

## Parish Developments

*"Through the love of the Father, Son and Spirit, our Parish will be the Body of Christ in Godalming"*

### A New and Exciting Opportunity

Do you want to be taking a full part in our parish as we go forward? Do you want to have a voice in the process? Have you completed the Alpha course and are thinking what's next? Well, I am delighted to announce our next Divine Renovation initiative. In late October, we are hoping to offer parishioners the opportunity to explore their faith together in small informal weekly sessions. These will be lay-led groups, drawing from the themes of personal and shared faith as discussed in "Divine Renovation". This challenging and inspirational book identifies the urgent need to live out our fundamental Christian vocation as missionary discipleship. Sessions will also invite discussion of the processes Fr Mallon has used to create a joyful invitational culture in his own parish and how these processes can be used by us here in Godalming.

Looked at in a wider context, DR Reading Groups are part of the process which we have embarked upon in this parish to make ourselves the Body of Christ in Godalming. The first three steps in this process involve attending the current Alpha course, helping on Alpha (if you are able) and participating in a DR Reading Group. For this reason, I am very keen that those who attended the summer Alpha course should now join one of these reading groups.

For further information and to register, please go to the parish web site and click on the DR Reading Groups link (web site address: <http://www.stedmundgodalming.btck.co.uk/>).

This is being co-ordinated by Sheena Pego, a member of our Parish DR Team. So, if you have any questions please contact Sheena on 07855 783 694 or send an email to sheenaradford@hotmail.com

### Building-up the Catholic Parish of St. Edmund's

So far this year we have run three Know Your Neighbour ("KYN") weekends which are proving to be a success, and I have received a lot of really positive responses from Parishioners. This is an encouraging step forward as we continue to build our Parish into a community "where everyone knows your name" and strengthen our sense of being a community of faith.

**The next KYN weekend will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October.** Over this weekend, I would like to invite all Parishioners to try to arrive earlier at Mass and, on arriving, not only to collect your name badge, but to **then go and sit next to somebody either that you do not know or that you do not usually sit next to.** I would like this person to be your Prayer Partner for the service – that is someone you can pray for and who will pray for you throughout the Mass. You do not need to know what you are praying for; God knows. Please do try this and find someone new to sit next to. My wish is that KYN week-ends will help us to relate to those around us in church in a more prayerful way. Praying for each other will not only be a great blessing for our Parish, but also a way of fulfilling our Christian calling to pray for one another. Jesus says 'This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.' (Jn 15:12). KYN is co-ordinated by Adrian Wyn-Griffiths also a member of our Parish DR Team.

## **An Evening of Prayer for the Renewal of the Parish**

You are also invited to an evening of prayer on Wednesday 17th October at St Joseph's Milford from 7:45pm to 8:30pm. The evening will be the first of monthly prayer evenings to pray for the renewal of the parish. Prayer is vital in the process of Divine Renovation so we have chosen the third Wednesday of each month for the parish to join in prayer. The evening will consist of a time for reflection on scripture, silent prayer and intercessory prayer. There will be tea/coffee in the parish room afterwards and a chance to chat to the Divine Renovation team. Please do come along everyone is welcome. This is being co-ordinated by Jo Lewry another member of our Parish DR Team.

With these initiatives on the go, I pray that God will inspire all parishioners to become engaged and involved in what is happening.

God bless you all, Father David