

“THANKSGIVING”

This is central to Christian spirituality, and all religion. It’s what the name in Greek for the mass means, i.e. “Eucharist”. Today we give thanks for **Nature, Creation, the Harvest and all the fruits of Human Work** in making life better and civilised. We celebrate in special ways with families this Sunday, and **THANK YOU to the children** who make life worthwhile and beautiful, and play important roles in the liturgy today with their parents.

- **Donations** of food from this liturgy will be passed on to Marian Care
- “CREATION TIME” continues until this Tuesday, the feast of St Francis of Assisi
- on **Monday 3rd October at 8pm** all are welcome to a meeting to plan ahead for sustainable living as a parish, and ways of celebrating our common home.
 - **Mass on the Beach on Tuesday 4th October at 4pm** will complete our 4 weeks: bring a seat if you can, need to; only short ½ hour mass at Ainsdale entrance and left in front of the dunes. If raining we’ll hold it in Sacred Heart: check parish office.
 - **CAFOD Fast Day** is this Friday, 7th October, with collection next Sunday.

THANK YOU to all those SHARING IN PARISH LEADERSHIP

The New Parish Vision Team meets on Monday to share in the priest’s guidance of the ministry priorities from the Vision. You can contribute through the suggestion boxes in each church porch, via the parish office, or talk to one of the team.

The Church Teams meet the following week: Mon 10th for SH; Tues 11th for SJS: Planning ahead for getting things done in supporting liturgy, maintenance and social life. Contact your church team reps to contribute.

THE PARISH OPEN FORUM is an important way for all parishioners to share in the responsibility of living out the Vision. **The Agenda List** is available now for your suggested items for discussion. Tuesday 8th November 7/7.30pm in SJS Centre.

SHARING IN MINISTRY

Please find your ministry/service team’s date and put it in your diary now, to ensure we all grow closer in spiritual and practical ways of collaborative ministry:

- **Music Ministry:** for all involved in music of both churches, Monday 3rd Oct 2pm, SJS
- **Ministers of the Word/Readers:** this Wednesday 5th October 7.30pm at SH: an important annual gathering for new ways, improving our confidence, mutual support.
Fr Denis McBride will lead a day on St Matthews Gospel on Saturday 12th November, 10am-4pm, in St Anne’s, Ormskirk. This is a must for our readers and anyone wanting to grow spiritually. Book your (free) place with our parish office.
- **WELCOMING MINISTRY:** our first mission priority is for the whole parish to share in, and especially for all greeters from both churches. Wednesday Oct 12th, 7.30pm at Sacred Heart, led by the Vision Team. Sure to be important for fresh growth and gratitude.
- **Ministers of the Eucharist:** Tuesday 18th Oct, 7.30pm in SJS Centre
- **Safeguarding:** further support for confidence for all will be offered shortly.
- **BECOMING DEMENTIA FRIENDLY:** our new Dementia Champion, trained by the Alzheimer’s Society for these sessions, offers an hour’s learning for confidence and kindness for those living with dementia: Thursday 27th October 2pm at Sacred Heart.

LIFELONG LEARNING and SPIRITUALITY

THE YEAR OF MERCY: following the Pilgrimage to the Holy Door, this week is the regular, monthly week for the **Ministry Of Mercy** with the Sacrament of the Sick at weekday masses, **Reconciliation** at the weekend.

20th November, Christ the King, is the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy: what would you like to see before then?

“Come and See Day” on **29th Oct** at Faith Primary School, Prince Edwin Street L5 focuses of Mercy with keynote speakers David Alton and Steve Atherton. See the poster, and the Irenaeus Website.

GIFT(Growing In Faith Together) all welcome this Tuesday 4th Oct 7.30pm in SJS Little Church: includes prayer and preparing for January’s Living Christ Retreat.

Baptism Follow On: all families with Baptisms in the last two years are invited to a friendly gathering with each other and our Christening team on Sunday 16th October after the 10.30 mass in SJS: sharing stories of life since, practical helps and tips for parenting in the faith.

“COME AND SEE” the invitation continues for enquirers to join our fortnightly meetings to find out more about the real Catholic faith:

Tuesdays 7-8pm in St Marie’s or Thursdays 7.30 -9.00pm in St John Stone

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: following Steve Atherton’s inspiration last Sunday, who would welcome further learning and conversations for participating in social and political life as Catholics these days? Do contact Fr Tony or Steve direct.

FAITH4LIFE: this Archdiocesan course for Southport has amalgamated this year with Upholland area, and 5 from HeartStone begin next weekend 8th/9th October.

CHARITY and SOCIAL CONCERN

- our next “Day Out To Southport” for newcomers is on Saturday 29th October
- Knit and Natter meets this Wednesday 2 – 4
- Ainsdale Community Care(ACC): includes the **Foodbank on Thursdays** and many special services e.g. affordable warmth and good eating ways.

“IMPROVE Woodvale”: THANK YOU to Cllr Lynn Thompson and all who made last week’s meeting so important and encouraging. Liaison with Sefton Council continues well: watch this space for the agenda for next time which will be on **Thursday 27th October at 7.30pm at the Woodvale Community Centre** on Meadow Lane.

WORLDWIDE MISSION:

THANK YOU to all who contribute in various ways: Celebration Sunday 23rd October

Missio Red Box Holders collect your magazine from the porches. Promoters will meet soon with Jennifer, and everyone is invited to a contact day at Mill Hill, Freshfield on Saturday 22nd October.

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) monitor persecution of Christians worldwide as well as support local church life. They will tell us more on World Mission Sunday and share a slide presentation on Saturday 22nd October at 7.30pm in SJS.