

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (YEAR C)

12 MAY 2013



Responsorial Psalm

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations;
I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today's Feast of the Ascension marks God's closeness to us, not, as one might think, God's leaving us. Jesus seemed to leave the world on the day he died, and his disciples were devastated. They felt that the adventure was over, and this cruel world had done its worst. But the day of the resurrection tells us that God lives and, because God lives, we too shall live with God. For many days Jesus appeared to his friends so that they would know for sure that he is truly risen, and so that they would be witnesses to the resurrection. Jesus also wanted to teach his followers the meaning of his life, and why everything happened the way it did. This way of life will now become the pattern of the disciple's own lives. It is the way of the crucified and risen Lord of life. As God lives and loves us all, so we are called to live with and love one another. This may sometimes involve suffering, as we come face to face with our own weaknesses, and when we encounter the world's sorrows and sins. The way of life that Jesus has shown us is a conversion of our hearts to God, so that forgiveness may come our way and so that, by going there before us, Jesus makes a pathway for us to God the Father.

When Jesus was lifted up from the earth at his ascension, he did not go into some faraway part of the sky. He went to "sit at God's right hand". And so, through Jesus, God is close to us always. So too is Jesus himself: "I am with you always, until the end of time." At this moment of his ascension, Jesus promised to send his Spirit, to dwell within us, to strengthen us and to be our guide. Jesus left his disciples in one form, only to return in another. He has not left us as orphans, as the song declares. The disciples continue to look up into the sky until they had to be reminded not to look skywards anymore. It is the same message as on the day of the resurrection itself: "Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?" They went back to Jerusalem, not sad at heart but rejoicing. Jesus is alive, and the Spirit will come to them. The Lord is faithful to his promises. So what do we do now? The writer of the letter to the Hebrews has good advice: "Let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful."

**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 MAY PROCESSION

This year's May Procession will be held on Wednesday, 22 May at 7.00pm. We would like to invite the children of St Joseph's School to lead the Procession, especially the children who are receiving the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation in June and also Y6, who are saying the Rosary with Mrs Gibbon once a week at lunch time. You are welcome to bring a flower to place on Our Lady's Altar.

WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday 14 May at 7.30pm in the Side Hall of St Joseph's Main Hall. All ladies welcome.

CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION CARDS

Will be on sale at the back of church after both Masses today

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALLS

There are lots of activities taking place in the Main Hall and Mather Room. All these activities are helping to support our Church Halls. At the moment the Halls are self-sufficient but to assure their future it is vital that we increase the number of individuals/groups using our Halls and thus generate more revenue. The Three Towns Operatic Society have now moved to St Joseph's and we are delighted to welcome a society of such stature and repute. With improvements made to the facilities in our Halls in recent years, we can accommodate anything from stage productions to children's birthday parties. We also have disabled access in both Halls and disabled toilets. We do offer special rates for weddings and children's parties. If you have an event coming up or know of anyone who might need a venue for a stage production, dance, wedding, meeting or family function please contact Mrs Prince on 01942 709034.

Below is a list of activities currently in our Halls: if you are interested in joining any of the societies or clubs or would like more information about any of them please contact Mrs Prince via the parish office.

Main Hall

Monday	Dramatic Society
Tuesday	Keep Fit, Adults' Dance Class, Karate, Women's Sodality
Wednesday	Pensioners, Keep Fit
Thursday	Rainbows, Dramatic Society, Karate

Mather Room

Monday	Brownies, Guides
Tuesday	Slimming World
Wednesday	Julie Foulds' School of Dance
Thursday	Keep Fit, Julie Foulds School of Dance
Friday	Julie Foulds School of Dance
Saturday	Karate

MASS INTENTIONS

Lynn Bletcher, Tony Broster, Briget Cosgrove, Monica Davies, Thomas Farrington, John Gilmartin, John Lucas, Maurice McCarthy Snr., Eva McHugh, Desmond Sarsfield, Special Intention Our Lord, Our Lady & All Saints, Special Intention St Jude,

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 Terry Hill.

TEA & COFFEE

Please stay after Mass today and enjoy a biscuit with your drink and some time to socialise. Coffee Morning will be held every second Sunday.

TWELVE APOSTLES CLUB NEWS

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. Everyone is welcome to come over to the club after Mass next Saturday to have a chat to Fr Kieran and a coffee etc, we are also hoping to hold a meeting with those who might have ideas about organising some events to help to keep the parish centre open.

NEWS FROM OUR HIGH SCHOOL

This week we focus on Our Lady and it is a timely week to launch our trip to Lourdes in Easter 2014. This trip will be open to students who are currently in Year 9 or above. Information will be given in assemblies and at a meeting on Friday but any students who would like more information are encouraged to speak to Emma, Lay Chaplain. Emma and Br. John will be celebrating with a number of students who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this week – the congratulations and prayers of staff go with them.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

After Mass on Sunday, 26 May we will be holding a cake sale in the presbytery. If you can help by baking or donating cakes, please see Brenda or Josie.



Prayer for Communicators

Lord, let the good news of your marvellous deeds fall on every ear, and let all tongues rejoice in your wisdom, your compassion, your faithfulness, and your love. Make me bold and let me share your Word with those you desire to reach. As my heart overflows with your love, speak through me.

Let me proclaim your glory and your majesty, and tell of the kindness you have shown your people. This I ask, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CELEBRATE THE CHILD

The annual Mass to celebrate the work done with children in our parishes is once again going to be celebrated at the Cathedral this year on Sunday 30 June at 2.30pm. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Tom Williams and all children and their families and catechists from across the Archdiocese are invited to join in this special occasion.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL	£1,748.16
Money not included in last week's total	£ 213.92
Priests' Training Fund	£ 30.00
Donation in memory of Maurice Hurst	£ 10.00

The retiring collection this weekend at all churches in our archdiocese will be for the use of the Church in maintaining and improving her communications methods. The theme of the 47th World Communications Day is *Social Networks: portals of truth and faith; new spaces for evangelization.*

SICK

Please remember Teresa Doughtey, Jemima Oxendale, Bill Parr, Peggy Sharrock, Irene Winifred Smith and all who are sick at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED

John Lucas, Susan Burns, Desmond Sarsfield, Margaret Rogers, Ellen Hayes, Eileen Massey (O'Brien), William McHugh
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Matthew John Speight & Nicola Mairead Toher who were married at St Joseph's on Saturday 4th May
Congratulations also to Michael Watt & Catherine Anne Thompson who were married at Twelve Apostles Church on Saturday 4th May

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to: Millie Mae Ryan, Rocco-Lee Pennington, Millie Beau Johnson & Sophia Eleanor Brookes.



I baptize you in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit

CAFOD IF CAMPAIGN

If the World produces enough
food for everyone,
why doesn't everyone have
enough food?

In 2013 leaders of the world's most powerful countries, known as G8, will meet in the UK. Together, we're calling on those leaders to tackle global hunger. Will you join us?

IF people power can cancel debt and abolish apartheid, it can tackle hunger.

We can say 'charity begins at home' IF we recognise the planet is our home.

Enough Food For Everyone IF We All Act Together In 2013

For information how you can help visit cafod.org.uk/if

CAFOD
just one world

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

Charity

Back to School 70's & 80's

Leigh Lancastrian Squash Club
Sat 18th May, 7.30pm till late
Fancy dress optional
2 Great Female artists to get the party going
plus resident DJ
Including Hot Pot Supper
Only £10.00

All proceeds to Meningitis Trust

Fashion Show and Sale
at
Twelve Apostles Club
on
Friday, 17 May at 7.00pm
admission £3.00

High Street names at incredibly low prices
No seconds
Bar open
Ring 07719357069 or pay on the door

GUIDE NEWS

The guides at St Ambrose Barlow are holding an Indoor Car Boot Sale on Saturday 18th May 9.00a.m. - 2:00p.m. There will be refreshments available, bric a brac, Guide Dogs for the Blind, books, cards and more. To book a table ring Bernadette on 01942 895333 Come along for a cuppa and to support our guide unit. Many thanks Delia and Bernadette.

JUSTICE & PEACE COMMISSION

Annual Assembly 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

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 11 May

12A 5.30pm MASS Frank Stout

Sunday 12 May

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World Communications Day

StJ 8.30am MASS
SH 9.30am MASS Sylvia Withington
StJ 10.30am MASS
OL 11.00am MASS Robert Woods
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Monday 13 May

FEAST: DEDICATION OF LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon REQUIEM MASS John Lucas

Tuesday 14 May

FEAST: ST. MATTHIAS, APOSTLE (1st c.)

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

Wednesday 15 May *Weekday of Easter (Week 7)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon REQUIEM MASS Susan Burns
SH 7.00pm MASS John Wilcock

Thursday 16 May

Weekday of Easter

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
12A 9.30am MASS Monica Porter
SH 12.00noon MASS Nora Whittle
StJ 2.00pm FUNERAL SERVICE Ellen Hayes
OL 2.30pm REQUIEM MASS Eileen Massey (O'Brien)

Friday 17 May

Weekday of Easter

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 12.00noon MASS Hunt & Oldham families
StJ 12.00noon REQUIEM MASS Desmond Sarsfield
SH 1.30pm REQUIEM MASS Peter McGuinness

Saturday 18 May

Weekday of Easter

StJ 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
StJ 12.00noon MASS
12A 5.30pm MASS Mark Prescott

Sunday 19 May

SOLEMNITY: PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

Sacred Heart Lottery On 3 May the numbers drawn were 17, 20, 22. No winner of £64. Last week's estimated jackpot was £120.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 385, E Nuttall; £5, 408, N Jones; £3, 252, N Flynn; £2, 493, J Waterfield.
Bonus Ball 37, C Ellis.

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

