

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 21 JULY 2013



Responsorial Psalm

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are those who, with a noble and generous heart,
take the word of God to themselves,
and yield a harvest through their perseverance.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's Gospel we hear the story of Martha and Mary. One of them, Martha, concerns herself with getting the food ready and seeing to all the guests. Her sister, Mary, remains at the feet of Jesus, listening to his words. Our sympathy would probably be with Martha. It might seem that Jesus was unfair to her. After all, the Gospel places great emphasis on doing good deeds. Yet here Jesus praises, not the doer, but the one who sits and listens. It wasn't that Jesus didn't appreciate what Martha was doing. He was making a point for the benefit of people like Martha, who are essentially generous people but over-anxious about getting things done. It's not simply that she was busy, but that she was too busy. Always anxious and worried, she was the slave of her duties. Our daily lives are made up of a round of chores and duties which fall into two categories: the urgent and the essential. Many of the things we do could be said to be urgent, but only a few are truly essential. We have to distinguish between the two. Like Martha, we tend to give priority to the urgent. So how can we tell what our priorities are? The best way to do this is to reflect on our normal behaviour. What do we give most time to? What gets most of our energy? Whatever they are and whatever we do these are our priorities in life. It may take a tragedy or an emergency to put things into perspective and to remind us what really matters most.

When Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, the late Archbishop of Chicago, learned that he had terminal cancer he famously said, "I came to realize how much of what consumes our daily life is so trivial and insignificant." In today's Gospel, Mary got her priorities right. She dropped everything and listened to the words of Jesus. Many people would be able to identify more with Martha – busy doing many things yet constantly short of time. Even though it may be easier said than done, we do need to look beyond the jobs we have to do. We need to devote time to ourselves. Above all, we need time for reflection.

An American psychotherapist and writer, Thomas Moore, once said, ***"There is no doubt that some people could spare themselves the expense and trouble of psychotherapy simply by giving themselves a few minutes each day for quiet reflection. This simple act would provide what is missing in their lives, a period of non-doing that is essential nourishment to the soul."*** If we could spend some quiet time with God our lives would be calmer, less driven by anxiety and worry, and deeper and richer. In fact, everything would benefit – our spiritual life, our relationships, even our work. As we think about which of the two sisters we are most like, let us remember for a moment that it was Martha who, when her brother Lazarus died, still had faith in Jesus, enough faith for her to say, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Perhaps she learned from the episode in today's Gospel that doing was not everything. She learned that she needed stillness and a heart that should be open to God's Word. Let us pray that we may be like both Martha and Mary in the way we listen to God's Word and practice it in our lives together.

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

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday, 23 July at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S MASS INTENTIONS

Peter Dunn, John & Chris Heavey, John Heavey, Ray Madej, Irene Smith, John Topping, Mary Ellen Winstanley.

SACRED HEART PARISH HOLY HOUR

To mark the Year of Faith the Parish Holy Hour still 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 Stephen Brady.

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.

THANK YOU

The Legion of Mary would like to thank Graham Chancy who came to speak after Mass at Twelve Apostles and Sacred Heart last weekend. Please keep the work of the Legion of Mary in your thoughts and prayers. They do very valuable work in the local community. If you are interested in joining the Legion please contact St Joseph's presbytery any weekday and you will be put in contact with a member.

PARISH HOUSEKEEPER REQUIRED

Sacred Heart Presbytery, Leigh

5 hours per week, worked over 1-2 days

The work pattern is flexible to be confirmed with those selected for interview.

Salary £7.45 per hour

Closing Date Friday, 2 August 2013

Full details and an application pack can be downloaded from the website at

www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs

Alternatively, an application pack can be requested from Gillian Sener on 0151 522 1101



Statement on the passing of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act

In receiving Royal Assent, the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act marks a watershed in English law and heralds a profound social change. This fact is acknowledged by both advocates and opponents of the Act.

Marriage has, over the centuries, been publicly recognised as a stable institution which establishes a legal framework for the committed relationship between a man and a woman and for the upbringing and care of their children. It has, for this reason, rightly been recognised as unique and worthy of legal protection.

The new Act breaks the existing legal links between the institution of marriage and sexual complementarity. With this new legislation, marriage has now become an institution in which openness to children, and with it the responsibility on fathers and mothers to remain together to care for children born into their family unit, are no longer central. That is why we were opposed to this legislation on principle.

Along with others, we have expressed real concern about the deficiencies in the process by which this legislation came to Parliament, and the speed with which it has been rushed through. We are grateful particularly therefore to those Parliamentarians in both Houses who have sought to improve the Bill during its passage, so that it enshrines more effective protection for religious freedom.

A particular concern for us has also been the lack of effective protection for Churches which decide not to opt-in to conducting same sex marriages. Amendments made in the House of Lords though have significantly strengthened the legal protections in the Act for the Churches. We also welcome the Government's amendment to the Public Order Act which makes it clear beyond doubt that "discussion or criticism of marriage which concerns the sex of the parties to the marriage shall not be taken of itself to be threatening or intended to stir up hatred". Individuals are therefore protected from criminal sanction under the Public Order Act when discussing or expressing disagreement with same sex marriage.

In other respects, however, the amendments we suggested have not been accepted. We were concerned to provide legislative clarity for schools with a religious character. This was in order to ensure that these schools will be able to continue to teach in accordance with their religious tenets. Given the potential risk that future guidance given by a Secretary of State for education regarding sex and relationships education could now conflict with Church teaching on marriage, we were disappointed that an amendment to provide this clarity was not accepted. The Minister made clear in the House of Lords, however, that in "having regard" to such guidance now or in the future schools with a religious character can "take into account other matters, including in particular relevant religious tenets", and that "having regard to a provision does not mean that it must be followed assiduously should there be good reason for not doing so". These assurances go some way to meeting the concerns we and others expressed.

We were disappointed that a number of other amendments to safeguard freedom of speech and the rights of civil registrars to conscientious objection were not passed. But Ministerial assurances have been made that no one can suffer detriment or unfavourable treatment in employment because she or he holds the belief that marriage can only be between a man and a woman.

The legal and political traditions of this country are founded on a firm conviction concerning the rights of people to hold and express their beliefs and views, at the same time as respecting those who differ from them. It is important, at this moment in which deeply held and irreconcilable views of marriage have been contested, to affirm and strengthen this tradition.

+ Vincent Nichols + Peter Smith
President and Vice-President of the Catholic Bishops
Conference of England and Wales

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,568.33
Apostleship of the Sea £ 432.92

APPEALS & SECOND COLLECTIONS

Next weekend there will be a second collection to support Day for Life

Proceeds of the collection will go to The Anscombe Bioethics Centre (formerly the Linacre Centre for Healthcare Ethics) and other life-related activities supported by the Church.

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to: Scarlett Annabell Clarke, Bianka Hirkova, Aleisha May Jackson, Freya Eudine Eaton

SICK

Please remember Richard Nelson, Isabella Booth, Geoff Prescott and all who are sick at this time.

LATELY DEAD

Christopher Heavey, Peter William Dunn, John Fisher, Roman Grosvenor

Eternal rest grant unto them....



ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The Departure Mass for this year's Lourdes Pilgrimage will take place at St Margaret Mary's, Pilch Lane, Knotty Ash L14 0JG today, Sunday, 21 July at 3.00pm. Everyone welcome!

'LOURDES AT HOME' DAY This Thursday 25 July

Lists are at the back of church for those who wish to be anointed.

Could Eucharistic Ministers please speak with the people they visit to see if they wish to attend and sign the list for them.

The day takes place at St Ambrose Barlow with
Mass at 8.00am,
Exposition till 11.30am
Midday Mass with Anointing of the Sick 12.00 noon
Holy Hour with Torchlight Procession 7.30 – 8.30pm

After each Service refreshments will be offered.

We need many helpers to prepare for the day and ensure it goes smoothly.

The Night Before

The tents will need erecting and we will need plenty of strong willing hands to move chairs and prepare the grounds, hall and church for the following day.

Helpers will be required from 7.00pm- 9.00pm

On The Day

We will need a coordinator for transport to ensure that those

wishing to be anointed have transport. Please ring Fr Cooper on 01942 673517 if you are able to help.

Volunteers to bring people to the midday Mass.

Marshals to direct cars in the car parks.

People who will help distribute food and drinks at the end of each Service (especially the midday Mass)

Also those who will assist the elderly and those in wheelchairs to their places.

Young people will be especially welcome as volunteers because in Lourdes they are an important part of the week and their help and assistance is a special feature of the week. They are also involved in the Liturgy as they form a choir for the Service.

SRI LANKAN STREET CHILDREN CHARITY EVENING



**Friday, 2 August at 7.30pm
in Sacred Heart church parish hall
£1 (refreshments inc.)**

tickets from Mary and Vera at St Joseph's, Susan at 12 Apostles, Kathleen at Our Lady of the Rosary or Julia at Sacred Heart: all will be pleased to receive donations, raffle prizes, and/or gifts for the stalls.

Reunion

50's & 60's Live Rock 'n' Roll Band

With DJ Adam

Saturday 3rd August

St Richard's Parish/Jubilee Hall

7.30pm - Late

£5.00 per ticket Tel: 01942 882125

In Aid of HCPT.

PARISH FEAST DAYS

As in previous years, there will be a special Mass to celebrate the Parish Feast Days of St Margaret Clitherow and St Edmund Arrowsmith. This year, the celebration will take place at Twelve Apostles, Westleigh, on Thursday, 29 August at 7.30pm. More details nearer the time.

MOUNT ST JOSEPH'S

Former students of Mount St Joseph's will be sad to hear that Miss Agnes Ball - a teacher for many years at the school has died aged 90. Her Requiem was at Our Lady's Aspall on Friday, July 19 at 11.00am. Please remember her in your prayers.

NATIONAL JUSTICE & PEACE CONFERENCE

Please pray for all present from Friday to Sunday, 21st., "Breaking Open the Word: A Call to Faith in Action".

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 July

12A 5.30pm MASS Ann Mary Wilson LD

Sunday 21 July

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

StJ 8.30am MASS
SH 9.30am MASS Peter McGuinness
StJ 10.30am MASS
OL 11.00am MASS Special Intention
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Monday 22 July *Memorial: St. Mary Magdalen*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon MASS

Tuesday 23 July **FEAST: ST. BRIDGET, Religious (14th c.)**

StJ 8.30am **NO Morning Prayer**
SH 12.00noon MASS Richard Meason
SH 3.00pm EXPOSITION & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for one hour

Wednesday 24 July *Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 16)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 10.30am FUNERAL SERVICE Peter William Dunn
StJ 12.00noon MASS
SH 7.00pm MASS Carmel Clohessy, sick

Thursday 25 July **FEAST: ST. JAMES, APOSTLE**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
12A **NO MASS** "Lourdes at home" day at St. Ambrose's
SH **NO MASS**

Friday 26 July *Memorial: Saints Joachim and Anne*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon MASS
OL 12.00noon MASS Ellen McDonald

Saturday 27 July *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

OL 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
OL 12.00noon MASS Desmond Sarsfield
12A 5.30pm MASS People of St Edmund Arrowsmith parish and people of St Margaret Clitherow parish

Sunday 28 July **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)** *(Day for Life)*

StJ 8.30am MASS
SH 9.30am MASS Christopher McCall
StJ 10.30am MASS
OL 11.00am MASS Graham Brownbill
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 12 July the numbers drawn were 10, 20, 27. No winner of £130. Last week's estimated jackpot was £200.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 156, J Evans; £5, 272, N Flynn; £3, 172, B Ryan; £2, 450, K Jones.
Bonus Ball 32, Debbie Davies.

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
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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

