



Newsletter for the Parish of

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

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TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

6th September 2020

Twenty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time Saturday 4.30pm Sunday 9.30am	Thanksgiving for Successful Operation (Yvonne Gough) Stephen Aspden Anni	We hold in prayer all who are sick in body, mind or spirit and those who care for them. Also those who have recently died Katherine Barber, Teresa Caffari, Joseph Brian Meekin, Anne Monks, Wilfred Valiant, Alban Westwell. and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time...may the peace of our Risen Lord enfold us all.
Monday, Weekday in Ordinary Time		
Tuesday, Feast of the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Annie Garvey Annie	Our Sanctuary Lamps will shine for... Saturday 1st - Friday 7th August Pope Francis Past Priests of Leigh
Wednesday, Weekday in Ordinary Time	Boone & Campbell Families (public Mass)	
Thursday, Memorial of St Ambrose Barlow, Priest & Martyr	Anne-Marie Ogden R.I.P.	Numbers at Mass 25th/26th July Saturday 75 Sunday 99 Wednesday 33
Friday, Weekday in Ordinary Time	Tony Unsworth R.I.P.	
Saturday, Weekday in Ordinary Time		
Sunday, Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time Saturday 4.30pm Mass Sunday 9.30am Mass Sunday 11.00am Mass	Ellen Squires B'day Memorial David Philip James Anni. Sheila O'Grady	

ATTENDING MASS

From next weekend there is no need to book for a place at Mass. This will now be done on a first come, first serve basis.

Please remember that you need to provide us with names and contact number for the benefit of Trace and Track.

As you walk up to the main doors, the steward will ask you to read the signage. Please keep two metres apart outside and inside the church. Please note that a face covering must be worn. Please be patient and wait for stewards to take you to your place.

Please remember that the Sunday Obligation to attend Mass has been removed until further notice and because we are reaching our full capacity, I ask you to consider coming to a weekday Mass which will leave the Sunday Mass for those who are working during the week.

THE CAUTIOUS RE-OPENING OF SACRED HEART CHURCH

From next Sunday (13th September) Sacred Heart Church will reopen. Mass will be at the normal time of 11.00am. I am grateful for the new and existing stewards who help at all three Masses.

PLEASE DO NOT COME TO MASS IF YOU ARE VULNERABLE IN ANY WAY. PLEASE STAY AT HOME IF YOU OR SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS ANY COVID19 SYMPTOMS

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Payment can be made preferably by standing order or online bank transfer. The bank details: HSBC 99-101 Lord St, Liverpool, L2 6PG sort code 40-29-12 account No. 51545205. There are collection baskets both at the entrance and exit. Donations can also be posted or delivered to either presbytery. Thank you for your continued support!



GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

None of us take a long trip without preparing and planning ahead. We make sure we have a map and directions for the journey ahead. We work out how much it will cost us and we sit down to see what's involved in the journey ahead. We do our best to be prepared for any unplanned events along the way. We don't set out ill-equipped or unprepared.

The invitation from Jesus is always *follow me*, and the decision to follow in his footsteps is not one to be taken lightly. Jesus makes this very clear right at the beginning of this Sunday's gospel when he spells out the cost of being his disciple, *if anyone comes to me without hating their father and mother, wife, children, brothers and sister and even his own life, they cannot be my disciple!* Jesus tells that we have to work it out for ourselves to see if we have what it takes to live with demands of being his follower. This means that first we have to figure out what being a follower of Jesus will cost us, and then decide whether we have the energy and resources to meet that cost. The cost of being a disciple of Jesus? Everything we have and are! The reward of being a disciple? Everything God has and is!

The danger is that if we are overly worried and concerned about the cost of following Jesus, we might never set out on this path in the first place. It will cost us much, everything in fact. But we have already started on this journey at our baptism. The reward is priceless; the fullness of life which begins here and now and which we will inherit fully in the life to come. We begin this journey of being the disciple of Jesus in faith, but not on our own. The first reading from the Book of Wisdom tells that we are given the gift of wisdom and the Holy Spirit to guide and lead us on our journey. The challenge, then, is not to look at the cost, but to keep our eyes on Jesus who is walking with us showing us the way. In faith and hope, then, let us take up our cross and follow where Jesus lead us.

Michael Moore OMI



Archdiocese of
Liverpool

As a young priest in Skelmersdale I took Holy Communion to the housebound every 'First Friday'. In those days few people had phones. That was no handicap. Each person expected me on the same day at the same time each month. They waited with a little altar prepared and candles lit. I entered and left each house in silence. Conversation with the priest was avoided. It was considered disrespectful to the Blessed Sacrament. One Friday I couldn't make it. Changing the day required a visit to each person in advance, this time without the Blessed Sacrament. We were free to speak. Gallons of tea were drunk. It was a revelation. I heard their stories, their anxieties and their joys. I related to them as fellow human beings. Looking back, I realised that I had allowed the Eucharist to become a barrier to my recognising the presence of Christ in each of them. This wasn't what the Lord had in mind on the night before He died.

Throughout the lockdown our churches have been closed. Some still are. There have been live-streamed Masses. These continue. Expressions of appreciation fill my in-box. There is a common theme. Many of those deprived of Holy Communion speak of their discovery of the Lord's presence deep within themselves; a recognition that frequent reception of the Eucharist obscured. Furthermore, cut off from their friends whom they met every week at Mass, many have discovered a solidarity in the faith with others that transcends closed doors and isolation.

Our lockdown period coincided with Gospel accounts of Easter. Closed doors were no obstacle to the Risen Jesus. On Pentecost Day the locked doors of the upper room were thrown open. Peter and Paul both went on to spend time in prison. Locked up or set free, the faith flourished.

Monsignor John Devine

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

Friday 9 October 2020

Coronavirus is a crisis that affects us all. It will take all of us working together to survive, rebuild and heal.

With you by our side, our local experts and community volunteers can ensure help reaches the most vulnerable communities on earth before the virus does.

"We thank God that Cafod stepped in and provided us with PPE. They give us the confidence to go on".

Sr. Gertrude, Handmaids Catholic Heath Clinic, Sierra Leone

This Family Fast Day, please fast and give to help protect our global family.

Online special events to celebrate Harvest Fast Day

Friday 9th October

11am: Listen to our live talk about the latest on our coronavirus response.

6pm: Our Harvest Fast Day livestreamed Mass. 12pm:

Saturday 10th October

Its lunch time! Join our Global Food Family Event from your own kitchen.

7pm: Join us for the ultimate Family Fast Day online quiz!

Sunday 11th October

10am: Children's Liturgy Live - Harvest Special.

Please visit: www.cafod.org.uk

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