

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year B) 18 NOVEMBER 2012



**LEIGH
PASTORAL AREA**

**St. Edmund
Arrowsmith
Parish**

**St. Joseph,
Sacred Heart,
Twelve Apostles,
and
Our Lady of the
Rosary
churches**



Responsorial Psalm

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Stay awake, and stand ready,
because you do not know the hour
when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the pages of the Bible there are many stories of great figures who, as they see their death approaching, gather their children or their followers to give a final testament. Before Jacob died, he called his twelve sons to give an appropriate blessing to each one. The dying Moses encouraged his people to be strong and stand firm, then appointed his successor to lead the twelve tribes. Before King David ended his days, he addressed the officials of Israel and passed authority to his son Solomon. In the same way Jesus, before he died, gathered his disciples and delivered his final teaching on the future, instructing them how to live in the midst of political and cosmic upheavals. Part of Jesus' final testament is what we hear in today's Gospel. It is helpful to remember that St. Mark is writing his Gospel at a time when there is widespread oppression and persecution of the Christian Community in Rome. No doubt Jesus' followers are wondering if the end is near, uncertain how the future is going to turn out. Nobody knows the details of the last pages of history, but there is a form of writing which imagines the end of time: it is called apocalyptic.

To give his readers hope, Mark gives them Jesus' vision of the future. For the disciples, especially without Jesus, the future doesn't look very appealing at first. Jesus imagines a time of terror and persecution. People will be betrayed and handed over to the authorities. There will be wars and earthquakes and famines. Jesus says that these things must happen. Then there will be cosmic upheavals: "the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from Heaven." After this catalogue of disaster there is the Good News. Jesus looks beyond this time of distress to the final time, when the Son of Man will gather the scattered people of God to himself. Jesus sees beyond suffering and persecution to a future peace with God. Mark gives the disciples, and through them ourselves today, hope that we too may share in Jesus' vision of a future world with God in Heaven.

In the meantime, we have to depend on the promise of Jesus: "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." No one, not even Jesus the Son of God, knows when all this will take place. The only sure thing we can do is hold onto the words of Jesus. We live in an age of uncertainty. The future never looks wholly secure. In a nuclear age the word of Jesus holds out a vision that takes us beyond our worst imaginings. There is a place beyond the mountains of arms and weapons so prevalent in today's world. This vision doesn't free us from the duty to strive for and campaign for peace, but it does fill us with a hope that Jesus ultimately has the answer for the problems of the world in which we live. There is only one final word: Jesus. He IS the answer.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWELVE APOSTLES PARISH HALL NEWS

Bingo on Wednesday from 8.30. Hobby and Craft Fair Sunday 18 November 11.00-3.00pm. Please come and support. Alison who runs the SDZ Street/Break dancing on Tuesdays is looking for new recruits: 5.30-6.15 4yrs to 9yrs, 6.15-7.00 10yrs to 13yrs, 7.00-8.00 Teens, just come along you will be very welcome. Parish Christmas Fair Sunday 9 December. There are list at the back of church for donations for the Prize Draw. Any items can be brought to the Parish centre on Wednesdays 7.30-8.30 or left at the back of church. Draw tickets £1 a book now on sale. Annual selection box raffle soon. All donation gratefully received.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH NEWS MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Brian Ashton, Audrey Ashurst, Patrick Donohue, Sylvia Withington, Ryan & Anita

Autumn Fayre Sunday 25th November after the 10.30am Mass. Father Christmas will be there and the choir from St Joseph's school will be opening the Fayre.

We still need donations and the following would be most welcome (Especially bottles) and can be left in the porch at the back of church or at the parish office:- Bottles, 'Good as New' handbags, books, CDs, DVDs, tinned goods, small gifts for prizes, fancy goods for Tombola.

St Joseph's Christmas Draw will be held again this year at the Autumn Fayre on 25 November. Prizes will be of £200; £150; £100 & three of £50. Tickets 50p each or £2.50 for a book. If anyone is willing to take ten books of tickets or more to sell to family & friends, these can be collected after Masses today, and the money and ticket counterfoils returned anytime before 25 November. General sales of tickets are after Masses every Sunday. Your usual support for this fundraiser will be greatly appreciated.

Reconciliation, Confirmation & First Communion.

The third meeting preparing for the Sacraments will be held on Wednesday 28th November at 6.00pm in the Mather Room.

St Joseph's Little Church are saving their coppers for Fr Patrick's Street Children, so over the next few weeks please bring your change to help change the lives of the poorest children in the world.

St Joseph's School Open Day. If your child is starting school in September 2013 you are invited to go along to St Joseph's School Open day on Wednesday 21st November 2012 9.00am - 6.00pm. Please see poster at the back of church for details.

Mothers Prayers will be held at 7.30pm Tuesday 20 November at St. Joseph's. All mothers and grandmothers welcome.

OUR PASTORAL AREA WEBSITE

The new website for the Pastoral Area is now up and running. You can view it at: www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk It is very much a work in progress. At present, you can access the weekly newsletters. During the week, more information will be added. In the months ahead, the site will be further developed.

NEWS FROM OUR LADY'S

The Christmas mini-market will take place after Mass on 2 December. If you are able to help in setting up the stalls on Friday 30 November at 11.00am or in assisting on the day, please see Josie or Kath.

NOVEMBER, MONTH OF HOLY SOULS

The November Pious Lists are available at the back of each church for you to place the name of your relatives and friends who have died. Please put your list, along with your contribution in a sealed envelope marked 'Pious List'. (If you have not got a printed November List envelope) The names of every-

one on the lists will be placed on the altar at all Masses during November and they will be remembered during the Masses. Envelopes can be put in the collection or the box in church.

SACRED HEART SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

There will be a meeting on Wednesday 21st November, for those catechists involved in the Sacramental Programme of Confirmation and First Communion, after Mass in the presbytery.

SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS FAIR

The organizers will be grateful for donations, bottles, fancy goods, Tombola prizes etc. No clothes or DVDs please. Welcome items include items of jewellery, packets of sweets and chocolate bars of any kind. Leave at the back of church or ring Susan (512567) for collection if necessary. We still need volunteers to organise a stall or game. Raffle tickets will be on sale after Mass today for a Christmas Hamper. Helpers needed. Please consider taking a few extra books and selling them to friends and family.

SACRED HEART SHOP

We have a selection of calendars, Advent calendars and Christmas cards as well as our usual stock of cards and religious articles suitable for seasonal gifts.

THE LORD'S DAY

Reflections on *Dies Domine*, the Apostolic Letter of Pope John Paul II, to prepare for the November Diocesan Assembly **Nov 18: Next Saturday our Diocesan Assembly meets to discuss the Lord's Day and how we keep it.**

Blessed John Paul: A Day of Riches: The spiritual and pastoral riches of Sunday as it has been handed on to us are great. When understood Sunday becomes a synthesis of the Christian life and a condition for living it well. It is clear therefore why the observance of the Lord's Day is so close to the Church's heart. (DD81)

As we come close to our Assembly we try to remember that Sunday is not just an obligation, it is part of what it means to be human. God gives us Sunday for communal living and loving. If we understand Sunday in this way it becomes for us a healing and a spring of hope.

For reflection: What has Pope John Paul helped you to understand about Sunday?

ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

We are looking for two people to represent the Pastoral Area at the forthcoming Diocesan Assembly which takes place on Saturday 24 November 9.30am - 3.30pm. If you are available and would like to represent the Pastoral Area please contact the Parish Secretary on 01942 673517 with your name, address, telephone number and e-mail (if available). If you do not wish to attend, but have any thoughts or comments to make, please put them in writing and either e-mail them to the Secretary (stjosephs@live.com) or post them to St Joseph's church, Mather Lane, Leigh WN7 2PR.

CONFESSATHON

Saturday 22 December at St Joseph's church
Confessions 10.00am-11.45am
Mass 12noon
Confessions 12.30pm - 2.30pm.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve	5.30pm Twelve Apostles 6.30pm St Joseph's Midnight Sacred Heart
Christmas Day	8.30am St Joseph's 10.00am Sacred Heart 10.30am St Joseph's

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,586.85
St Joseph's CAFOD £ 657.22

The retiring collection at all our churches next weekend will be on behalf of Catholic Youth Services.

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to:
Isabella Maria Whittle, Corey James Roberts

SICK

Please remember Teresa Cooney, Bill Parr and all who are sick at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED

For all those lately dead ... Joseph Patrick Buchanan, Gerald Holland,
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

The theme for this week is Anti-bullying, and one of the things the students will be thinking about are the words of Blessed John Henry Newman; "I am created to do or be something for which no one else is created", and how this relates to the idea of us all being made unique in the image of God, and should all be treated as such. Last week we celebrated the achievements of last year's Year 11 students, with many awards being given out. It was a lovely evening celebrating the great things our students have done, and it was especially nice to catch up with those students who have not continued at the Sixth Form at St. Marys'. On Thursday 29 November we are holding our Sixth Form Open Evening 6.00pm-8.00pm.

SACRED SPACE WEBSITE

There is a website that is operated by the Irish Jesuits called 'Sacred Space'. It's a very good tool to use for prayer. There is a guided step by step and the focus is normally on the gospel of the day with a short reflection if needed. The website address: www.sacredspace.ie

I've heard it on the beanstalk...

Turnpike Community Theatre's forthcoming production of Jack and the Beanstalk is going to be a great hit and the must see panto of the season in Leigh!

"This is an up-to-date, tried and tested script, jam-packed with jokes, slapstick, loveable characters and all the magic of traditional pantomime with enough audience participation to leave you hoarse by the end of the show!"

To avoid disappointment, get your tickets now for this production which will be held at Twelve Apostles Parish Hall from Wednesday 28 November to Saturday 1 December at 7.15pm. Tickets can be purchased from the official ticket sellers (Finesse Gift Shop, Bradshawgate) or by contacting Gill on 01942 603195. Limited numbers available for certain performances.



ACCOUNTS

As part of the process of consolidating our four parish bank accounts into one account which will later be changed to become St Edmund Arrowsmith Account:- please write all cheques (regardless of church) to St Joseph's Parish Account (004) starting from today. We will inform you when to start writing St Edmund Arrowsmith Parish Account (242) when the account has been officially renamed and new cheque and paying-in books have been received.

ARE YOU AGED 14-21 AND THINKING ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD?

On Sunday 2 December, the Vocations Team will be holding its monthly discernment meeting at St Mary's Lowe House, St Helens. The meeting begins at 5.00pm. After the meeting, we go into church for the monthly Youth Alive Mass. This meeting is aimed at young men aged between 14-21. The group allows young men to pray, socialise and learn more about the vocation of the priesthood. If you would like to attend this event or would like more information, then please contact Father James Preston on 0151 727 2493.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP

... Meeting at 7.00pm on Tuesday this week at Holy Family. This group is open to all parishioners in the Pastoral Area.

YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The next Archdiocese of Liverpool Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 25 July to 2 August 2013. If you are aged between 15-25 and want more information, please phone 01744 740460 or email: admin@animateyouth.co.uk Application forms are currently available to download at www.animateyouth.org

Tickets Now Available for



!!NEW YEARS EVE PARTY!!

MONDAY 31ST DEC

**ST. JOSEPH'S HALL
CHAPEL STREET**

FEATURING: DAVE RUSSELL

Fantastic Keyboard Vocalist

+ BOOGIE NIGHTS

8.00pm START

LATE BAR

INC REFRESHMENTS

TICKETS £12.50

**Available from Des on 01942 674868
St Joseph's Parish Office 673517**

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

12A = Twelve Apostles, StJ = Saint Joseph, SH = Sacred Heart, OL = Our Lady of the Rosary, StR = St Richard

Saturday 17 November

12A 5.30pm MASS Special Intention (R & F)

Sunday 18 November THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

(Day of Prayer for Prisoners & their Dependants)

StJ 8.30am MASS
SH 9.30am MASS November Pious List
StJ 10.30am MASS
OL 11.00am MASS People of the Pastoral Area
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Monday 19 November Weekday in Ordinary Time (Week 33, Year 2)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 10.00am MASS James Bishop
StJ 12.00noon MASS

Tuesday 20 November Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH NO MASS

Wednesday 21 November Memorial: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon MASS
SH 7.00pm MASS Stuart Patrick Farrington

Thursday 22 November Memorial: St. Cecilia, V.M. (3rd c.)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
12A 9.30am MASS Barbara Foley
SH 12.00noon MASS Decd. Members Legion of Mary
StJ 12.00noon REQUIEM MASS Gerald Holland

Friday 23 November Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 10.00am MASS Vincent Powell
StJ 12.00noon MASS
1.00pm Funeral Service Howe Bridge Crematorium Joseph Patrick Buchanan

Saturday 24 November Memorial: St. Andrew Dung-Lac, P. and companions, MM. (18th c.)

OL 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
OL 12.00noon MASS Fred Brooks
12A 5.30pm MASS William Robinson

Sunday 25 November SOLEMNITY: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING (YEAR B)

(Titular Feast of the Cathedral) (Youth Sunday)

StJ 8.30am MASS
SH 9.30am MASS Decd. Members Gore & Leyland families
StJ 10.30am MASS
OL 11.00am MASS The Smith Family
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 9 November the numbers drawn were 13, 16, 17. No winner of £604. Last week's estimated jackpot was £680.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 096, Jennifer & Fiona; £5, 123, C Ackers; £3, 498, J Causby; £2, 225, A Waterfield. **Bonus Ball** 45, M Flannery.

Twelve Apostles 200 Club: next draw Wednesday 21 November.

ST. EDMUND ARROWSMITH PARISH OFFICE

The office for the administration of our new parish is based in St. Joseph's presbytery, Mather Lane. Email stjosephs@live.com or telephone 01942 673517 weekdays 8.30 - 4.00pm and speak to the parish secretary. In case of pastoral emergency only at other times you may contact any available member of the pastoral area team, if necessary even Fr Dave or Fr Paul who are based in St. Margaret Clitherow parish.

PASTORAL AREA TEAM

Priest: Fr. Stephen Cooper
Tel: 01942 673517
Email: fathercooper@btconnect.com

Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady
Tel: 01942 673517
Email: shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk

Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood
Tel: 0161 790 2390
Email: frdave@virginmedia.com

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
Tel: 01942 883395
Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk

Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson, Dennis Vint

