

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (Year C)

30 DECEMBER 2012



Responsorial Psalm

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts;
let the message of Christ find a home with you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

At the end of today's Gospel there is a very telling sentence. "Mary stored up all these things in her heart." And after the visit of the shepherds to the manger in Bethlehem, we hear a similar comment. Luke says that Mary "treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart."

Mary kept the memory of these events so that she could try one day to understand what had really happened to her and to her family. It's very clear that Mary did not understand what was happening to her straight away. More than once we read in the Gospels that Mary was perplexed. So what did she do? She pondered, reflected and prayed, seeking to understand what was happening to her and her child. This reflection was not free from uncertainty and anxiety. Mary comes across as a silent, reflective person. All her life she pondered and prayed about how God dealt with her. When she doesn't understand she ponders in her heart and prays until insight comes. And she pondered the painful events of Jesus' Passion even more to discern the purpose of God.

Profound experience often begins with perplexity and confusion. We never know at the time what is happening to us. It's only afterwards, perhaps long afterwards, that our eyes are opened and we begin to understand. This is why it is important to pray and reflect on our lives. It is easy to recall pleasant experiences, but not so easy to enjoy the painful ones. We are tempted to suppress if at all possible. Even so, they still influence us and we can learn a great deal from them. The incident in which Jesus got lost in Jerusalem was a painful one for Mary. Yet she stored it in her heart and, by doing so, learned from it. What Mary learned from praying and reflecting she passed on to her child, who St. Luke tells us, "increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God." Jesus was taught, nourished and formed by a wise woman who loved God with all her heart and soul.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, let us pray that we may be a family together and, like Mary, thank God for our lives and the lives of others whilst helping one another to better understand the ways of God in our lives today.

**LEIGH
PASTORAL AREA**
www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk

**St. Edmund
Arrowsmith
Parish**

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



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU

Fr Kieran and Fr Steve would like to thank all who have offered gifts, cards and greetings for their generosity and also those who have helped to prepare the churches and celebrate the Services over Christmas.

A big thank you to the small army who help in many ways to ensure the parish runs smoothly and millions of little and big jobs are carried out quietly and without fuss on a daily basis.

As we begin a New Year we wish all parishioners good health and best wishes for 2013.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH NEWS MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Alf Case, Jim Fearnley, Kevin & Margaret Fleming, James Frost, John Gillbanks, May Gillbanks, Christine Gillbanks, Olivia Hartnell, Stephen Hartnell, Annie Johnson, Terry & May Malley, Annie McDermott, James McDermott, James Owen McDermot, Jack McWilliam, Mark Prescott, John Whelan, Artur Wilson, Bob Woods, Florence Yates, Special Intention.

A Very Big Thank You to Moss Bank Nurseries for the beautiful Christmas Tree which they donated and for all the plants they have given over the last 12 months.

Thank you also to the people who came to decorate the tree and the church and put up the Crib. They have done a wonderful job!

One last thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Flowers this year. The church will be decorated with flowers throughout the year bought with the contributions in memory of our loved ones.

Red Mission Boxes Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the Presbytery on Monday January 21.

SACRED HEART SHOP

We have a selection of calendars, as well as our usual stock of cards and religious articles suitable as last-minute seasonal gifts.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

There are just three unclaimed prizes from the Christmas Raffle: 544 Pink, 109 White, 163 Pink.

Refreshments will be available after Mass next Sunday, 6 January - everyone welcome.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS



Liverpool Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

By air from Liverpool John Lennon Airport, Friday 26 July - Friday 2 August 2013. Also overland by Jumbulance. Pilgrims who will need help with mobility, nursing or medical care on the journey or in Lourdes, should register as soon as possible with the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office: 0151 727 4000. Closing date for registration: 30 April 2013. The Tour Operator is Joe Walsh Tours, 143 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2, Ireland; website: www.joewalshstours.ie – there is a reduction for those

who book online. Tel: 0151 909 2871 or send email to info@joewalshstours.ie Limited places available. We recommend you book immediately. Deposit £150. Bonded & Licensed as a Tour Operator by the Civil Aviation Authority in UK. ATOL 5163.

Archbishop Patrick Kelly Statement issued by the Archdiocese of Liverpool



The Most Reverend Patrick Kelly, Archbishop of Liverpool, has today, Wednesday 19 December, left the Royal Liverpool University Hospital after treatment following a slight stroke. He continues to make good progress and will now begin a substantial period of convalescence. The Archbishop wishes to thank the staff of the hospital for their prompt action and treatment and for their outstanding care during these last days. He would also like to thank the many who have offered prayers and good wishes during this time. Please remember Archbishop Patrick in your prayers. Dr Paul Fitzsimmons, stroke consultant said, 'We are delighted with the progress that Archbishop Kelly has made in his recovery. The Archbishop's case highlights the need for fast action when suspecting a stroke, no matter how slight it may appear. A stroke kills more than one million brain cells a minute, so time is of the essence and you need to get to a hospital fast.'

VOCATIONS (YOUNG MEN 14-21)

On Sunday 6 January the Vocations Team are due to be holding its monthly discernment meeting at St Mary's Lowe House, St Helens, The meeting begins at 5.00pm, and 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, socialize 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.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

You could pray the following prayer after the clocks have chimed in the New Year:

*O God of new beginnings and wonderful surprises,
thank you for the gift of a new year.*

*May it be a time of grace for us,
a time to grow in faith and love,
a time to renew our commitment
to following your Son, Jesus.*

*May it be a year of blessing for us,
a time to cherish family and friends,
a time to renew our efforts at work,
a time to embrace our faith more fully.*

*Walk with us, please, in every day
and every hour of this new year,
that the light of Christ might shine through us,
in spite of our weaknesses and failings.*

*Above all, may we remember this year
that we are pilgrims on the sacred path to you.*

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL	£1,581.80
Christmas Collection	£3,106.94
Donation	£ 100.00

SICK

Please remember Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Raymond Buck, Brenda Hoffman & Bill Parr and all who are sick at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED

For all those lately dead ... Stephen Green, Harry Grundy
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

Looking for something new to do over the winter months?

Turnpike Community Theatre may have something to offer all members of the local community with their new programme of events at Twelve Apostles Parish Hall.

Adults

Turnpike Community have secured funding to host a number of professionally led workshops which commence in January. These twelve workshops will provide the opportunity for people to develop a range of skills in relation to theatre. They will also be a great opportunity to learn more about theatre and performing if this is something that is new to you.

Young People

For those young people aged between 7 and 16, Junior Turnpike Community Theatre continues to offer weekly workshops led by professionals from the drama field. If you would like your child to become involved and develop a range of performing and interpersonal skills (including confidence) then sign them up for the Junior group. The weekly subscriptions are £3 and there is no minimum sign up period – why not bring them along to see if they like it. A [poster](#) with further information is on our pastoral area's website. For more information and to book for a workshop, email: turnpikecommunitytheatre@hotmail.co.uk

PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

*Father,
help us to live as the Holy Family,
united in respect and love.
Bring us to the joy and peace of your eternal home.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.*



**Tickets Now Available for
!!NEW YEARS EVE PARTY!!**

ST. JOSEPH'S HALL, CHAPEL STREET

FEATURING: DAVE RUSSELL

Fantastic Keyboard Vocalist

+ BOOGIE NIGHTS

8.00pm START LATE BAR

TICKETS £12.50 INC REFRESHMENTS

Glass of sparkling wine on arrival

& spot prizes

Available from Des on 01942 674868

Pauline 01942 604603

St Joseph's Parish Office 673517

Sing & Swing

Lowon Civic Hall

Saturday 19th January 2013

In aid of HCPT

**The Cheshire Cord Company
a 9 piece swing band**

7.30pm start

**Tickets £8 concessions £5 Inc free drink
on arrival**

tel. 07580832800 to book tickets.

TWELVE APOSTLES PARISH HALL NEWS

New Years Eve Family Disco 7pm till late Adults £5, Children £3 (Family ticket 2 adults, 2 children £15) refreshments available, tickets on sale tel 209192

Ladies Christmas Party Friday 4th January, £20 for a course meal and disco see Ann Clews or Therese Thompson (tel 253507)

Selection Box Raffle win nos Green: 146-150, 426-430, 711-715, 401-405, 411-415, 486-490, 476-480 Pink 726-730, 681-685, 336-340, 516-520, 801-805



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 29 December

12A 5.30pm MASS Winifred Derbyshire (LD)

Sunday 30 December FEAST: HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (YEAR C)

StJ 8.30am MASS People of St Edmund Arrowsmith parish and of St Margaret Clitherow parish

SH 9.30am MASS Joanne Smith

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Ruth, Walter & Dorothy Elmer

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Monday 31 December *Seventh day of Nativity Octave*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

Tuesday 1 January SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS Kitty O'Connor

Wednesday 2 January *Memorial: St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bps. Ds. (4th c.)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

Thursday 3 January *Weekday before Epiphany*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS Rory Carrol

StJ 2.00pm FUNERAL SERVICE Stephen Green

Friday 4 January *Weekday before Epiphany*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

Saturday 5 January *Weekday before Epiphany*

SH 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation & Holy Hour

SH 12.00noon MASS Arthur Wilson

12A 5.30pm MASS Frank Stout

Sunday 6 January SOLEMNITY: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Tommy Walsh (LD)

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS intention t.b.a.

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 21 December the numbers drawn were 1, 14, 27. No winner of £190. Last week's estimated jackpot was £240.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £50, 095, Jennifer & Fiona; £10, 060, M Foxcroft; £5, 267, M Smith; £3, 358, M Moore; £2, 352, Mr & Mrs T Ellis. **Bonus Ball** 13, Dorothy D.

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

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Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood
Tel: 0161 790 2390
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Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
Tel: 01942 883395
Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk

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

