

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

3 FEBRUARY 2013



## Responsorial Psalm

My lips will tell of your help.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;  
no one can come to the Father except through me.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

It is amazing how quickly and how easily the crowd can turn against someone. Stories from history are full of people who have been popular, then see their popularity disappear before their very eyes. We see it all the time on the political stage, sports people who have left one club to join rivals, celebrities who find themselves unpopular for no reason at all. The same thing happens to Jesus in today's Gospel. We are all very familiar with the fact that the same crowd who hail him as their King on Palm Sunday are calling "Crucify him!" less than a week later. Today's Gospel shows us how Jesus' decline in popularity begins much earlier.

The Gospel Reading today starts off with everyone approving of Jesus but ends up with them trying to throw him off a cliff. What did Jesus say that made them react so angrily? Basically, he simply repeated the message of the prophets. By referring to two characters from the Old testament – the widow from Sidon and Naaman the Syrian – Jesus reminds the people that the whole point of having a chosen people is that they should be a witness to God's goodness in the world. God did not choose the people of Israel so that they could benefit from his favour exclusively. It was so that they could communicate God's presence to others. The people of Jesus' hometown of Nazareth seem to have forgotten this aspect of their faith. God does not choose people or nations because they are good. He chooses them because of his great love for them. It is fitting then that they should reflect the goodness of God in their lives and share this love with others. Jesus challenges them to think about this and many of them cannot accept it which is why they reject him.

In today's Second Reading, St. Paul speaks about the higher gifts that God wants to give to all his children. Nobody deserves to receive the gifts of faith, hope and love. They are purely the gift of God. They are intended not just to bless us, but to help us bless the world. The gift of faith helps us believe what God reveals to us about himself. The gift of hope gives us a real trust in God's promises and our future happiness with him. The gift of love is the gift that makes all the other gifts come alive. We will not need faith in Heaven when we see God face to face. We will not need hope as we will have gained what we were hoping for. Love is the one virtue that will come to complete fulfilment and endure for all eternity. Love is the gift that helps us understand that God's love is for everyone and that we can be witnesses to his love in the world.

We can help ourselves develop these gifts in so many different ways. Learning more about our faith helps that gift and strengthens our minds. Meditating upon the joy of eternal life enlivens our hope. Living out our faith together in the Church and doing good works helps increase the love of God within us, a love we are called to share with the rest of the world.

**LEIGH  
PASTORAL AREA**  
[www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk](http://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, Tony Broster, Alf Case, Eveline Dunohue, Kathleen Greensmith, Harold Hunter, Angeola, Annita, Carlo & Louis Manfredi, Marlene O'Neill, Thomas Schimdt, Special Intention, Special Intention St Jude, Thanksgiving & Special Intention Our Lord, Our Lady & All Saints

### WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality this Tuesday, 5 February at 8.00pm in the Side Hall of St Joseph's main hall. All Ladies welcome.

### OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

All are invited for tea and coffee after 11.00am Mass today.

### 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 the Coleman family.

### PARISH VOLUNTEERS MASS & SOCIAL

Fr Steve and Fr Kieran would like to say thank you to all the parish volunteers. If you do any voluntary work in any of our four churches you are invited to a Mass and Social Evening on Friday 15 February 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. We would very much like to see you all here, please do come along and have a good evening. Please put your name on the list at the back of church if you would like to come, so we know how many to cater for. Thank you.

### 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 Our recent collection amounted to £39.41 many thanks 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 Lion King Wednesday 13th Feb the coach will leave from Twelve Apostles Parish Hall 5.45pm prompt

### MAIN NOTES OF THE PARISH MEETING

At Our Lady Of The Rosary On the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2013  
Matters Arising

The matter of Christmas Mass's and Our Lady of the Rosary was brought up and it was agreed that Fr Cooper and Fr O'Grady would discuss the matter next September.

A surveyor's report of the buildings and repairs needed has been received from the Diocese. This is to be used by the P.A. Council as part of the process for reviewing all buildings within the pastoral area. The increased cost of maintaining buildings means it is unlikely we will in future be able to keep open and use all buildings within the Pastoral area.

A discussion took place regarding the Easter Triduum. It was decided after a vote that this Easter the Triduum would be held at the three churches (please see over for details).

#### Any Other Business.

Fr O'Grady and Fr Cooper announced a parish Mass & Social for all the helpers in the parish (details above).

The notes of the Archdiocese Assembly that was held at the Lace Centre Liverpool on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

The secretary gave a brief account of the meeting. And due to the time and the need for parishioners to have knowledge of the minutes. He suggested that the subject be brought up at the next Parish Meeting. Copies of the meeting to be available after mass on Sunday and also posted on the Parish web site.

Nominations were invited for a resource day 'CROSSING THE THRESHOLD' on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at St Mary's RC Church Leyland, Preston.

There is now a Holy Hour at Sacred Heart 3-4 PM every Tuesday everyone welcome.

Date for the next meeting was arranged for Tuesday 19th February 2013 at 7.30pm at St Joseph's.

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS



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

### 21ST WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK ARCHDIOCESAN MASS WITH AND FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Sunday 10 February at 3.00pm

Holy Name Church, Moss Pits Lane, Liverpool

Celebrant: Bishop Tom Williams  
(followed by refreshments)

Bishop Tom writes: "Those working in our hospitals, the ambulance service and the medical profession as a whole in whatever capacity, are invited through this day to recognise and value the spiritual dimension of their work. It is also an opportunity for us all to show our appreciation and support for the work they do, particularly now when the health service is facing an uncertain future."

### A SPECIAL SERVICE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

at

Our Lady Immaculate, Bryn WN4 0LZ

on

Sunday 10 February

3.00 - 4.30pm

Refreshments & activities for children available  
RSVP Julie Cassidy 0151 522 1040

or [j.cassidy@rcaol.co.uk](mailto:j.cassidy@rcaol.co.uk)

### HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

This week we focus on the theme of love. We are looking beyond human love, and focusing on God's love for each one of us. It seems a fitting way to end the half term before starting Lent. As we will not be in school for the start of Lent, students will look at a short reflection based around Ash Wednesday to focus their minds in anticipation and preparation of Lent. On Thursday 7 February St. Mary's is holding its annual Careers Convention. All students are reminded that it is open to years 9-13 and they are encouraged to come along. Our next Parents Consultation Meeting is 21 February at 5.30pm; we invite all parents of St. Mary's students to come and contribute to a discussion about uniform and reports amongst other things. If anyone would like more information, please phone the school or email Mrs. Spencer ([s.spencer@smchs.org.uk](mailto:s.spencer@smchs.org.uk)).

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**PARISH TOTAL** £2,214.54  
Catholic Education Services £ 272.24

### SICK

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

### RECENTLY DECEASED

For all those lately dead ... Harold Joseph Hunter  
Eternal rest grant unto him ...

### BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to: Niall Dominic McCreesh, Noah James Atherton

## SERVICES FOR LENT AND EASTER

### Ash Wednesday (13 February)

7.30am St Joseph's & St Ambrose  
10.00am Twelve Apostles & St Gabriel's  
12.00noon Our Lady of the Rosary, St Joseph's & St Richard's  
7.00pm Sacred Heart & Holy Family

### Services During Lent

8.30am	Monday - Friday	Morning Prayer	St Joseph's
3.00pm	Tuesday	Holy Hour	Sacred Heart
7.30am	Friday	Mass	St Joseph's
7.30am	Friday	Stations of the Cross	St Joseph's

### Easter Triduum (28-30 March)

7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Our Lady's
	Watching till 10.00pm	
3.00pm	Celebration of the Passion	Sacred Heart
7.30pm	Easter Vigil	Twelve Apostles

### Easter Sunday

8.30am St Joseph's  
9.30am Sacred Heart  
10.30am St Joseph's  
11.00am Our Lady of the Rosary  
6.30pm St Richard's

## 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 MPs 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 website: [www.cbcew.org.uk/catholic-internships](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/catholic-internships) Completed application forms must either be emailed to [interns@cbcew.org.uk](mailto:interns@cbcew.org.uk) or posted to: Michaela Kelly, Head of HR, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX. The closing date is 9.00am on 25 February 2013 and Assessment days will be 25 and 26 March 2013. If you know anyone who may be interested in this opportunity, please encourage them to apply.

## WARDROBE DE-CLUTTER SALE

Please donate unwanted good quality clothing and accessories to our Wardrobe de-clutter sale.  
To be held at Holy Family Parish Hall Sunday 3rd March 2013  
10am to 2pm. Light refreshments available. All proceeds will

go to CAFOD. For further details, please contact Wyn 0161 790 1854 or Joan 07785112206

## LENT 2012: ARE YOU HUNGRY FOR CHANGE?

The most difficult food decisions we have to make every day are toast or cereal for breakfast and meat or veggie for dinner. But while we tackle these minor questions, one in eight people has to face major choices every day. Hopefully we will never have to make a decision like: which of my children will eat tonight; which will go hungry; where will I get money from to eat tomorrow?

The problem for 870 million hungry men women and children Isn't a lack of food - we have enough food in the world right now to feed everyone - it's how food is grown, sold and shared that is the issue.

We don't have to deal with food price hikes that might mean our dinner costs twice as much as we earn in a day.

We don't have to worry about severe droughts.

We don't have to buy food knowing that the land and water supply with which we could grow our own, is being used for vegetables and flowers for rich countries.

### Millions of families do.

- Poverty, not lack of food is the main cause of hunger
- Hunger is the world's no. one health risk affecting more people each year than malaria, tuberculosis and Aids combined.
- 870 million people will go to bed hungry tonight, that's the equivalent of everyone in Europe, USA, Canada and Australia going to sleep without eating.
- For every 5 of the most hungry people, 3 of them are women.

In this year of Faith, we are called to witness to the World of God - to live out our faith in our actions.

### What can you do for Lent Fast Day?



## ARE YOU AGED 15-21 AND THINKING ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD?

On Sunday 10 February, the Vocations Team will be holding its monthly discernment meeting at St Charles Borromeo church, 224 Aigburth Road, Liverpool. The meeting begins at 2.00pm. This meeting is aimed at young men aged between 15-21. We gather 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.

## MARRIAGE (SAME-SEX COUPLES) BILL

As you will know, the government will be imminently introducing a Bill in Parliament to redefine marriage. Very many people have made clear their opposition to this and over 600,00 have signed a petition and contacted their MP's.

MP's will shortly be voting on whether or not to support this fundamental change in the law. It is important at this time for all MP's to be made aware of the strength of feeling on this issue. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales are asking us to write to our MP's. To assist in doing this there are printed cards at the back of all churches for you to fill in and sent to your MP. If you would like to write a letter yourself to Andy Burnham more information may be found on the Bishops' Conference web site [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)

The time to act is now. Thank you for your help.

The Most Rev Peter Smith Archbishop of Southwark

## 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 2 February

12A 5.30pm MASS Karol Gredecki

### Sunday 3 February **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)**

StJ 8.30am MASS  
SH 9.30am MASS Michael James Finn (LD)  
StJ 10.30am MASS  
OL 11.00am MASS Imelda Mannion  
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

### Monday 4 February *Weekday of Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 4)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 12.00noon REQUIEM MASS Harold Joseph Hunter

### Tuesday 5 February *Memorial: St. Agatha, V.M. (3rd c.)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
SH 12.00noon MASS John Wilcock LD  
SH 3.00pm EXPOSITION & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for one hour

### Wednesday 6 February *Memorial: St. Paul Miki, SJ and his Companions, MM (16th c.)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 12.00noon MASS  
SH 7.00pm MASS Ann Buttery (sick)

### Thursday 7 February *Weekday of Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
12A 9.30am MASS Marion Sanderson LD  
SH 12.00noon MASS Ellen Rix Donohue

### Friday 8 February *Weekday of Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
OL 10.00am MASS Fr David Gornall SJ (sick)  
StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Saturday 9 February *Weekday of Ordinary Time*

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation  
12A 12.00noon MASS Stanley & Madah Ratcliffe  
12A 5.30pm MASS People of St Edmund Arrowsmith parish and of St Margaret Clitherow parish

### Sunday 10 February **FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)**

*(Day of Prayer for the Unemployed)*

StJ 8.30am MASS  
SH 9.30am MASS Agnes Yates  
StJ 10.30am MASS  
OL 11.00am MASS Charlie McEntee (sick)  
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 25 January the numbers drawn were 7, 11, 21. No winner of £510. Last week's estimated jackpot was £580.

**Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club** £10, 369, 2 Betty's; £5, 464, A Wilkinson; £3, 489, 2 Betty's; £2, 308, N Flynn. **Bonus Ball** ??, L Hancock.

### 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](mailto: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  
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Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson, Dennis Vint

