

### **HANDICAPPED CHILDREN PILGRIMAGE TRUST**

Our Pastoral Area has been asked if we can raise money for four handicapped children to go to Lourdes in 2008. The target to be reached is £2000. Thank you to another anonymous donor of £10, bringing the total so far to £283. **Please be generous in the retiring collection today.** We would welcome any individual or group willing to follow through with a fund-raising initiative or event. The funds remain open, of course, to private donations.

### **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.

### **PAKISTAN EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS**

Praise and thanks to God at work in so many across our area, resulting in £2,300 for our suffering sisters and brothers, Pakistan earthquake victims. Thank you to all who had a part in this total. Jesus assures us that whatever we do for others, He accepts as done for Himself.

### **SITUATIONS VACANT**

All unpaid, mostly unseen and definitely under-appreciated.  
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>

**OR**

**Write your own job-description**

Satisfaction and reward guaranteed \_\_\_\_\_

### **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

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)  
26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2007  
THE LORD GATHERS A PEOPLE TO HIMSELF**

Anyone with experience of children will know that they don't always give first priority to pleasing their parents. They are more interested in pleasing themselves. But what is a parent to do when a child's behavioural choices are clearly wrong and harmful to their own future and to other people?

Punishment is a theme that keeps cropping up in both the old and new testaments. It seems that any misfortune that a person or a group of individuals suffers can be misinterpreted as their just desserts or the action of a vengeful God. If we believe in that vengeance then it leads us to dismiss whole groups of people as unworthy of our sympathy or consideration. If God has treated them so badly then they must be irredeemable.

For someone who believes in a loving God the subject can make us so uncomfortable that we might mistakenly declare that God is incapable of punishing anybody at all. That would be equally wrong. God is a parent; we are his sons and daughters: we are all brothers and sisters together. What kind of a parent would he be if he did not allow his children to suffer the consequences of their mistakes and so learn from them?

Our society no longer tolerates beating children. I'm sure that Jesus never did condone it. He is our perfect example of fidelity and submission to the Father. He is the narrow door that is still unlocked and that remains our best chance of entry into the Kingdom.

*Deacon Tony*

**SERVICES, MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

Sat 25 August to Sun 2 September

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

**At Sacred Heart Church, Walmesley Road**

Sun	26 Aug	9.30am	People of the Parishes
Tue	28 Aug		<b>NO MASS</b>
Wed	29 Aug		<b>NO MEDITATION</b>
Wed	29 Aug	10.00am	FUNERAL MASS Joseph Manniex
Thu	30 Aug	12.00noon	ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH Hughie Foster
Sat	1 Sep	12.00noon	Fr Jeremiah McCarthy
Sun	2 Sep	9.30am	Chris Marren

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

Sat	25 Aug	6.30pm	Alfred Buckley
Sat	1 Sep	6.30pm	Joseph O'Connell

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

Sun	26 Aug	11.00am	Sacred Heart Confraternity
Sun	2 Sep	11.00am	People of the Parishes

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

Thu	30 Aug	10.00am	ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH The Mazy family
Fri	31 Aug	10.00am	Frank Quinn

**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 1 September beginning 11am, Mass at noon.

At SACRED HEART CHURCH

“If people are rich and do give help to those who stand in need, they only give the poor what was already theirs. The earth was made for all, not just for the rich”. *St Ambrose*

**WELCOME**

**We welcome our brothers and sisters from East and West, North and South, who come to join us at our feast.**

**PSALM RESPONSE** **Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.**



*The Lord trains those he loves. Hebrews 12:6*

**AS A PARISH COMMUNITY**

**We pray ...**for the relatives and friends and souls of Teresa Hurst and Joseph Manniex, who both died recently.

**BAPTISM MEETING**

Parents wishing to arrange baptism for their children are reminded that the next meeting will be on Tue 4 Sep at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Parish House. Please ring and reserve your place if you have not already done so.

**Collections:** (SH): £409.30, (OL): £216.00 [£203.84 on 12 Aug], (12A): £208.19. **This week** there will be retiring collections in all our churches for the HCPT special funds to send four handicapped children to Lourdes next year: *see the back page*. **Next week** 12A church repair fund.

**Sacred Heart Lottery:** Winning Numbers: 15, 20, 22. Jackpot: £484. Winners: NONE. Next Week's Estimated Jackpot: £550.

**Our Lady's 1000 Club Draw:** £10 - 606, Parish. £5 - 070, Molly. £3 - 466, Mrs Wilkinson. £2 - 165, Parish. Bonus Ball No. 22 - J Barnes. [12 Aug £10 - 848, B Woods. £5 - 968, L Hancock. £3 - 863, D Flannery. £2 - 165, R Ellis. Bonus Ball No. 40 - B Woods.]

**Twelve Apostles Club 200 club results:** £40 - 140, B Foley. £15 - 120, S Walsh. £5 - 203, J Thompson. £5 - 154, R Elmer. Wednesday Bingo in the lounge at 8.30pm. Karen Mac and Bingo in the function room on Sunday 26 August (free admission). Women's Confraternity monthly Bingo, Tuesday 28 August at 7.30pm. Family Quiz on Friday 31 August 8.30pm in the lounge. The Club now has Sky Sports! Come along and watch all the action seven nights a week from 1 September.