

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR C)

21 APRIL 2013



Responsorial Psalm

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the early catacombs in Rome, there are graphic images of the Good Shepherd. Often they show the figure of a young Christ who carries a lamb across his shoulders. The frescos show the intimacy between the shepherd and his sheep; between Christ and his beloved followers. Other similar sculptures are found on early Christian tombs. In contrast to ancient Roman pagan tombs, no longer is the image that of a Roman soldier but rather an image of Christ who carries his sheep and protects them.

The words of the twenty-third Psalm are well known to many people, whether they practise religion in Church or not. As we sing, "Fresh and green are the pastures where you lead me to repose ... Near restful waters you lead me to revive my drooping spirit", the image of the love of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, for his flock is enduring and comforting. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, presents us with an image of compassion, love and care - a person in whom we can trust and have confidence. The Good Shepherd only seeks the good of his sheep. When we place our trust in him, and in the Gospel message, he promises the gift of eternal life and protection from the forces of evil. We can rest securely on the shoulders of the Good Shepherd who will carry us to safety.

It is this promise that sustains Paul and Barnabas to work tirelessly in spreading the Gospel. We hear in today's First Reading how, even though Paul is well received by the people of Antioch, by the second day many of the Jewish people organise themselves to oppose him. As the argument develops, Paul and Barnabas are expelled and sent away. Rather than being discouraged, Paul sees this as an opportunity to preach to the gentiles and further spread the Word of God. He knows that nothing, whether death or life, persecution or opposition, can come between himself and the love of God. Nothing is able to steal away a disciple of Christ, because God the Father is stronger than anyone. So what about us? Paul's story should bring us hope and confidence too. We are invited to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd.

We live in a world where it is sometimes hard to listen. We are bombarded by noise. Listening can be difficult so we do need time put aside to be still, to listen and to pray. We are also invited to trust and have more confidence in the Father's love for us. We may, at times, feel threatened, weak, vulnerable or fearful of the opposition to the Gospel and the values that flow from it. The Good Shepherd invites us to renew our trust in him. Let us pray that, as we do this, we may learn to be good shepherds to each other too.

**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 WOMEN'S SODALITY

The next meeting of the Women's Sodality will be on 30 April at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

RED MISSION BOXES

Will collectors please open the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the Presbytery on Monday 22 April. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

Brian Ashton, Mary Flynn, Maurice Hurst, Anthony (Tony) O'Donnell, Margaret & Frank Pemberton, Theresa & John Ryder, Special Intention (Sick) Special Intention - Gregory Family, Special Intention & Thanksgiving Our Lord, Our Lady & All Saints, Special Intention & Thanksgiving Annitta, Angiola, Carlo & Louis Manfredi.

ST JOSEPH'S GARDENING DAY

On Thursday, 2 May we will be having another Gardening Day. Please come along for 10.00am if you are able to help keep the gardens looking lovely.

ST JOSEPH'S SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The last of the meetings for Confirmation and First Communion will take place on Wednesday, 24 April either in school at 2.30pm or in the Mather Room at 6.00pm.

SACRED HEART

CLEANERS NEEDED

We have a small group (only four) of volunteers who spend an hour or two every Tuesday morning in our church dusting, polishing, and vacuuming. We should all be grateful to them. One of their number will soon be moving away and it is essential that a replacement is found. If a few extra persons were to come forward they would be able to work only every other week. If you are able and willing to share the work, perhaps not every week, please tell Father Kieran (or just turn up).

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 Emily & Wilf Hulme.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

There are still some unclaimed prizes from the Easter Raffle. The unclaimed winning numbers are 808, 129, 383, 394, 17, 410, 371. Please check any tickets you may have bought and, if you have a winning number, claim your prize as soon as possible.

TWELVE APOSTLES COFFEE MORNING

Tea & coffee will be served after the 5.30pm Mass at Twelve Apostles in the Hall, the 3rd week of each month, starting tonight.

CHURCH REPAIR FUND

Please check your Easter Egg Raffle tickets against the numbers at the back of church. Some prizes still unclaimed. Next weekend is our monthly retiring collection please be your usual generous selves

CLUB NEWS

Quiz night at 7.30pm this Friday, 26 April to raise funds for Rachel Thompson and Mairead Quinn who have been selected to play for England students RL in France at the end of May. Please come along and support us the entrance is £2

and we are holding a raffle and would appreciate any donations.

Please consider using the Parish Centre for your special occasion, also please try to support the many groups who use it tel 209192 for information. Bingo every Wednesday at 8.30pm in the Lounge.

JUSTICE & PEACE COMMISSION ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

... is on Saturday 25 May, 10.00am-4.00pm at LACE, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA. Main Speaker: Sir Bert Massie CBE 'Coping with the Cuts'. Workshops, stalls and lunch will be provided. RSVP to Steve or Maria on 0151 522 1080/1 or s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk

INVOCATION IN THE NORTH 2013

... is a discernment festival for 16 to 35 year old Catholics which will take place on the weekend of 14 to 16 June at Ampleforth Abbey. It is aimed at helping participants to discover a little more about what God is calling them to do in their lives. There will be some stimulating keynote talks and a number of thought-provoking workshops on spirituality and evangelisation. In addition, there will be beautiful worship experiences, such as Divine Office with the monks, Adoration in the abbey church and a nocturnal Blessed Sacrament Procession. In between these activities there will be plenty of time for prayerful reflection, reading, fellowship and confession. The food will be good and there will be a licensed bar. The cost of the weekend will be £60. Some grants are available on request to students who are without funds and the unwaged. We want everybody to be there who wants to be there! This is a Year of Faith initiative which will help young people in the north of England to make a new radical commitment to Jesus.

For further information:

Facebook: Invocation in the North 2013

Website: www.invocation.org.uk

Email (Liz White): scarboroughcatholicparishes@gmail.com

Telephone: 01723 360358

NEWS FROM OUR HIGH SCHOOL

Our theme this week is *Hope* – and we have a number of hopeful students taking part in our X Factor competition that is being organised by some Sixth Form students. Last week we had the KS3 heats and KS4 auditions, and this week we have the KS4 heats and KS5 auditions. Students are enjoying a lunchtime of entertainment watching the heats, and it's all building towards the final in a few weeks. On Tuesday students will have a reflection on St. George to mark the day.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

***God our Father, You made each of us
to use our gifts in the Body of Christ.***

***We ask that You inspire
young people whom you call to
priesthood and consecrated life
to courageously follow Your will.***

***Send workers into Your great harvest
so that the Gospel is preached,
the poor are served with love,
the suffering are comforted,
and Your people are strengthened
by the sacraments.***

***We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.***

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL	£1,744.92
Donation	£ 200.00
Donation in memory of Maurice Hurst	£ 10.00

The retiring collection this weekend at all churches in our archdiocese will be for the benefit of the Priests' Training Fund.

CHEQUE PAYMENTS

The Parish account in the bank has now been changed to St Edmund Arrowsmith, so in future if you are making a cheque out for Masses etc to any of our four churches, it must be made payable to St Edmund Arrowsmith. Thank you.

SICK

Please remember Teresa Doughtey, Bill Parr, Peggy Sharrock and all who are sick at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED

For all those lately dead: Anthony Michael Warburton - (Funeral Service Howe Bridge Crematorium Tuesday 23 April 9.30am.)

Terence Patrick O'Neill (Funeral Service Howe Bridge Crematorium Thursday 9.00am)

Alice Cakewell, (Funeral Service Howe Bridge Crematorium Friday 4.00pm) Eternal rest grant unto them ...

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to: Lois Lucia Boardman and Rozalia Sara Baszko, .Katie Maria Noon

VISION ROMANIA

On 3 May, Barby Breeze is going out to work with a team from Vision Romania, staying at a camp and providing essential dental treatment for underprivileged children, teenagers and young adults with special needs. We will take out basic medicines and dressings for the health team; buy and deliver food /toiletry parcels; provide the accommodation, transport and food for the youngsters and their parents or carers, camp leaders and the UK team. I would be very grateful for all your prayers and good wishes, but would also like to fund-raise for the camp; and so I will be selling raffle tickets after the 8.30 and 10.30am Masses at St Joseph's on Sunday 28 April. Please help if you can, but otherwise simply wish me well on my venture. Thank you, Barby.

World Day of Prayer
St Joseph's Group Charity Effort

A Coffee Morning

In St Joseph's Hall, Mather Lane, Leigh

Saturday 27th April 2013 10.30am - 12.30pm

Admission 50p including coffee & biscuits

Proceeds for the benefit of

The Epiphany Trust

Caring for street children in Sri Lanka

Donations for the stalls would be most welcome. There will be a Tombola, Cake Stall, Plant Stall, Bric-a-Brac and a Raffle. Items can be left at St Joseph's presbytery any weekday between 9.00am & 4.00pm.

50's & 60's Night

Featuring

The Fantastic Eddie Robbins

Also

Rock & Roll with

D.J. Long Tall Phil

Saturday 27th April 2013

St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St, Leigh

7.30pm till 11.00pm

Tickets £10 including Refreshments

Available from Des 01942 674868 or the

Parish office weekdays only 673517

Licensed Bar

Raffle

All proceeds The White Fathers

Street Children Appeal

The Three Towns Operatic Society

proudly present

Gilbert & Sullivan's

The Yeomen of the Guard

Tuesday 7th - Saturday 11th May 2013 7.30pm
St. Joseph's Hall, Mather Lane, Leigh. WN7 2PR

Tickets: £10 & £12 Concessions available

Contact 01942 883722

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LEIGH

Present

a Concert in aid of local charities

A String Quartet by

Members of the

HALLE ORCHESTRA

7.30pm Friday 17th May 2013

Leigh Parish Church

Tickets £10.00

Ring Bryan Kay 01942 673068

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 20 April

12A 5.30pm MASS Tom Dunne

Sunday 21 April

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR C)

(World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

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

SH 9.30am MASS Patrick A. O'Sullivan

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Terry Jones

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Monday 22 April *Weekday of Easter (Week 4)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

Tuesday 23 April **SOLEMNITY: ST. GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND, M. (3rd/4th c.)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH NO MASS

SH 3.00pm EXPOSITION & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for one hour

Wednesday 24 April *Weekday of Easter*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

SH 7.00pm MASS Mr P.T. Simon

Thursday 25 April **FEAST: ST. MARK, EVANGELIST**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

12A 9.30am MASS Derek Smith

SH NO MASS

Friday 26 April *Weekday of Easter*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

OL NO MASS

StJ 12.00noon MASS

Saturday 27 April *Weekday of Easter*

OL 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

OL 12.00noon MASS Josephine Grosvenor

12A 5.30pm MASS Frank Stout

Sunday 28 April **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR C)**

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Rebecca Duffy

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Mary Flynn

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 12 April the numbers drawn were 6, 7, 8. No winner of £530. Last week's estimated jackpot was £600.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 401, Mr & Mrs T Ellis; £5, 324, J Evans; £3, 203, A Brunskill; £2, 480, M Flannery. **Bonus Ball** 6, D Vint.

Twelve Apostles 200 Club £40, 99, Catherine Thompson; £15, 145, M Blinkhorn; £5, 27, A Morris; £5, 69, V Johnson.

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

Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady
Tel: 01942 673517
Email: shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk
Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
Tel: 01942 883395
Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk

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

