



Newsletter for the Parish of

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

Served by the Churches of Sacred Heart and St Joseph's

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TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

20th September 2020

Twenty Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time St Joseph's Saturday 4.30pm	Peter M Harman Anniv
St Joseph's Sunday 9.30am Sacred Heart Sunday 11.00am	Thanksgiving St Joseph Kathleen Ruane R.I.P.
Monday, Feast of St Matthew, Apostle	
Tuesday, Weekday in Ordinary Time	Mary Corner Anniv.
Wednesday, Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest St Joseph's 12.00 noon	Kath Trundle R.I.P.
Thursday, Mem. Of Our Lady of Walsingham	Anne-Marie Ogden R.I.P.
Friday, Weekday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
Saturday, Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Twenty Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time St Joseph's Saturday 4.30pm Mass	Denis Deasy R.I.P.
St Joseph's Sunday 9.30am Mass Sacred Heart Sunday 11.00am Mass	Ellen Barton Sick Jishu John Birthday

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 and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time...may the peace of our Risen Lord enfold us all.

Our Sanctuary Lamps will shine for...
Saturday 19th - Friday 25th September

St Joseph's - The Worden Family
Sacred Heart - Recently Bereaved



Numbers at Mass

Saturday 51 Sunday 120 Wednesday 22
Offertory

ATTENDING MASS

From this 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 today Sacred Heart Church will reopen. Mass will be at the normal time of 11.00am. I 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. If you Gift Aid your donation, there is no problem, it will be carried on. 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

Today's Gospel reading directly follows last week's Gospel in which Jesus taught the disciples how to handle disputes and conflict within the Christian community. In today's reading Peter asks Jesus how many times one ought to extend forgiveness to another. Peter proposes a reasonable number of times, perhaps seven. Jesus replies by extending Peter's proposal by an enormous amount; not just seven times should one forgive, but 77 times. The parable of the unforgiving servant is Jesus' elaboration of his initial reply to Peter. Through the parable we come to understand the depths of God's mercy toward us and the results of our acceptance of God's forgiveness.

The king in the parable decides to settle accounts with his servants. We are told that one servant in particular owes the king an enormous sum of money. Despite the promise of the servant, it is unlikely that he would ever be able to repay the debt that he owes. The king is moved by the humility of the pleading servant and mercifully forgives the debt. Rather than displaying gratitude for this forgiveness, the servant confronts a fellow servant who owes him a small debt—a pittance when compared with the amount that was owed to the king. The unmerciful servant refuses the pleas of his fellow servant and sends the servant to prison.

A few other servants tell the merciful king about the actions of the unforgiving servant. The king punishes the servant because he refused to show the kind of mercy he had himself received from the king. Jesus concludes by indicating that this is how it will be with God and those who refuse to forgive one another.

There is a temptation to quantify forgiveness as Peter tried to do, but Jesus' point is that forgiveness is not about quantity—the number of times we extend forgiveness to another. In the parable the king's forgiveness is like God's forgiveness, and it transforms us, helping us to be as forgiving as God. The lesson is clear: If we hoard God's mercy while showing no mercy to others, we risk forfeiting the effects of God's mercy in our lives.



Archdiocese of
Liverpool

By Archbishop Malcolm McMahon

Summer was a very new experience for most people. Even those who did get away for a holiday couldn't or didn't travel far – and even then, found that their freedom to eat out and enjoy the company of new people was restricted. However, it would be wrong to paint a picture of gloom. The recent months have been marked by an upsurge in volunteering and community activities. It is as if a latent desire to serve others has been unleashed by our new way of living.



Christians should not find this strange because one of the fundamental ways to be Church is to serve. We often concentrate on other aspects of Church life such as liturgy or proclamation of the Good News, but our Saviour said explicitly that he came to serve and not to be served. He also gave us that almost forgotten commandment to wash one another's feet!

You can imagine the joy throughout our diocese in July when four men were ordained to the Permanent Diaconate. By their Ordination they received the spirit of service; a grace to enable them carry out their ministry in the name of the Church. In other words, to be Christ to others. In a way that is something we can all do because we are baptised into Christ.

As it seems that some kind of lockdown will be with us for quite a while, let us continue to reach out. The wonderful effect of this grace is that helping others is better than being helped oneself

RED MISSION BOXES

Since Lockdown, due to Covid-19, Collectors have been unable to carry out house to house collections of Red Box donations, and that still remains the case even though some restrictions have been eased. However, our Churches are now open to limited numbers at Masses, and donations can be taken to these Masses or to the Parish Office. Please make clear that monies and donations are for the Red Mission Box and attach your name for identification. Thank you.

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

CAFOD
just one world