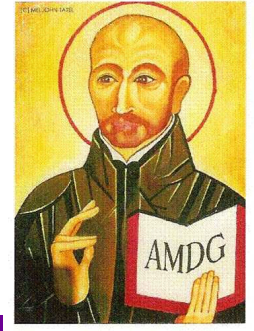


St. Ignatius

Newsletter Pastoral Area 14

Holy Rosary, Most Holy Redeemer & St Kentigern, Our Lady, St Anne, St Elizabeth, St George, St Gregory the Great St John the Evangelist, St Mary



Issue No. 4

April 2011

Spring 2011

Dear Members of Pastoral Area 14,

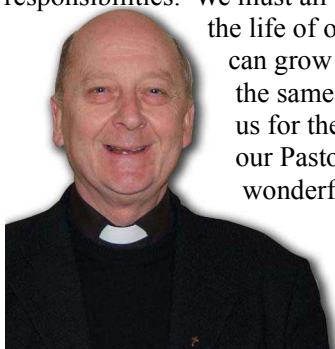
One of the uplifting and enriching things about coming to Mass regularly is that together we prepare for celebrating Easter, this most central of all feasts in the Christian calendar. Easter time resounds with cries of resurrection and new life. In the build up, Lent provides the opportunity for us to face reality, to put aside all sham, to see the real me, which we can only do with success by seeing ourselves in relation to that ultimate being, who is the God of Love.

While Lent is the time for facing the spiritual and human realities of our lives, several of us in the PA have been looking at some of the practical issues which face us as parishioners of our parishes and as members of a pastoral area. Throughout the Archdiocese, PAs are working out how best to respond to Our Lord's invitation to bring about the Kingdom of God here in the NW of England in a rapidly changing world.

'Official' discussions operate at three levels: 1) in clergy meetings; 2) in Archdiocesan meetings of lay people, clergy and bishops; 3) in Pastoral Area Working Groups (PAWGS) where laity and clergy from a pastoral area come together to see how best to share the resources and personnel within the PA. The need to promote the PAWG in our PA, set up over a year ago, is becoming more acute.

At the moment we are fortunate to have 7 priests serving the 9 parishes in our PA but in the *Leaving Safe Harbours* scheme it is anticipated that within a very few years there will be no more than 4 active priests working in each of the 24 PAs in the Archdiocese of Liverpool. Several of the PAs have already taken drastic steps (involving priests taking on roles across the PA, closing churches, adjusting the times of Masses, sharing parish resources and personnel across the PA) to address new needs.

Is all this activity just because we have fewer priests? I prefer to read the signs of the times in another way, to recognize the Holy Spirit as guiding us to renew our lives as Catholic Christians, calling the whole Community to wake up to our responsibilities. We must all ask ourselves what part we play in the life of our parish community and how we can grow in our faith and love of God and at the same time use the gifts God has given us for the building up of the Kingdom in our Pastoral Area. What an exciting and wonderful challenge!



Godric Timney OSB

Pastoral Area Leader

THE JESUS WAY

Last year in January I was travelling back from London to Liverpool. It was a rather surreal experience as we trundled through empty stations where nobody was waiting. I was the only person in the carriage and everything seemed silent.

As we travelled through England it was almost as though the train was cocooned in a blanket of white. The frozen silence around me became a symbol of the world we live in, full of so much potential and possibility and yet held in the frozen grip of sin and brokenness.

As I stared out of the window my mind was drawn to CS Lewis' book 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. I began to think of the story of the four children, Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy and their encounter with the Lion Aslan in the magical land of Narnia, a place where it is always winter, a place held in the grip of evil.

Aslan's battle with evil results in his becoming powerless. He is bound and eventually killed on the great stone altar as the children watch from a distance. That's not the end of the story and Aslan rises again to bring freedom to Narnia, the final breaking of the power of evil as Narnia once again began to live and breathe as in days of old.



My mind was then drawn to the triduum, the great Easter celebration. It's Jesus' self-giving and death on the Cross that has overcome the great battle. It's his resurrection that transforms the whole of creation. Jesus, the human face of God, out of love, becomes powerless and absorbs into himself the mess, transforming it and breaking its power.

How can we not celebrate the Easter triduum in faith and love when we realise that's what it's about at a universal level? It's also true for us as individuals. Every death we have to go through can be transformed. The Easter story is always our story.

In 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' Aslan dares to believe that from his death life will come. Dare we have that sort of courage when we celebrate Easter? Do we choose to believe that from the mess and seeming devastation of our lives God will be victorious, and can we proclaim that to the world? That's faith to live by. So don't just go to Church on Good Friday but gather Maundy Thursday and Easter Saturday as well and celebrate the eternal truths of this great season.

Fr. Chris Thomas

Triduum Services 2011

Holy Rosary Altway Aintree Village Old Roan L10 2LG 0151 526 8468 Rev Mgn John Butchard	Tuesday April 19 Service of Reconciliation		7.30pm
	Maundy Thursday	Mass	7.30pm
	Good Friday	Watching until 11pm	
		Children's liturgy	11.00am
		Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
	Watching at the Tomb	7.30pm	
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil (no 6pm Mass)	9.00pm	
Easter Sunday	Mass	10.30am, 6.00pm	
	Thursday - Saturday	Office of readings & morning prayer	10.00am
Most Holy Redeemer & Kentigern Waddicar Lane Melling 01695 422126 Rev Desmond Seddon	Maundy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper (St Mary's)	7.30pm
	Good Friday	Morning prayer	10.00am
	Holy Saturday	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
		Watching at the Tomb	7.30pm
		Morning prayer	10.00am
Easter Sunday	Easter Vigil	9.30pm	
	Mass	10.30am	
St Mary Prescot Road Aughton Ormskirk L39 L39 6TA 01695 422126 Rev Desmond Seddon	Maundy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm
	Good Friday	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
	Holy Saturday	Watching at the Tomb (St Kentigern's)	
		Easter Vigil (St Kentigern's)	
		Mass	9.00am
Our Lady Southport Road Lydiate 0151 526 3843 Rev John Smith	Maundy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm
	Good Friday	Watching until 9.00pm	
		Stations of the Cross followed by Walk of Witness to St Thomas'	11.00am
		Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
	Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil	8.00pm
Easter Sunday	Mass	9.30am	
St Anne Prescot Road Ormskirk L39 4TG 01695 572168 Rev Godric Timiney OSB Rev Boniface Moran OSB www.st-annes-ormskirk.org.uk	Tuesday April 19 Service of Reconciliation		7.30pm
	Maundy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	8.00pm
	Good Friday	Watching until Midnight	
		Morning Prayer	10.45am
		Ecumenical Walk of Witness start St Anne's	11.00am
		Celebration of the Lord's Passion. Special service for children in Parish Centre	3.00pm
	Holy Saturday	Morning Prayer	10.00am
		Easter Vigil	9.30pm
Easter Sunday	Mass	9.00am; 10.30am; 4.30pm	
St Elizabeth Hall Road Scarisbrick Ormskirk L40 9QE 01704 880226 Rev Godric Timiney OSB Rev Boniface Moran OSB	Maundy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm
	Good Friday	Watching until 10.00pm	
		Stations of the Cross followed by Penitential service	10.00am
		Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
	Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil	9.30pm
Easter Sunday	Mass	9.30am	
St George Station Road Maghull L31 3DF 0151 526 1071 Rev Canon Joseph Kelly	Maundy Thursday	Morning Prayer	9.00am
		Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm
	Good Friday	Morning Prayer	9.00am
		Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
		Reflection	7.30pm
Holy Saturday	Morning Prayer	9.00am	
	Sacrament of Reconciliation	11.30 - 12.30	
	Easter Vigil	8.00pm	
Easter Sunday	Mass	9.30am, 11.30am, 6.30pm	
St Gregory the Great Liverpool Road Lydiate L31 2NA 0151 526 3843 Rev John Smith	Maundy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm
	Good Friday	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
	Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil	8.00pm
	Easter Sunday	Mass	8.00am, 11.00am
St John the Evangelist Chapel Lane Lathom Burscough 01704 892205 Rev Joseph Robinson	Monday April 18 Service of Reconciliation		7.30pm
	Maundy Thursday	Morning Prayer	10.00am
		Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm
	Good Friday	Watching until 9.00pm	
		Morning Prayer	10.00am
Celebration of the Lord's Passion		3.00pm	
Holy Saturday	Sacrament of Reconciliation	12 noon, 5.30pm	
	Easter Vigil	8.00pm	
Easter Sunday	Mass	9.30am, 6.30pm	
Wednesday 20th April	Chrism Mass in Metropolitan Cathedral		7.30pm

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. GEORGE'S PARISH



The parish was originally part of Netherton and those who wanted to attend Mass had to travel across the watery moss and meadow to St. Benet's, mainly on foot. In winter, the undrained fields below the Alt were often waterlogged, and those living in Maghull were unable to cross the meadow to hear Mass. A change fortunately took place as the century was nearing its end.

Mr John Massey lived in a large house on Station Road called 'Kensington'. (This was later Maghull Conservative Club.) His brother, Fr. William Massey, who was a priest in Ulverston in the Lake District, came to stay to recover from illness. He recovered sufficiently to encourage his brother John to write to Bishop Bernard O'Reilly to obtain permission to offer Sunday Mass for the Catholics of Maghull. John Massey's house guest was available to celebrate Mass and save the family, and all others faced with the journey and the wet crossing to Netherton. Permission was initially obtained for Fr. Massey to celebrate Mass in a sitting room in Kensington House without sermon or the administration of sacraments.

In the meantime a barn owned by Mr. Massey, which stood facing Station Road, was cleared and converted into a Mass Centre. On Sunday 29 January 1887, Fr. Massey offered Mass at 10 am for the people of Maghull. The barn chapel was dedicated to St. George. Mass continued to be offered by Fr. Massey until August, but ill health forced him to retire. Bishop O'Reilly asked his secretary, Fr. C.V. Green, to act as supply priest for a 'Sunday or two'. He stayed on as supply then Parish Priest for 14 years. On Sunday, 27 August 1887 Fr. Green offered his first Mass and from then on Maghull was ranked as a separate mission. The barn now became a quasi-parish church. 4th September 1887 saw the official foundation of St. George's Maghull.

Massey's barn soon proved to be too small and the demands for a school increased, so a larger barn with outbuildings, which stood in the corner of Willow Hey and Melling Lane, was rented from Mr. Thomas Colgan and opened as a school on 11 June 1888. The church was transferred there on 26 June 1888. 250 people were now attending Mass.

A piece of land was purchased close to the first chapel (Massey's Barn) and local farmers and labourers gave of their time and efforts to dig out and prepare the foundations for a new school-chapel. This was completed on 27 May 1890.



The foundation stone of the present church was laid in 1927. The new church, built at a cost of £12,000, was opened in August 1929. The architects were Pugin & Pugin. A hall for social events was also erected and eventually was replaced by a larger one at a cost of £3,000. The present Social Centre was built in the 1970s.

Brenda Smith

A celebration of marriage and family life

Many couples renewed their marriage vows at a celebration of marriage and family life service held at Lowe House, St Helen's on 20th February, celebrated by Archbishop Patrick Kelly. The Archbishop said in his homily: "Renewal on this day of marriage and family life would seem to be folly to those who only know liberty, choice, but have not tasted the freedom which is self-sacrificing love. But we do so knowing that the Spirit we have received flows from His heart, broken by the weight of loving others to the end, and where the Spirit of the Lord Jesus is, there is freedom, and where there is freedom there is challenge, undreamt of possibilities, serenity and peace at the last."

The special service was part of National Marriage Week.

Maureen O'Brien, from Holy Rosary parish, the Archdiocesan Co-ordinator for Marriage and Family Life explained: "It enabled the celebration of marriage and the family while at the same time recognising that not all marriages are successful and that there are people who are divorced or separated. The service was also open to all families of all faiths – it was not a Mass so it was an all-inclusive service." Children were well looked after with activities for those aged up to 10 and a Youth Workshop provided by Animate for groups from 11-14 and 15-plus.



A special feature of the service included the exchange of three bibles, which had been entrusted to three families for use during 2009 and 2010, and at this latest service were handed over to three different families for 2011. The service also brought the commissioning of 9 newly appointed Pastoral Area Representatives in service of Marriage and Family Life.

All MFL reps received a blessing at the altar. Their efforts are an integral part of the work of the Archdiocese across its 24 pastoral areas, including the Isle of Man. Co-ordinator Maureen explained: "I work with the Marriage and Family Life reps and we look to keep all parishes informed of activities in the Archdiocese. We are also starting to link with schools and this is a huge initiative with which the Archbishop is delighted. It is one of the building blocks for the ministry.

"We offer practical support for schools, head teachers and parents on a range of subjects including care for the family, supporting family life, the effects on the family of divorce and separation, and so on. Our role is to try and identify in the pastoral areas where there is a need for our ministry. Another priority is to give our Marriage Preparation catechists the support they need to carry out the work they are doing. This is very important."

This is now an annual event, why not join us at the next one?

Peter Mawtus – MFL rep

Our feature article in this issue looks at the tremendous work that is being done in the overseas missions by some of our very own young parishioners. In their own words and pictures you are about to read 3 very different, and touching stories, which illustrate how generous and loving the youth of today can be. The future of our Church really is in good hands!

Sierra Leone

I was one of the three students to travel to Sierra Leone with the Waterloo partnership in order to visit Maricourt's sister school St. Raphael's. The journey started with a five hour drive to Heathrow which was then followed by a seven hour flight, an hour water taxi journey and an hour's car journey before we made it to the hotel.

On the first day we met with Sierra Leone's correspondent of the Waterloo Partnership who took us around in a convoy to show us all of the schools the English teachers would be helping out in, before we all returned to the school we were partnered to. When we were back at St. Raphael's we sat in the back of the children's lessons and observed.

During the week the teachers from Maricourt took over some of the children's lessons to teach them P.E and Business Studies. These lessons varied greatly from what they were used to and they really enjoyed the group work and talking to each other in the class. Meanwhile I visited the local health clinic in Waterloo as part of the research for my sixth form extended project. I was investigating the resources available to the clinic, and whether they were sufficient. As part of this I interviewed the midwife, Princess Bangura, who was really busy, and James Jajua, the community health officer.

The clinic provides a wide range of health care for people from the area, who travel great distances to get there. I also spoke with Theiesa one of the young mothers who had brought her four-month-old baby to the clinic for inoculations and vaccinations as part of the free health care offered for children up to the age of 5. We can be seen standing outside the clinic entrance.



Charlotte and Theiesa at the entrance to the clinic

We were also formally introduced to the head boy and girl and two of the teachers from St. Raphael's as they are to visit Maricourt in June as a part of the exchange. One evening on the way back to the hotel we visited two charities the partnership sponsors to help the vulnerable women in Sierra Leone; these were the seeds project, and the bakery. In addition the group visited a men's disability centre where a workshop has been set up for them to weld. On two days of the visit a literacy festival was running in which the English teachers ran workshops for the Sierra Leone teachers showing them different ways to get the children involved and reading. On our last day Fr. Paul, the head of St. Raphael's, took the group on a tour around Waterloo where we saw the army training base, the slave beach and the national museum.

Our time there was very rewarding and the children were thrilled to see us, all wanting their picture taken and everybody from the group said that they hoped to visit again.

Charlotte Aitchison – St. George's

Uganda

Five years ago I traveled to Uganda with the rest of my family to visit a family member, Dr Anne Merriman, who founded a charity called Hospice Africa in 1993, which cares for AIDS and cancer patients through palliative care. Ever since visiting with my family in 2005 I had longed to go back as a volunteer when I got the chance, so last year I took the opportunity on my gap year and I went to work for the charity for 5 months.

While I was there I became increasingly involved with the children's programme of care at the Hospice. The children came into the Hospice every Tuesday for a daycare. Here they were able to meet with other children and have a day of social activity as well as medical care. However, I noticed that there wasn't actually that much for the children to do at the daycare and most of their day was spent sitting around the Hospice grounds, rain or sunshine, without much stimulation.

I began to develop a programme of education for them with various activities throughout the day like painting, crafts and games as well as basic lesson plans on topics such as hygiene, maths and science. The children really benefitted from the activities and it gave them something else to focus their energy on, rather than just their illness. Also, whilst I was there a new hospice building, funded by Irish Aid, was being constructed on site to cater for the growing patient caseload the Hospice covers. One of the rooms was set out for the children, but no one had any ideas what to do with it, so I offered to design and decorate it as a children's playroom.

With the money that I had raised before leaving, I was able to buy paint for the walls and also furniture and toys to fill it.

The children were thrilled with it, as before they didn't have anywhere to be and keep their toys, but now they had a whole room to themselves where they were free to play. I also took the games and activities that I made to the

children's cancer institute at the local hospital and went three times a week to work with the children in the ward there. Anthony Conlin, a fellow parishioner and friend, came over to visit in July and brought over 60kg of clothes, toys and materials for the children donated by various people from the parish. With help from him and other friends we distributed the clothes across the hospital and hospice, and also gave the hospital children's playroom a makeover too.



Hospice nurse Charles with Marvin & Moses



Decoration of the children's playroom

A teacher employed by Hospice still carries on the lesson

plans and activities with the children now, and I have kept in touch with the Hospice since I have left and plan to go back as soon as possible.

I would like to say a massive "thank you" to our parishioners for their donations of toys and clothes for the children, and their financial support which helped make my trip possible.

Hannah Merriman – St. Anne's

Thailand

Could you spend six weeks in rural Thailand teaching English? Could you live on rice and water, live without any hot water and sleep on a mattress on the floor? Okay, so it doesn't sound all that bad, but what an experience for a nineteen-year-old girl.

I was one in 25 hopefuls interviewed for just 8 places with VESL (volunteer for education, support and learning), a registered charity that run TEFL (teaching English as a foreign language) programmes in India, Sri Lanka and Thailand. I would be working within 'Baan Nanglae' primary school over summer 2010 for six weeks. As this was wholly on a voluntary basis, I had to fundraise £850 for the programme, plus £600 for flights.

I did car boot sales every weekend, set up my own charity page for people to sponsor me on and for my final fundraiser, held a huge cake sale in St. Kentigern's Church. However, to kick-start my fundraising, our parish sponsored me a sum of money. I also had huge support from family and friends. I was so grateful for this, I can't thank Fr. Des, the parishioners and every one enough. In the end I raised £1500 and within no time, I was jetting off to Thailand to take up my challenge.

The first day at 'Baan Nanglae' school was surreal. I could not believe that I was in rural Thailand and about to better the lives of others. We went to school at 6:50am where we introduced ourselves to the teachers and the university students that we would be working with. Then at 7:30am the children arrived and got ready to clean the school at 8:00am. They sang the national anthem at 8.30; following this, a few students ran an assembly until 9:00am when they would have prayer and start their studies. This was their everyday routine at 'Baan Nanglae'.

Baan Tungsangdungluang Primary School



The children gave Tess and I nicknames of teacher Lindte (lychee fruit) and teacher Lamyai (longon fruit) which was nice as it made the teaching experience

personal to me. In Thailand, it is very important to learn English, so much so that families migrate from Burma in order for their children to get an education. Thai children are very positive and eager to learn, making their work almost perfect and giving their best behaviour at all times with the utmost respect for their teachers.

One of the funniest memories I have taken from Thailand is when my host father taught me to sing 'heads, shoulders, knees and toes' in Thai and I taught him to sing it in English around a Thai BBQ we shared with the neighbours. The food was delicious and I don't think that I will ever forget the Thai version of that song.

What I took most pride in from 'Baan Nanglae' was one Burmese hill tribe boy aged six years, who recited the English alphabet to me when I taught his class to write it in the sand. He had only been at the school for one month and could not speak a word of Thai, yet his grasp on the English language was fantastic.

'Baan Tungsangdungluang' was the second primary school that I had the privilege to work in, and it gave me experience of the best of both worlds, living with a host family and living alone.

Bathing the elephants



Even on Mother's Day the children visited us after school. They have a four day celebration in which they made cards and gave presents. They also had a special assembly in school that they devoted to their mothers, playing handmade musical instruments and singing songs. This reminded me of our own devotion to Mother Mary. Each morning when we cycled into school, the children would shout our names following it with an 'I love you'.

The teachers were also very caring but there was one in particular that played the role of a mother to Sinead, Nicole and I. Her name was Pear. Another teacher, Jen, was also very kind to us. One night she invited us to her house to meet her family and have dinner. Noticing my allergy to mosquitoes and that I had been in hospital due to a bite from a red and blue flying ant, she gave me a special balm to put on as well as giving me a blanket to cover my legs. I was bitten twenty-five times in the space of an hour!

Outside of the school curriculum, we visited the Tiger temple where I was attacked by a voracious tiger who thought I was play fighting with him. Thank God, I was not his breakfast! We also visited a monkey sanctuary and a snake farm as well as elephant trekking and bathing them in a crocodile infested river. This was good fun as the elephant threw us off into the water and returned the favour by washing us with her trunk.

On our last day, the children made us breakfast of jam and condensed milk toasties and sang 'Goodbye Teacher'. I was heartbroken to think that my journey had come to an end and sad to think that I may never see those children again. I went to Thailand to help with their education and came away hoping that I was a positive influence in their lives. I cannot stress enough how thankful I am to my family and those who have supported me in getting there and bringing me home safely. I thank God for this amazing opportunity. Every volunteer had a different experience. I advise every young person to go out there and volunteer wherever it may be. It is so beneficial to help others and you learn a lot about yourself too.

Naomi Daly – St. Kentigern's



Changes in the Way We Celebrate Sacraments



In recent years in the Archdiocese of Liverpool, most Catholics have been baptised as babies, made their First Communion around age seven and been confirmed as teenagers. These three sacraments make up the process of belonging to the Church (called Christian Initiation). The sacraments weren't always in that order, and adults preparing for initiation have always received them in the original order: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist (Communion).

From September 2012 in this Archdiocese, children who have been baptised will follow that same order. Those aged eight by the first of September 2012 will be invited to receive Confirmation and First Communion in the days between Ascension Sunday and the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) in 2013, and the same pattern will be followed each year after that.

The families of these children will be invited to explore and celebrate Reconciliation with them during Advent each year, while teenagers and their families will be invited to explore and celebrate Reconciliation during Lent each year.

The bishops will preside at some of the celebrations of Confirmation and Communion (with priests delegated to confirm at the other celebrations) and at some of the celebrations of Reconciliation with teenagers and their families. At the same time the way children are prepared for these sacraments will change. Instead of teachers, catechists and priests teaching children and parents about the sacraments, they will help the parents (and grandparents) to hand on their own faith to their children, fulfilling the privileges and responsibilities expressed in the Rite of Baptism. New resources will help parents to prepare their own children for these sacraments with the support of the local church community. These changes are meant to help us understand that sacraments are gifts of God's grace, that parents are the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith, and that we are all called to get to know Jesus better throughout our life's journey.

To find out more about this, visit the Archdiocesan website www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk and click on 'Order of the Sacraments of Initiation'.

September 2011 to August 2012 A Year of Preparation and Transition

- No First Communions in most parishes because moving to Year 4 (8/9)
- June 2011: Launch and Formation Week
- Sept 2011: Launching the Family Catechesis model with focus on Baptism and Reconciliation
- Confirmations through the year for those aged 8+
- Lent 2012: Reconciliation services for teenagers and families, with bishops in some areas
- Feast of Saints Peter and Paul (29 June 2012): school celebrations

September 2012 – August 2013 The First Year of the Restored Order

- Some Confirmations of those aged 8+ will take place during the year
- Advent 2012: Family Reconciliation for children 8/9 (Year 4) and their families
- Lent 2013: Reconciliation services for teenagers and families, with bishops in some pastoral areas
- Ascension to Corpus Christi: Celebrations of Confirmation and Communion with a bishop in each pastoral area (12 May 2013 – 2 June 2013)
- Feast of Saints Peter and Paul (1 July 2013): school celebrations

September 2013 – August 2014 and following years The Restored Order is now the Norm for Everyone

- Advent 2013: Family Reconciliation for children 8/9 (Year 4) and their families
- Lent 2014: Reconciliation services for teenagers and families, with bishops in some pastoral areas
- Ascension to Corpus Christi: Celebrations of Confirmation and Communion with a bishop in each pastoral area (1 June 2014 – 22 June 2014)
- Feast of Saints Peter and Paul (30 June 2014): school celebrations

Schoenstatt is a Catholic movement which works to help renew the Church and society in the spirit of the Gospel, and with special devotion to Our Blessed Lady. As an international movement it is present on all continents and has members encompassing all vocations and walks of life in over 90 countries.

Schoenstatt was founded by a group of seminarians in Vallendar, Germany in 1914. Under the guidance of Father Joseph Kentenich, they "sealed a Covenant of Love with Mary". An old cemetery chapel which was being used as a garden shed was converted back into a small chapel and dedicated to Our Lady. During the Second World War Fr.

Kentenich was held in Dachau concentration camp, and whilst there he founded the family movement.

In 1968 a small Schoenstatt group was formed

Replica of the altar from the original shrine



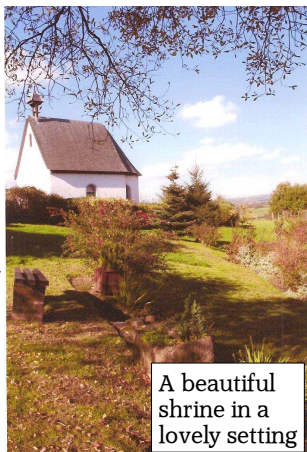
mainly around the Oldham and Manchester area, and meetings were held in members' homes. Eventually a house was purchased in Oldham and a replica of the altar in the original shrine was installed. This altar was brought over in pieces from Germany aboard a coach returning from a pilgrimage to Schoenstatt. In 1999 the movement was in a position to look for a site to build a shrine. After much searching with little success they were suddenly offered an ideal location by the Bishop of Salford. It was St. John Fisher's parish in Kearsley, Bolton. The parish was to have been closed, so this was the answer to a lot of prayers.

The shrine was built and opened in 2000. Today it is open seven days a week, and Masses and retreats are held there.

There are now 200 shrines around the world. All are identical to the original shrine, and all have the same wooden carved altar. The shrine at Kearsley, Bolton was built and paid for by the lay people of Schoenstatt, and the grounds and building are maintained mainly by volunteers. The shrine is about a 40 minute drive from our Pastoral Area.

The web site for the English movement is www.schoenstatt.org.uk

Mick Quirk – St Gregory's



A beautiful shrine in a lovely setting

mainly around the Oldham and Manchester area, and meetings were held in members' homes. Eventually a house was purchased in Oldham and a replica of the altar



Fr. Joseph Kentenich (1885 – 1968)

My name is Simon Witter and I am a teacher at Carleton House Catholic Preparatory School, South Liverpool. I attend Our Lady's, Lydiate. I am currently enrolled in the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies, attended at L.A.C.E. The certificate is offered primarily for teachers throughout England and Wales to consolidate knowledge and understanding of the teaching and beliefs of the Catholic faith and highlight the role and function of R.E. within the school curriculum.

There are six modules studied over two years: the Old and New Testaments, Jesus Christ, the Church, sacraments and Christian morality. There are also two specialist modules concerning specific issues such as the distinctive nature of a Catholic school. For each module an assignment must be submitted. For the first module in the Autumn term, we had a choice of five questions to answer ranging from the creation myths of Genesis, the Exodus and Covenant to the Old Testament prophets Isaiah and Amos.

Just before Christmas I began to pick my choice of assignment, which was to be about the teaching of the prophet Isaiah. Through this process I realised how much I had already learnt; I was surprised that the lectures were showing me what I did not yet know and consolidating what I did know.



This term's module is the New Testament with emphasis on the formation of the Gospels, their ideas and agendas. We have also been discussing the groups and characters from the New Testament, one of the most interesting of them being Pontius Pilate. This Roman Governor of Judaea, who had great power over the area in his charge, is famous for presiding over the trial of Jesus. In Jewish society at this time, religion and politics were almost inseparable. The Governor appointed the High Priest, and they worked hand in hand. While Pilate's role may have been mainly military, he had authority to act as a judge where Roman law was infringed. For example, treason.

Pilate was not known for being sensitive to Jewish traditions, and neither did he care: he once spent *sacred* money destined for a temple on an aqueduct instead. Infamous for meting out severe punishments on criminals, uprisings were common during Pilate's rule. In 36AD, Pontius Pilate was sent back to Rome in disgrace after an appalling massacre of Samaritans.



In the classroom, I have been able to use the teaching, discussion and analysis to my advantage. I have found that my deeper knowledge has given my teaching strength and confidence to tackle issues and difficult questions more easily.

Not only for teachers, the CCRS course is useful for any one wishing to learn more about their faith, and Deacons in training also attend as part of their formation.

Simon Witter

St. John's - Burscough

St John's Catholic Primary School in Burscough marked the beginning of Lent with a service on Ash Wednesday, which was attended by parents and parishioners.

The service focused on helping children to understand that Lent is a time for prayer, sacrifice and alms-giving. These themes helped to deepen the understanding of all pupils and especially those children in Year 3 who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist and the year 4 pupils who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

During the service Year 4 pupils had been thinking about sin and had written down a sin which they tore in two and dropped into water as a symbolic act of cleansing.

Year 3 had focused on sacrifice and doing a little bit extra. They hung their Lenten promises on to a tree and the School Council shared their ideas for fund raising for CAFOD with the community.

Our younger pupils focused on prayer and painted pictures of the special people they were going to pray for in Lent. Many of the parishioners in attendance were also Faith Friends to the children in the Sacramental programmes. The children have felt very special knowing that someone is thinking of them and praying for them every day.

We have really enjoyed our school services which bring the parish and school together to share in both Masses and worship.

Liz Devey

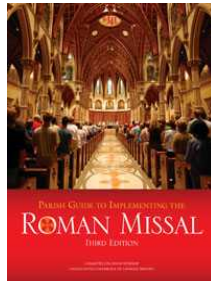
New Roman Missal

On 18 January, the Bishops of England and Wales announced that the Holy See had approved the new translation of the Roman Missal. The Missal contains the prayers of the Mass. The Bishops have decided that the new translation will begin to be used at Mass

from September. This means that some of the new prayers of the Mass will be heard in about six month's time. The new Missal will be published in the Autumn and will be used in full at Mass from the First Sunday of Advent.

Between September and December, we will be given more information about the new prayers. The Bishops see the new Missal as an opportunity for us to deepen our understanding of the Mass and to revitalise our devotion to the Eucharist. The period up to the end of the year will be used to give catechesis, or instruction, about the new Missal. This will include an interactive DVD – *"Become One Body One Spirit in Christ"*.

A website is available if you want to find out more, or to follow progress over the next few months. The web address is www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Missal/. This includes information about the publication of the Missal, some of the new texts and information about music for the new edition.



Deacon Mac

Views from the pews

We hope you liked the Spring edition of your Pastoral Area newsletter. If you did, let us know, but if you didn't please let us know too. We can only improve and develop with your input, so please let us have your views, and keep the articles coming. Anything you would like to share with others in the Pastoral Area can be submitted to your parish contact for consideration, or sent to peter.mavtus@hotmail.co.uk. We all wish you a happy and a holy Easter and hope that you enjoy your Summer.

The Editor

40 Years of Scouting at Holy Rosary



10th Aintree Village (Holy Rosary) Scout Group celebrated 40 years of Scouting in Holy Rosary with a parade at 6pm Mass on Sunday October 17th 2010. They gathered afterwards for a commemorative picture in front of the altar. During the Mass they remembered with gratitude their past leaders and members, and thanked God for the current ones. Their membership has always been shared with Old Roan Methodist Church.

NEW ARRIVALS AT ST GEORGE'S



St George's nursery children became proud parents to seven chicks as part of their Religious Education topic on babies. They helped to care for the eggs in the incubator and watched in fascination as they hatched into very noisy and sometimes naughty chicks! The chicks were very popular in school, with a constant stream of children and parents eager to see the new arrivals.

World Youth Day 9th - 22nd August 2011-Madrid

Your two pastoral area representatives will be coming to your parish soon. They are Jonjo Williams-Tanton and Loretta Davies, both from St Anne's Parish.

They both need to raise about £990 to go on the trip. The diocese have taken young people to Rome, Toronto, Cologne, Sydney and now to Madrid for the World Youth Day pilgrimages.

This is a unique experience and one not to be missed. They will take part in a journey of a lifetime and a pilgrimage they will never forget. Pilgrims will stay as guests of a Spanish parish and will develop friendships and links with local young people and experience Spanish culture. Each day the parish will host different cultural, faith and social activities. These days tend to be the most rewarding and uplifting of the whole WYD experience.

Sunday 21st August will see them celebrate Mass with Pope Benedict, cardinals, bishops and priests and young people from around the world.

Over 2 million people will gather together to celebrate the twenty fifth World Youth Day.

Pope Benedict will announce the site of the next WYD.

They will report back in a future newsletter about their experience.

If you can help contact Mike Price,

Youth Minister 07776498045 or email mpyouthminister8@gmail.com

