd. March, 7:30pm, Leigh Baptist Church. Choir practices 19th. & 26th. Feb, 7:30pm in Baptist Church: all welcome, any age.

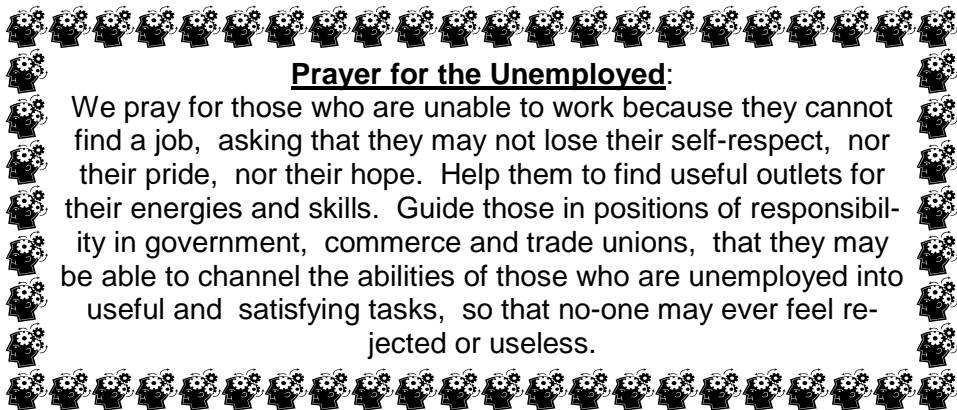
**Stations of the Cross** Friday, 23rd. February Sacred Heart, 7pm. Everyone welcome. Every Friday in Lent except 2nd. March and Good Friday. In other Churches to be arranged.

### Services of (Penance) Reconciliation during Lent:

XII Apostles Thursday 15th March at 7.00pm  
Sacred Heart Thursday 22nd March at 7.00pm.

## MEETING TO PLAN THE EASTER VIGIL

**Monday 19th February, 7.30pm in XII Apostles Club and Church.** The Easter Vigil is the holiest night of the year! Here is the entire story, in one powerful, inspiring evening. Our four parishes plan together to celebrate this event. If you have never attended or if it has been several years since you attended a Vigil Mass, do plan to come this year.



### Prayer for the Unemployed:

We pray for those who are unable to work because they cannot find a job, asking that they may not lose their self-respect, nor their pride, nor their hope. Help them to find useful outlets for their energies and skills. Guide those in positions of responsibility in government, commerce and trade unions, that they may be able to channel the abilities of those who are unemployed into useful and satisfying tasks, so that no-one may ever feel rejected or useless.

## IN THE PASTORAL FAMILY OF ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH

### NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISHES OF

## Sacred Heart, Our Lady of the Rosary and Twelve Apostles

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[www.sacredheartleigh.org.uk](http://www.sacredheartleigh.org.uk)

e-mail: [shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk)  
[www.rcdeanery.org](http://www.rcdeanery.org)

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)  
18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2007  
*THE LOVE OF OUR FATHER*

Welcome Sisters and Brothers across our Pastoral Area!

I am writing to invite you to enter into a real experience of that "joyful season of Lent" which begins this coming Wednesday. God is always labouring upon creation, our creation, to bring us more and more to life.

The 40 days of **Lent** help us to realise and live this great truth that death leads us back into life. On **Ash Wednesday**, the **sign of the cross** on our foreheads with the **imposition of ashes** remind us of our mortality. It also reminds us of our willingness to participate in the long journey of death on the way of the cross, which leads us back to life that we will celebrate together in the Sacred *Triduum*.

As we travel together through Lent this year, may the Holy Spirit open our eyes to see all the more clearly the answer to life's big questions. Lent answers life's big questions. For Lent points us to Christ crucified. And when Lent concludes with the glory of Easter, there we have the absolute guarantee that Christ crucified is the answer because Christ is risen. He keeps on leading us through the big questions we face in life.

We can pray these days, as we journey towards Easter, to be available to all the little and not-so-little ways God offers us new experiences of just what the grace-life is all about. All of life is made up of thousands of invitations to us. From the rising of the sun to its setting, seconds are more than time, minutes are miracles asking us to be awake and not be blinded by what appears to be. We can pray for the open-eye-edness which renders us at times speechless as at the Holy Eucharist. Peace. Fr John

**PS** This week, the Ashes are distributed on three different days: Wednesday at Sacred Heart; on **Thursday morning at XII Apostles**, and **Moss Bank Court on Friday morning**.

NB The Services for our school children on Ash Wednesday are not during a Mass.

Sat 17 February to Sun 25 February

### Sacred Heart

Sun	18 Feb	9.30am	People of the Parishes
Tue	20 Feb	12.00noon	Wilfred Winstanley
Wed	21 Feb	7.30am	John Bachegallup (12A)
Wed	21 Feb	11.00am	ASHES SERVICE FOR SCHOOL
Wed	21 Feb	7.30pm	Maria Ashbrook
Thu	22 Feb	12.00noon	No MASS
Sun	25 Feb	9.30am	Jimmie Maxwell

### Twelve Apostles

Sat	17 Feb	6.30pm	Vera & Fred Matthias
Wed	21 Feb	1.00 pm.	Funeral Service: William Unsworth
Thu	22 Feb	9.10am	ASHES MASS Irene Smith & family
Thu	22 Feb	11am	Funeral Mass: John Jennings
Sat	24 Feb	6.30pm	Frank Prescott

### Our Lady Of The Rosary

Sun	18 Feb	11.00am	Sacred Heart Confraternity
Sat	24 Feb	12.00noon	The Maze family
Sun	25 Feb	11.00am	People of the Parishes
<b>At Moss Bank Court Sheltered Accommodation, Faith Street</b>			
Fri	23 Feb	10.00am	ASHES MASS Thomas Grundy

### St. Joseph's

Sundays	8.30am, 10.30am Masses
Mon, Wed, Fri	12.00noon Masses

### At St. Richard's ATHERTON

A SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR ALL NINE PARISHES  
at 6.30pm

### ADORATION—RECONCILIATION—MASS

Next SATURDAY 24 February at 11am Holy Hour & Confessions +  
Mass at noon  
At OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

### RITE OF ELECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The Rite of Election is the celebration in which the Archbishop welcomes and accepts those adults preparing for the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. At 3.00 p.m. at Liverpool Cathedral, all the people preparing for the Easter Sacraments from the Archdiocese will gather with Archbishop Patrick. The Catechumens will sign their names to the Book of Elect. The Archbishop will then attach the Archdiocesan seal to the Book of Elect from each parish. All parishioners are invited to attend and witness this celebration with our participants. The coach departs at 1.30pm from St Mary's Way; all the seats are booked now, but parishioners with private cars can make their own arrangements. **PLEASE PRAY FOR LEE, HETTIE, DEBBIE, JIM AND STEPHEN THIS WEEK AND IN LENT.**

### PSALM RESPONSE The Lord is compassion and love.



*Love your enemies.*

*Luke. 6:27*

### LENT: Fast

- + Abstinence
- + Forgiveness

FASTING symbolizes our hunger for God. **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and Abstinence.**

Instead of giving up chocolate this Lent, we can decide to look into the darkest corner of our hearts. There we will find that one person whom we have not been able to forgive. We can ask Jesus to help us let go of our hurt and anger — to heal our memory. It may take us the whole six weeks of Lent to bring ourselves to forgive this person; but we will persevere! What a joy on Easter to look into the eyes of this special someone and say, "I forgive you; please forgive me!"

**FORGIVE AND YOU WILL BE FORGIVEN!**

### Collections:

£ 523.71 (SH); £202.96 (OL); £166.27, £15.02 Repair Fund (12A).  
Next week's retiring collections: S.V.P. (SH).

### Sacred Heart Lottery:

Winning Numbers: 7, 10, 14 Jackpot: £879.

Winners: ONE.

Next Week's Estimated Jackpot: £100.

### Our Lady's 1000 Club Draw:

£10 - 925 Mrs Dawber. £5 - 781 Finnian, £3 - 535 Mrs G. Nightingale,  
£2 - 402 Molly. Bonus Ball - 8 V. Clegg.

**Twelve Apostles Club:** Wednesday is 200 Club (only £1 per month).  
Irish Night: Friday, 16th. March. Tickets £3 now available.

The RCIA group meets on Ash Wednesday (Mass at 7:30pm at Sacred Heart) followed by a short meeting in the Chapel of Joy and Hope.