

Christ has come-----Christ is coming-----Christ will come again

CHRIST IS OUR WORLD'S HOPE FOR UNITING US:

UNITING US IN PRAYER:

Pray the Psalms together now at 9.15am and 7.00pm weekdays. Sat 5.00pm in Sacred Heart, Sunday 4.30pm in St John Stone. Sundays 3.30pm in St Joseph's is Evening Prayer and Benediction.

House Masses: during Advent would you host a mass at your home? Especially for the sick at home, but also able-bodied. Contact Fr Tony to arrange NOW. Come to daily mass – come to the mass at the “other” church also.

Welcoming the Word of God: the Irenaeus team lead all parishes from the Pastoral Area at St Patrick's Hall on Thursdays at 7.30pm starting 8th December looking at the Advent Scriptures: “**God cannot be tamed.**”

Sharing Scripture: Afternoon Sessions are available during Advent in addition to the Wednesday evenings: in parish house at SJS on Thursdays, 3pm for an hour.

The Living Christ Retreat: this wonderful, simple retreat day starts here in SJS on Fri evening/Saturday 20th/21st Jan 2017. Do sign up now for a New Year blessing. All pray-ers and inviters welcome to GIFT this Tuesday, 7.30pm in SJS.

UNITING US IN MERCY

Sacrament of Reconciliation is available this weekend, and in mass together next Sunday at 10am and in Service of Reconciliation on Tuesday 20th Dec at 7.30pm in SJS, and on Monday 19th December at 7.00pm in St Joseph's.

UNITING US WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS

Christmas Cards from Churches Together in Ainsdale are at the back of church for volunteers please to drop into letter boxes. Please take a street bundle of your choice and deliver them when you can.

Christmas Cards for Parishes in the Holy Land: write a greeting to a parish in Palestine or Israel from the list, address your envelope to the name of the parish and the place, return to church and we will post to the Archbishop of Jerusalem.

Christmas Cards for Prisoners of Conscience: write a greeting and post your card to people from the sheets available from Action by Christians against Torture.

UNITING US WITH PEOPLE SEEKING SPIRITUAL HOPE

COME and SEE: our Southport Parishes are supporting people looking into the faith anew, and we pray for those with us next Sunday. We now also offer them sponsors for friendly support. We need volunteers to help others with this.

LEARNING AFRESH? Some people already Catholic wanted to have some “Come and See” learning for up to date Catholic teaching. Now's your chance.....

RETURNING TO CHURCH? Now is a good time to ask people.

This Wednesday 7th Dec at 7.30pm in St John Stone house

you are all invited to a session for Catholics Returning, “Come and See” for Catholics already, and volunteers as Sponsors - who helped in the past with “Landings” especially needed, and very welcome.

UNITING US IN MINISTRY:

The Church Teams this month **both** meet next on **Monday 12th December:**

Sacred Heart: with the new notice board arrived

St John Stone: with a review of the Christmas Fair and, looking ahead: the preparation for the Visitation #2 on January 15th; the social calendar with new charities.

Ministers of the Word/Readers renew their commissioning for ministry at masses this Sunday. Missals for 2017 are offered for your preparation, and also “Seasons of the Word” in the sacristy at each church.

Leading Prayer and Worship: for further confidence and tips in leading others in prayer- children and adults – the Archdiocese offers this **Skills Workshop** on Tues 13th Dec at 6.30pm –9.00pm at Irenaeus Centre in Waterloo. Sign up in office.

Catechists for Children's Liturgy are all invited to a special resource and learning session on Thursday 12th Jan at 7.30pm with Anne Welsh: planning a block of Sundays and looking to Lent.

UNITING US IN CHARITY

Children in Bethlehem: orphaned and traumatised by years of war in the Holy Land, many are looked after by Sisters there and **donations at the tree or the crib** will be sent through our Archdiocese.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers: donations of warm clothes, treats and women's and children's good items are still very welcome, which we pass on the MRANG and ALM.

“Light The Way” is a gathering of everyone on Friday 9th December at 7pm in Clayton Square in a vigil for the displaced: to light a candle and remember your birth place.

HeartStone SVP: thanks to Kay for the appeal last week, and to you all for your generous response, continuing help to Marian Care, the Soup Kitchen and others.

The Foodbank will urgently need your donations this time of year: bring to the churches and we will pass on for distribution at with Ainsdale Lunch and Leisure.

Improve Woodvale: our outreach in the neighbourhood with Cllr Thompson and Sefton Council has already achieved good fruits. This Thursday we present at the Southport Area Committee in the Town Hall. Next meeting January 11th at 7.30pm

Dementia Support: this Friday existing “Dementia Friends” are invited at 10am to prepare for the next **Dementia Learning Sessions** in January and the **Dementia Choir at the Cathedral** on Wednesday 14th December 2pm

UNITING OUR CHURCHES IN VISION AND MISSION

Please see the Insert for all the details for our **HeartStone ONE mass next**

Sunday at 10am at Sacred Heart. No 9am mass at SH and no 10.30am mass at SJS but a very special chance for unity at the ONE mass at 10am in Sacred Heart. Apologies for the inconvenience of this change of routine for this ONE Sunday, but it will be well worth it.