

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN PILGRIMAGE TRUST

We have been asked if we can raise money for four handicapped children to go to Lourdes in 2008. The target to be reached is £2000. We welcome any fund raising initiatives through our parishes working together or individual initiatives or donations. Also, we will have additional retiring collections during the course of the year. The first one will be next weekend. Please be generous in supporting this good cause. We have £273 of the £2000 already!

God dwells wherever we let him in.

NEW CATHOLICS

Thinking of becoming a Catholic? Catholic already but know someone who is interested? Just need a refresher course? All are welcome to join the "Journey in Faith" group (RCIA) for our Pastoral Area, meeting on Wednesday evenings at Sacred Heart, from September. Contact Fr John or Deacon Tony and leave your details. Please ring soon so that we can make plans according to numbers.

CHARITY EVENING FOR PAKISTAN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

Sincere thanks to the many who helped our suffering sisters and brothers, in different ways at the informative, enjoyable Parish Centre evening. Financial result to follow next week.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Parishioners can serve God in countless ways. This is the time, as good and faithful stewards, we need to offer our talents and time for the work God would have us do - here, now, as we are and who we are. Every one of those talents will help bring Jesus' healing touch to a world in need.

Consider these opportunities for sharing your talent:

<i>Counting the Collection</i>	<i>Banking</i>
<i>Fundraising</i>	<i>Greeting or Reading at Mass</i>
<i>RCIA Preparation</i>	<i>Baptism Preparation</i>
<i>Buildings/grounds volunteer</i>	<i>Singing (choir member/cantor)</i>
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	<i>Church cleaning</i>

IN THE PASTORAL FAMILY OF ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH

NEWSLETTER OF THE PARISHES OF

Sacred Heart, Our Lady of the Rosary and Twelve Apostles

Tel/Fax: 01942 673753
www.sacredheartleigh.org.uk

e-mail: shleigh@bluevonder.co.uk
www.rcdeanery.org

Fr. John R. Finch, Fr. Stephen Cooper

Deacons: Rev. Bill Parr, Rev. Dennis Vint, Rev. Tony Arrowsmith

TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

19TH AUGUST 2007

VICTORY WITH CHRIST

"Why not become totally fire?"

One of my favourite stories from the Egyptian Desert Fathers goes like this:

The disciple, Lot, came to his spiritual father, Joseph, and said, "Father, according to my strength, I say my prayers a little, I fast a little, and my prayers and meditations are few and, as far as possible, I cleanse my thoughts. Now, what more can I do?"

The old man stood up and spread out his hands towards heaven, and his fingers were like ten lamps of fire. And he said, "If you want, why not become totally fire?"

Jesus' heart is burning with the very fire of the triune God. His mission on earth was stated by him in terms of bringing to us and our world fire.

"To bring fire upon the earth - that is my mission! And, Oh, how I wish it were already in a blaze!"

God is love. True love, that is God-Trinity's very own nature, is an exploding fire, more powerful than the millions of stars exploding outward in fires of unimaginable energy forces. This fire seeks to go out in self-emptying love to transform us human beings into a fiery love so we can return love in service to God and other people.

Jesus desires to enkindle within our hearts this fire of divine love. But are we ready to become fire? He calls us, his unworthy but chosen disciples, to bring the fire of God's love to this world.

Peace.

Fr John

SERVICES, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 18 to Sun 26 August

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

At Sacred Heart Church, Walmesley Road

Sun	19 Aug	9.30am	Philip McLoughlin
Tue	21 Aug	12.00noon	Tom Gibbon
Wed	22 Aug	9.30am	Winnie Carney
Thu	23 Aug	12.00noon	Kathleen Towey
Sun	26 Aug	9.30am	People of the Parishes

At Twelve Apostles Church, Nel Pan Lane

Sat	18 Aug	6.30pm	People of the Parishes
Tue	21 Aug	10.00am	FUNERAL MASS Teresa Hurst
Thu	23 Aug		NO MASS
Sat	25 Aug	6.30pm	Alfred Buckley

At Our Lady Of The Rosary Church, Plank Lane

Sun	19 Aug	11.00am	Joe Moore
Sat	25 Aug	12.00noon	John Flynn
Sun	26 Aug	11.00am	Sacred Heart Confraternity

At Moss Bank Court Sheltered Accommodation, Faith Street

Fri	24 Aug	10.00am	Patrick O'Sullivan
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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 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR ALL NINE PARISHES

ADORATION—RECONCILIATION—MASS

SATURDAY 25 August beginning 11am, Mass at noon.

At OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH

WELCOME

A warm welcome to all visitors to Leigh and welcome, also, to those who are newcomers to our parish.

Our families may be utterly divided on grounds of religion or more commonly between belief in God and disbelief in God, but they should not be divided in charity and love for one another.

WEDNESDAY MEDITATION CONTINUES: 8.30AM IN CHAPEL OF JOY & HOPE AT SACRED HEART

PSALM RESPONSE Lord, come to my aid.



Keep running steadily in the race we have started. Hebrews 12:1

AS A PARISH COMMUNITY

We pray ...

for God's holy people. May we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and persevere in our faith in times of trial.

We pray ...

For all those who are victims of physical or emotional abuse, especially battered wives and children.

2008 POCKET DIARIES

... for Sacred Heart Parish are now for sale in the shop (halfway down the right hand aisle). Please visit and see our other goods, statues, rosaries, cards etc. Diaries **only 30p.**

Collections: (SH): £432.60, (OL): £n/a, (12A): £153.83. CAFOD Friday self denial (July) £60.50. **Thank you** to anonymous donors of £120 towards our funds to send four handicapped children to Lourdes next year. **Next week** there will be retiring collections in all our churches for the same HCPT special funds: *see the back page.*

Sacred Heart Lottery: Winning Numbers: 12, 15, 25. Jackpot: £414. Winners: NONE. Next Week's Estimated Jackpot: £500.

Our Lady's 1000 Club Draw: results not to hand.

Twelve Apostles Club The next 200 club draw will be on Wednesday 22 August in the lounge. Wednesday Bingo in the lounge at 8.30pm. Karen Mac in the club on Sunday 26 August. Women's Confraternity monthly Bingo, Tuesday 28 August at 7.30pm. Family Quiz on Friday 31 August. The Club now has Sky Sports! Come along and watch all the action.