

EASTER FLOWERS

The flowers on our altars were offered for the following intentions. (12A) Brian Crawley, C & J Hawkins, Anthony Martyn, W Sharrock, M Smith, Martin McKeon, Smith & McHugh families, Timothy Stott, D Watt, anonymous donor.

(SH) EM Humphrey, S Winstanley, Lucy Sabkienky, anonymous, All our loved ones, Isherwood & Greenhalgh families, decd. Farrell family, Daven & Finney families, Terry Stephens in honour of Our Lady, Anna & Alojzy Tesmer, Brian Walker, Stanley & Madah Ratcliffe, George & Violet Galloway, relatives & friends, Maria Ashbrook, Gerard Yates.

MEDITATION

Wednesday 8.30-9.15am at Sacred Heart.

In the midst of our busy work and play, periods of stillness give us rest and focus. Meditation is common to most religious traditions. This form of meditation is 'Christian' in that it has Christ as its focus and goal. Meditation is about coming to stillness of body, mind and spirit. Despite all the distractions of the modern world this stillness is perfectly possible for people today. But to reach it, we have to devote time to the work of silence - an interior silence which allows us to be present to God and to feel God's presence. Come and try it!

NEW PROCEDURE FOR BOOKING BAPTISMS

Parents should ring Sacred Heart parish office to reserve a place in the baptism preparation programme (which is limited to six sets of parents a month). Please note we are now taking bookings for July and beyond.



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
15TH APRIL 2007
THE LIVING ONE

What A Wonderful Triduum!

As I write this, I'm more energised than exhausted as I recall these humbling, powerful days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Easter itself was an extension of the joy of the night before. The Easter environment is thanks to those of you who so generously donated to our flowers, and to the volunteers. The understanding and the passion with which the readers read touched our hearts; the Eucharistic ministers offered the host and cup with welcoming reverence; the altar servers were attentive and prayerful. A huge thank you to choir whose music helped us enter into Jesus' journey from the Last Supper to the cross to his glorious rising.

Those having their feet washed overcame their shyness and let us witness what Peter's pride protested. And then there was Holy Saturday. Who could be passive in the presence of the joy of those to be baptised, received and confirmed; and the excitement of the RCIA group? So many months of preparation and longing to experience the Spirit in Confirmation and to receive the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of their Lord. Thank you to the RCIA team, their sponsors, their families, their catechists and to you, the newest members of our family! Your faith in Jesus, in the Church and in us gives us hope.

When we sang the refrain in the Litany, "All you holy men and women, pray for us," I couldn't help but think that the refrain applies to you. There are many of you whom I don't yet know, but considering those I have come to know, there is a lot of grace here! If being holy means being in relationship with the Lord and in relationship with each other, there are a lot of holy people in our Pastoral Area! You're not perfect, no one is. But you're trying to love God and to live out Jesus' gospel and that's what counts. Thank you for the gift of ministering with you. I feel very blessed.

Let us not forget those who don't usually come who came on Easter. Let us pray that perhaps something from the homily or a phrase from a song or the very presence of lots of the faithful people might have touched their hearts. Some of us have been "away" and we know how good it is to come home. Let us pray for that grace for these brothers and sisters of ours.

Have a good week! Fr John

SERVICES, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 14 April to Sun 22 April EASTER SEASON

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

At Sacred Heart Church, Walmesley Road

Sun	15 Apr	9.30am	Doris Gaskell
Tue	17 Apr	12.00noon	FUNERAL MASS Daniel Philip Smith
Wed	18 Apr	8.30am	Meditation Workshop
Wed	18 Apr	9.30am	(12A) Frank Stout
Thu	19 Apr	12.00noon	FUNERAL MASS Patrick O'Sullivan Jnr.
Sun	22 Apr	9.30am	People of the Parishes

At Twelve Apostles Church, Nel Pan Lane

Sat	14 Apr	6.30pm	Gladys Meeson
Thu	19 Apr	9.10am	John Jennings
Sat	21 Apr	6.30pm	Vera & Fred Matthias

At Our Lady Of The Rosary Church, Plank Lane

Sun	15 Apr	11.00am	People of the Parishes
Sun	22 Apr	11.00am	William Abernethy

At Moss Bank Court Sheltered Accommodation, Faith Street

Fri	20 Apr	10.00am	Terry Stevens Jack McCaul Monica Green Jim Dooley Wilfred Winstanley.
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At Saint Joseph's Church, Mather Lane

Sundays	8.30am, 10.30am	Masses
Mon, Wed, Fri	12.00noon	Masses
Sat	21 Apr 11.00am	see below

At Saint Richard's Church, Mayfield Street, AThERTON

A SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR ALL NINE PARISHES
at 6.30pm

ADORATION—RECONCILIATION—MASS

SATURDAY 21 April beginning 11am, Mass at noon.

At SAINT JOSEPH'S CHURCH

HELP WANTED!

The catechists keep the faith life of the parish going; without them we would not have any life in the parish. I think that it is fair to say that they do gain a great amount by sharing their faith with others. The rest of us must not take them for granted, sit back and just let them get on with the handing on of our faith which belongs to us all. How can you help?

This year the one big gap in our catechetical teams is the preparation of our children for their First Holy Communion. This is the work that has been done by Christine Welch (SH) and Veronica Jardine (XII Ap) and their helpers for a number of years. Our thanks to them for all that they do.

We urgently need to recruit more catechists now. Parents of school age children are particularly welcome to become involved.

I invite parents of the children from previous years' programmes as well as this years' parents, to consider helping with the programme, as we do need more people to come forward to help. Fr John.

**PSALM RESPONSE Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.**



I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.
Ap. 1:18

**FIRST COMMUNION
CATECHISTS**

Could you spare some time to help prepare our children to make their First Holy Communion? If interested, please see Christine Welch or telephone 515219. There will be a catechists' meeting this Thursday 19 April at 7.00pm in the Chapel of Joy & Hope at Sacred Heart church and anyone interested in helping is invited to attend.

CIVIC SONGS OF PRAISE

is on Sunday 29 April at 6.30pm in Leigh Parish church.

Collections:

(SH): £585.86. Holy Places £413.17. Easter flowers £155. (OL): £341.70. (12A): £230.43. Easter flowers £79. Thanks for your generosity.

Sacred Heart Lottery:

Winning Numbers: 1, 18, 19. Jackpot: £210.

Winners: NONE

Next Week's Estimated Jackpot: £300.

Our Lady's 1000 Club Draw:

£10 - 147, Mrs C Baker. £5 - 302, Mrs A Freeman. £3 - 317, Mrs C Ellis. £2 - 285, Mrs W Roach. Bonus Ball - 20, J Newill. **Spring Raffle** tickets on sale after Mass. More prize donations needed please.

Twelve Apostles Club: Jackpot Bingo every Sunday, **Bingo & Line Dancing** every Wednesday. **Ten week school maintenance draw** will take place next Friday 20 April at 8.00pm in the Parish Hall Lounge. All will be made welcome.