

## CHRIST'S MISSION IN SOUTHPORT AND AINSDALE

**175 Years ago St Marie's On the Sands** began the Catholic Mission in our area and as part of our celebrations there is a **Welsh Choir evening** for their Restoration Fund in the Marian Centre on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept** at 7.30p.m. Tickets just £5. All welcome.

**150 years ago the Ainsdale Methodist Parish** was formed, arising out of the Anglican Revival movement from the Wesley brothers. Saturday's open day for them was the beginning of a year's celebrations.... take a leaflet from the porches.

**150 Years ago the Mill Hill Missionaries** were founded in London, arising out of the Pope's call for worldwide mission in the name of Christ. Since 1936 they have joined forces with the APF (Association for the Propagation of the Faith), and are our British Bishops' Conference's official outreach worldwide. They are now called.....

**"MISSIO ", and their Vision is to nurture the vocation of all for mission by:**

- **sharing the blessings of knowing Christ**
- **including the poor, and releasing people from injustice**
- **encouraging care of the planet and our environment**

The famous **Red Mission Boxes** have been an inspiration for ages.

## SOUTHPORT MISSION TODAY

The **Jubilee Year of Mercy** continues with Fr Andrew Unsworth's inspiring talk at Holy Family, Southport **this Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept at 7pm**, leading up to our.....

**Pastoral Area pilgrimage to the Holy Door** at the Cathedral on **Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> Oct.**

10am until 1.30pm in the Cathedral (including reconciliation and mass). Transport will be available, so if you wish to come that way, **sign the sheet** at the back of church.

**RCIA: Come and see:** our invitation for new people to explore the **real** Catholic faith with a friendly group is launched next Sunday and then fortnightly meetings starting:

Tuesday **20<sup>th</sup> Sept**, 7-8pm in St Marie's, Southport

or Thursday **22<sup>nd</sup> Sept**, 7.30 -9.00pm in St John Stone, Woodvale

See the advertisement on page 5 of the Champion, on banners and on a bus!

## **HOME MISSION SUNDAY is next Sunday:**

Our Catholic Mission in Britain involves us in HeartStone with the launch of the RCIA: Come and See, the Commissioning of our newly elected Parish Vision Team, and the enrolment of Families preparing children for Holy Communion in the With You Always preparation. The Gospel's call for justice is part of our British Mission so:

**"WELCOMING THE STRANGER"** is the title of the evening gathering on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September** in St John Stone Centre from 7pm, with:

- the Roadshow from Asylum Link Merseyside (ALM)
- music and singing from the ALM Women's Singers and shared entertainment
- updating on ways of helping and who is doing what already
- learning about the Shoreline housing scheme for sponsoring Refugee families

This evening is part of that Sunday's focus on **CHARITY and SOCIAL CONCERN** with learning from Steve Atherton our Justice and Peace leader and other sources.

## FORMATION FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

It is accepted in all aspects of good living today that **lifelong learning** is a great benefit, true also in the life of faith. Our church is getting better at providing such helps, and in Southport Churches we are offering especially:

- **FAITH4LIFE:** over a 6 month period, inputs for learning and shared discussion in small groups over 4 weekends, with team-learning in between. Learning to make the most of a group; Scripture and the Faith today; Charity and Justice.  
Dates: **5/6 Nov, 21/22 Jan 2017, 4/5 March 2017, 13/14 May 2017**  
**Pick up the leaflet for more info and sign up with Monica on 01704 577722**
- **CURSILLO:** eve of **Thurs 13<sup>th</sup>-Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Oct** at St Joseph's, Freshfield: 3 days for small group sharing, prayer time and retreat, with Catholic speakers and priests. Very friendly, faith and fun at its best. See Fr Tony or Monica in office

## **BEING PREPARED AND SUPPORTED FOR 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:

- **Children's Liturgy Catechists:** Both teams meet this Thursday, 7.30pm in SH.
- **Holy Communion Catechists:** Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept after mass at SJS, 11.30am
- **Music Ministry:** for all involved in music of both churches, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2pm, SJS
- **HeartStone Parish Vision Team:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct 4pm SJS
- **Ministers of the Word/Readers:** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm at SH
- **Christening Team:** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 7.30pm at SJS
- **Ministers of the Eucharist:** Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Oct, 7.30pm

**THE PARISH OPEN FORUM:** Twice a year the whole parish can come together for debate and discernment, accountability and transparency, when the priest and the Parish Vision Team invite suggestions and ideas for developing and improving the missionary activity of the parish. **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November is the next Forum....a date for your diaries.**

## **CREATION TIME: until Tues 4<sup>th</sup> October: St Francis of Assisi**

We are joining in with Catholics worldwide with Pope Francis' call to CONVERSION: improving our caring for the planet and the poor who suffer most from the destructive effects of climate change: our shopping habits, recycling, re-using...

The United Nations have governments committed to 17 Sustainable Development Goals to wipe out poverty, fight inequality and tackle climate change. 169 targets for the year 2030.

### **What ways can you suggest for "Creation Time"?**

**OUR LADY: Our Lady of Walsingham** is the patron of Southport: we all begin the annual Novena of Prayer to her, this **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>**, for the Feast on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>** Following on from the fine Pilgrimage to Walsingham in June, many from the Guild of **Our Lady of Good Counsel** and friends include this prayer in their pilgrimage on Saturday to Holywell and then to the delights of Llandudno. See the back page.

**"IMPROVE Woodvale":** have already achieved progress: clean-up of the old pub land in Sandbrook Way, and a skip for locals to use. Next meeting **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Sept at 2pm.**

**IRENAEUS** have Scripture mornings on **15/22/29<sup>th</sup> Sept;** a Community Choir on **14/28<sup>th</sup> Sept** at Great George's Road, Waterloo, then a conference on **29<sup>th</sup> Oct** at Faith Primary School, Prince Edwin Street L5 with keynote speakers David Alton and Steve Atherton.