

HELP WANTED!

Sacred Heart needs a new Red Mission Box collector to collect from Windermere Road, Walmesley Road and Grasmere Street. Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible. Thanks to Mr Evans for his collecting in the past.

THANKS

- Fr John would like to say "Thank you" to parishioners who sent him Easter cards and gifts.
- Thank you from the "Friends of XII Apostles School" to everyone who supported the Ladies' Fashion Show on 30 March at XII Apostles Club. £600 was raised to provide essential funds for the School.

EASTER LILIES

There were 126 names of loved ones submitted at Our Lady's and the list will remain on the sanctuary until Pentecost.

EASTER TRIDUUM: HOW DID WE DO? WHAT CAN WE DO BETTER NEXT TIME?

Fr John and Fr Steve wish to meet with all who helped to organise our Triduum ceremonies. Please come to St Joseph's, Green Room this Friday 27 April at 7.00pm. Thank you.

ABORTION ACT FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY

SPUC Leigh branch will be holding a pro-life chain on next Saturday 28 April at the Spinning Jenny Way from 11am to 1pm. This involves nothing only holding a placard proclaiming the pro-life message. They are asking that we try and join them.

RCIA GROUP

It is time for our new Catholics and their supporters to meet again, starting this Wednesday 25 April. There are still three topics to study and we will also have one other evening devoted to any subjects that anyone thinks needs further attention. There will then be a break until September. If anyone you know wants to learn more about the Catholic Faith, please give Deacon Tony their details and they will be contacted before the course starts again.

**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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
22ND APRIL 2007
IT IS THE LORD**

JUST LIKE US!

Jesus doesn't choose super heroes, perfect people to be his disciples and spread his message. He chooses doubting, fearful human beings who are slow to believe, who don't quite "get" it, who so quickly go back to life as it was before he encountered them. We might think that spending time with him, witnessing his miracles, sensing the divine about him would have changed them forever. But they are so very like ourselves. Haven't each of us witnessed God's presence and grace-filled action in our own lives? Haven't we experienced God seeing a family member or good friend through difficult times? Don't most of us find it challenging to really trust, though God has proven countless times to be a faithful friend? And don't we, too, have a short memory span?

Jesus doesn't berate the disciples nor express his disappointment with them. He wishes them peace; he breathes the Spirit upon them; he has breakfast with them. And, at least according to John's community, Jesus even gives Peter the chance to three times assert his love for him to counteract the three times Peter had denied him. So, ladies and gentlemen, we can't let ourselves off the hook by saying, "I'm not holy enough" or "I don't have it in me to be a disciple." We've been called by God through our baptism to which we just recommitted ourselves and we've been strengthened by the Spirit we received in confirmation. The only question is the one which Jesus put to Peter: "Do you love me?"

The Holy Spirit is always active within you, always there to guide, support, console, strengthen and encourage. In other words, the Holy Spirit is God's constant love – both within you and all around you, like the water that surrounds a fish. You live and move and draw every single breath within the loving presence and grace of the Holy Spirit. That's what we believe when we say the words, "I believe in the Holy Spirit."

Have a good week! Fr John

SERVICES, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 21 April to Sun 29 April EASTER SEASON

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

At Sacred Heart Church, Walmesley Road

Sun	22 Apr	9.30am	People of the Parishes
Tue	24 Apr	12.00noon	Harry & Mary Garfin
Tue	24 Apr	2.00pm	FUNERAL SERVICE John Ashcroft
Wed	25 Apr	8.30am	Meditation Workshop
Wed	25 Apr	9.30am	(12A) Pat Canning
Thu	26 Apr	12.00noon	Peter Strong
Sun	29 Apr	9.30am	Emma Murphy

At Twelve Apostles Church, Nel Pan Lane

Sat	21 Apr	6.30pm	Vera & Fred Matthias
Tue	24 Apr	10.30am	FUNERAL SERVICE John Thomas Spivey
Sat	28 Apr	6.30pm	People of the Parishes

At Our Lady Of The Rosary Church, Plank Lane

Sun	22 Apr	11.00am	William Abernethy
Sat	28 Apr	12.00noon	Anne Borrow
Sun	29 Apr	11.00am	Sacred Heart Confraternity

At Moss Bank Court Sheltered Accommodation, Faith Street

Thu	26 Apr	10.00am	Roy Hough
Fri	27 Apr	10.00am	Terry Jones

At Saint Joseph's Church, Mather Lane

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

At Saint Richard's Church, Mayfield Street, ATHERTON

A SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR ALL NINE PARISHES
at 6.30pm

ADORATION—RECONCILIATION—MASS

SATURDAY 28 April beginning 11am, Mass at noon.
At OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

FOR SACRED HEART CHILDREN. The first meeting is for PARENTS ONLY in church THIS THURSDAY at 7.00pm. First communions will take place at Sunday Masses on 10, 17 and 24 June and parents will have the chance to pick (subject to places being available) one of those dates. The preparation sessions for children will be from 6-7pm, in church, on 3, 10, 17 and 24 May. On 3 and 10 May parents are also invited to attend separate but simultaneous sessions, in the Chapel of Joy & Hope, for their own preparation. On Thursday 5 July at 3.40pm there will be a Mass of Celebration for children and their families, followed by refreshments in school.

PSALM RESPONSE

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me



Come and have breakfast. John 21:12

MISSION APPEAL

Masses in our churches next weekend 28-29 April will be offered by Father Duncan Campbell, a Dominican priest who will be making an appeal on behalf of the Foreign Missions. Please make him feel welcome!

CIVIC SONGS OF PRAISE

is on Sunday 29 April at 6.30pm in Leigh Parish church. The theme is 'thanksgiving' and hymns have been chosen from the different Christian traditions. Please come and support.

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Danny Smith, Patrick Anthony O'Sullivan, Sonia Howard, John Thomas Spivey, John Ashcroft and Albert Critchley, who all died recently.

Collections:

(SH): £484.83. (OL): £219.22. Easter flowers £234. (12A): £216.06. Last week +£43 (envelopes). CAFOD Friday self denial group (April) £106.45.

Sacred Heart Lottery:

Winning Numbers: 1, 8, 12. Jackpot: £316.

Winners: NONE Next Week's Estimated Jackpot: £400.

Our Lady's 1000 Club Draw:

£10 - 012, OLOTR. £5 - 760, Fred. £3 - 426, Mrs N Flynn. £2 - 483, Mrs A Freeman.

Twelve Apostles Club: 200 club results: £40 - 43, A Newon, £15 - 155, T Hilton, £5 - 182, K Gallagher, £5 - 30 P Newton. **Unclaimed Easter eggs,** yellow 122, 157, 373; blue 286, 297. £70 raised - thanks.

Women's Confraternity Bingo Tuesday 24 April at 7.30pm in Lounge, Monthly Quiz Friday 27 April at 8.30pm in Lounge. The free Members' Draw in the Lounge on Wednesdays currently stands at £19.