

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

20 JANUARY 2013



Responsorial Psalm

Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life:
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The prophet Isaiah understands how important names are to people. This is why, in today's First Reading, he attempts to give hope to the despondent people of Israel by saying: "you will be called by a new name, no longer are you to be named "Forsaken", nor your land "Abandoned", but you shall be called "My Delight" and your land "The Wedded". The Good News is that the people of Israel are not going to be stuck with their old name "Forsaken", for there is going to be a wedding. And just as the bride changes her name in the wedding, so the people of Israel are going to get a brand new name. Isaiah promises that the time will come when God will take his people to himself like a bridegroom takes his new bride, and there will be great rejoicing in this new relationship. So it is that Israel waits for the day and the hour when this great event will take place. They wait for their wedding day, their meeting place with God.

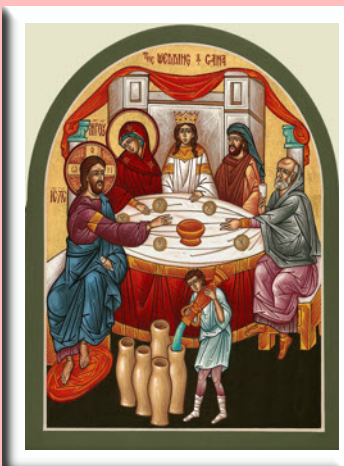
Today's Gospel Reading shows us that the wedding is on. At the festival of a Jewish Wedding in Cana, Jesus reveals his glory through his first great sign. It's an unusual wedding for there are two bridegrooms! There is the bridegroom who has just got married, and there is Jesus who is the real bridegroom. He is an invited guest at the wedding, but Jesus is the long-awaited bridegroom of Israel. Jesus will transform this private Jewish wedding into a great sign to show that the time has come when God will take his people to himself in a new way. Jesus has come as the bridegroom to claim his bride, Israel. During the wedding feast the wine runs out and Mary expects Jesus to do something about it. Jesus' negative answer to Mary underlines the point that he cannot be bound by family relationships, but only by his Father's will. There are six large stone jars used to provide water for the Jewish rituals of cleansing. Jesus tells the servants to fill these jars to the brim, and after they do this they discover that the water had been changed into wine. All 120 gallons of it! When the steward tastes it he compliments the bridegroom for keeping the best wine until last – but he is complimenting the wrong bridegroom! Jesus is the one who has supplied the new wine and in doing so has revealed his glory. When the disciples see what has happened they believe in Jesus.

The story gives us a marvellous image of the loving relationship we have with God through Jesus. It also says something to us of the power of Mary's intercession and prayer. Jesus has come to claim us as God's own, and he is generous in the gifts he brings. The symbolism of the wedding feast appears through the Gospels. In John's account of the Marriage Feast of Cana, Jesus is so generous in the amount and quality of the gift of wine he provides, thus allowing the feast and the celebration to continue even longer. Luke shares the same point in his Gospel: "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is still with them?" Because Jesus, the Son of God, is with them, it is not the time to fast but the time to feast. And the feast is generous: "out of his fullness have we all received." (John 1:16) The ultimate generosity of Jesus is shown when he dies out of love for us, when the bridegroom lays down his life for the bride. Jesus gives his whole self in love. He gives us his Body and Blood in the Eucharist so that we can be united with him and with God the Father. So let us rejoice today that God invites us to the wedding feast, a celebration that will have no end.

**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

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH NEWS MASS INTENTIONS RECEIVED

Brian Ashton, Peter Batchegalup, Betty Galvin, Angela Gibbons, Jack McCaul, Vincent Nestor, Hannah O'Hara, Marion Sanderson, Margaret Yates, Thanksgiving St Anthony, Thanksgiving Our Lord & Our Lady, Thanksgiving Anita, Angiola, & Louis Manfredi.

Red Mission Boxes The total amount raised by the collectors for Red Mission Boxes and donations during 2012 was £5,070.

Many thanks go to our dedicated collectors, box holders and donators who helped to achieve this sum. New box holders and donations are always welcome, and anyone who would like to participate should contact Paul on 679368 or Peter on 602105 or the Parish Office. We particularly ask for volunteers to be collectors to collect one or two days every quarter. Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the Presbytery on Monday January 21.

Sacramental Preparation The next meeting for preparation for first Communion & Confirmation will be on Wednesday 23 January, there are two meetings to choose from, either in school at 2.30pm or the Mather Room at 6.00pm.

CAFOD Fun Run Chris Hallinan raised £15 for CAFOD. Well done to Chris, and thank you to everyone who sponsored him.

Women's Sodality There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday 22nd January at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

Mothers Prayers will be holding their monthly meeting tomorrow Tuesday 15th Jan 2013, in St Joseph's Presbytery. All mothers welcome.

TWELVE APOSTLES CHURCH REPAIR FUND

Selection box raffle, the following numbers are still not claimed:

Pink 681-685 and 726-730, Green 401-405 and 426-430, check your handbags

Today weekend is our monthly retiring collection, please be your usual generous selves

Wednesday is the 200 club if you would like a number £1 a month see John Thompson

PARISH HALL NEWS

Bingo every Wednesday from 8.30pm, please consider the hall for your special occasion, or to support those who use it call 209192 for details.

Date for your diary, Irish Night Friday 15th March

SACRED HEAT READERS MEETING

There will be a meeting for Readers from Sacred Heart, Twelve Apostles and Our Lady's churches on Wednesday, 23 January at 7.30pm after the Mass at Sacred Heart.

PARISH HOLY HOUR

To mark the Year of Faith the Parish Holy Hour continues every Tuesday between 3.00pm, & 4.00pm in Sacred Heart

church. The Sanctuary Lamp candle that burns all this week was gifted in memory of James Hurst.

PARISH VOLUNTEERS MASS & SOCIAL

Fr Steve and Fr Kieron would like to say thank you to all the parish volunteers. If you do any voluntary work in any of our 4 churches you are invited to a Mass and Social Evening on Friday 15th January at Twelve Apostles. Mass is at 7.00pm with a social afterwards in the Church Hall. Entertainment and refreshment provided (Fr Steve's Hot Pot). Bar available.

REPORT ON THE ARCHDIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

A report (12 copies) on the recent Archdiocese of Liverpool Diocesan Assembly can be found at the back of each church today please take one if you are interested and pass around your friends and families. If there are no copies left a copy can be found on the parish web-site at www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk or on request from the parish secretary on 01942 673517 The report will be discussed at the next parish meeting on the 19th February 2013 at St Josephs the meeting is open to all parishioners. Please forward your name to parish secretary if you wish to attend (just to accommodate numbers).

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS



Crossing The Threshold – a resource day for parishes is to be held at St Mary's Church Leyland Preston on Saturday 2nd February 2013 any one interested in representing the parish please forward their name to parish secretary on 01942 673517 deadline Wednesday 23 February.

Civic Mass celebrated by Bp. Thomas Williams, Auxiliary bishop of Liverpool at 11.00am Sunday 10th February 2012. All welcome to attend

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

This week we are focusing on Holocaust Memorial Day, with a number of activities happening during form times. Assemblies will continue this week, and forms will be encouraged to think about and reflect on what the day means in a variety of different ways. On Friday there will be a short service to mark the day, with a balloon release with representatives from the different forms. We would like to extend an invite to all who would like to join us for this. The service will start at 8.30am, and visitors are invited to meet in the reception from 8.15am, and will be met and taken to the service for 8.30am. Refreshments will be available afterwards if you would like to stay for a while.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1811.43
SPUC £ 299.04

White Flower Appeal - The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children will be holding its annual appeal this week-end. In common with the Catholic Church, SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. The Society's work covers a wide spectrum of pro-life, pro-family issues. It seeks to protect unborn children from abortion and defends the disabled, elderly and incapacitated from euthanasia and assisted suicide. SPUC also provides trained speakers for schools and offers pro-life support for teachers, parents and medical professionals. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

SICK

Please remember Bill Parr, Wilfred Hampson, Margaret Hannon, Paddy O'Brien and all who are sick at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED

For all those lately dead ... Michael Hession, Vincent Nestor, John Patrick Cohen, Margaret (Peggy) Booth, Eternal rest grant unto them ...

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Sr Megan is asking for a double bed, a chest of drawers and a table for a family in need. If anyone can help, please contact her on 01942 683554.



BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY

Are you a boy in year 3-5? Do you enjoy singing and working hard in a team? If so, you are invited to come and meet the choristers at the Metropolitan Cathedral in Liverpool and sing in the largest Catholic church in the country for a day! We are holding a 'Be a Chorister for a Day' event for the very first time on Sunday, 3 February from 10.30am until 4.00pm. Come and find out more about being a chorister and have fun playing, singing, eating and exploring. Application forms and further information are available on the Cathedral website: www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk or by contacting the music office music@metcathedral.org.uk / 0151 708 7283. Places are limited and available on a first come, first served basis. A similar event for girls will take place in June.

St Joseph's Players

Present

DICK WHITTINGTON

Wednesday 23 to 26 January

Curtain 7.15pm. Matinee on Saturday 2.00pm

Tickets £8.00 children (16 and under) £4.00

Special offers: Any 2 tickets for £8 on Wednesday & Thursday.

Available from Ratcliffes Bike Shop, Bradshawgate.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Join us to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on Friday 25th January at 10.30 am in the Council Chamber, Wigan Town Hall, or at 1.30 pm in The Derby Room, Turnpike Centre, Leigh Civic Square.

An Idea for Lent 2013

The Year of Faith (2012-13) was initiated by Pope Benedict XVI to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Opening of the Second Vatican Council in 1962 by Pope John XXIII. 1962 is also a significant year for the Catholic Church in England and Wales because that was the year the Bishops set up CAFOD – Catholic Association For Overseas Development.

Prayer for Peace Sunday



God of perfect peace,
violence and cruelty can have no part with you.
May those who are at peace with one another
hold fast to the good will that unites them;
may those who are enemies
forget their hatred and be healed.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

(Roman Missal)

Catholic Parliamentary & Public Policy Internships



For the last ten years, the Catholics Bishops Conference has organised Parliamentary and Public Policy Internships for recently graduated Catholics. This year we are looking to offer at least 6 internships: three interns will be placed with Christian MP's at Westminster, two in public policy with CAFOD and one in a media internship in Archbishop's House, Westminster. All internships will run from September 2013 - July 2014 and include accommodation and subsistence allowances. Full details and an application form can be found on our website: www.cbcew.org.uk/catholic-internships Completed application forms must either be emailed to interns@cbcew.org.uk or posted to: Michaela Kelly, Head of HR, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX. The closing date is 9.00 am on 25th February 2013 and Assessment days will be 25th and 26th March 2013. If you know anyone who may be interested in this opportunity, please encourage them to apply.

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 19 January

12A 5.30pm MASS Frank Stout

Sunday 20 January **SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)** (Day of Prayer for Peace)

StJ 8.30am MASS
SH 9.30am MASS Joseph Graine (LD)
StJ 10.30am MASS
OL 11.00am MASS Sacred Heart Confraternity
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Monday 21 January **Memorial: St. Agnes, V.M. (3rd/4th c.)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon MASS
St J 1.15pm FUNERAL SERVICE John Patrick Cohen
SH 1.30pm FUNERAL SERVICE Michael Hession

Tuesday 22 January **Weekday of Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 2)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 12.00noon MASS Special intention (D.A.)
SH 3.00pm EXPOSITION & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for one hour

Wednesday 23 January **Weekday of Ordinary Time**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon MASS
SH 7.00pm MASS Liam & Margaret Denedy

Thursday 24 January **Memorial: St. Francis de Sales, B.D. (16th/17th c.)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
12A 9.30am MASS Timothy Stott
SH 12.00noon MASS Eileen Hurst

Friday 25 January **FEAST: CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL, APOSTLE**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 10.00am MASS Betty & family
StJ 12.00noon REQUIEM MASS Vincent Nestor
12A 12.30pm REQUIEM MASS Margaret (Peggy) Booth

Saturday 26 January **Memorial: Saints Timothy & Titus, Bps (1st c.)**

OL 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
OL 12.00noon MASS Terry Hill
12A 5.30pm MASS Hughie Toher

Sunday 27 January **THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)** (Education Sunday)

StJ 8.30am MASS
SH 9.30am MASS People of St Edmund Arrowsmith parish and of St Margaret Clitherow parish
StJ 10.30am MASS
OL 11.00am MASS Tom Sales
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 11 January the numbers drawn were 8, 10, 17. No winner of £368. Last week's estimated jackpot was £430.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 211, M Roach; £5, 196, C Ellis; £3, 246, N Flynn; £2, 422, M Moore. **Bonus Ball** 13, Dorothy D.

ST. EDMUND ARROWSMITH PARISH OFFICE

The office for the administration of our 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

