

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 4 AUGUST 2013



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Like the famous story of the prodigal Son, the young man in today's Gospel wants his share of the inheritance that should be divided between himself and his brother. He brings his request to Jesus since rabbis were expected to give judgement on a whole range of subjects concerning law. This included civil, criminal and religious questions. But Jesus refuses to take up the role of the judge. Instead he communicates as a storyteller, inviting the young man to take his wisdom from the story rather than his rights from the law. Instead of dividing the inheritance between the two brothers, Jesus focuses on why the inheritance has divided the two brothers. Where Jesus is, a story is sure to follow. A rich farmer is blessed with an abundance of crops. His reaction is not to rejoice with others but to talk to himself until he has worked out a way to store all this abundance and keep it secure. In looking after himself, he focuses on what he owns rather than on what he can share. His life is governed by his own possessions: his crops, his barns, his grain, his goods. He thinks that he owns his future and that nothing can spoil it in any way. His world is seen in terms of what he owns rather than who he is. The rich man, in Jesus' story, is dead already. He is buried up to his neck in his own grain. His world is unrelated to the fortune or fate of any other human being. He thinks that his possessions will insure his future when in fact they will go to anyone but him. The rich man dies twice: he dies in life and he dies leaving it. His funeral only confirms what has happened a long time ago.

God very rarely appears in parables, but he appears in this one and calls the rich man a fool. The rich man is a real idiot in the truest sense of the word. The word idiot comes from the Greek "idiotes", meaning "the one who is alone." Although he is made in the image of his creator, he does not live as the creator does. As St Paul says in today's Second Reading, our new self must be renewed in the image of our creator. God's creativity moves out to touch the lives of others. He shares his richness with others. In the end, God gives himself away. And that is why the rich man is alone. He does not share any of his goods, or himself for that matter, with anyone else. In contrast to the rich man in Jesus' story, Jesus spends himself. He spends his whole life sharing his talent for forgiveness, his insight, his love, his energy, his imagination, his prayer, his stories. The list is endless. All these qualities create new life for others. Jesus keeps nothing to himself because he regards nothing as his: he says that everything he is and has comes from the Father. What Jesus owns, God owns too. This way of living creatively is something Jesus hopes for in his own disciples. As his disciples, the inheritance that Jesus has given us is not to divide brother from brother, or sister from sister, but to unite people in the gifts God has given to us and for us all. The inheritance we have received from God is one we are pledged to give away. In Gospel terms, this makes us rich and blessed and can make our world, and the world of those around us, a better place.



Atherton and Leigh foodbank is a franchise of the Trussell Trust - a Christian organisation with stated mission, vision and principles.

Food has been provided for 325 local families over the past three months. The food is collected via a voucher issued by local agencies to ensure that it is those who are in most need who are supported. Food is distributed from a dedicated centre at Atherton Parish Church. The reception is arranged as a café so that there is opportunity to talk to those in receipt of the vouchers while the food is packaged according to the specified need.

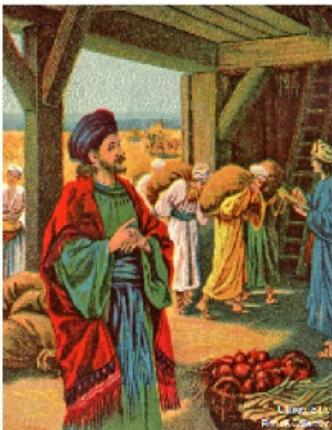
ASDA (Leigh) and TESCO (Leigh and Atherton) stores have kindly agreed that Food can be collected from donors on eleven dates in total, from February to December 2013. At TESCO Atherton, 1.25 tonnes of food was collected over two days in February.

If you are interested in getting involved and helping to collect and distribute food, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

**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 WOMAN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday, 6 August at 8.00pm in the Side Hall of St Joseph's Main Hall. All ladies welcome.

THANK YOU

Fr Anton has sent his thanks for all the messages of sympathy, prayers cards and Masses he has received for his father. He is very grateful for all the kind support.

ST JOSEPH'S SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting for the Support Group will be on Monday, 5 August at 7.30pm in the presbytery. Fundraising, in particular the 2013 Autumn Fayre, is the main topic of the meeting which is open to all parishioners and everyone is welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S MASS INTENTIONS

Ashton Family, Vernon Byrne, Alf Case, Margaret Featherstone, John Fisher, John & Chris Heavey, Terry Malley, Deceased Members of the Manfredi Family, Moylan Family, Betty Sroka, Special Intention, Special Intention & Thanksgiving to Our Lord, Our Lady, St Blaise & St Teresa.

SACRED HEART PARISH HOLY HOUR

The Year of Faith Parish Holy Hour on Tuesdays is taking a holiday break during the month of August. It will return in September. The Sanctuary Lamp candle that burns all this week was gifted in memory of Francis Littlewood.

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. No Bingo this week (holidays). Bingo back Wednesday after at 8.30pm in the Lounge.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Our coffee morning will be held in the parish house after Mass this morning – all are welcome.
Just a reminder that before any information or notice is displayed in church, permission is required from the parish priest. Such permission is also required before any fund raising event begins, especially where it is proposed to sell tickets on church premises.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL	21 July	£1,652.59
	28 July	£1,380.74
Donation		£ 200.00
Day for Life		£ 377.43

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to: Lucie Collins, Jake William McGuire.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Paul James Waters & Tamara Cartwright who were married at St Joseph's last Friday.

SICK

Please remember Harvey Dowell, and all who are sick at this time.

LATELY DEAD

Maria Dackiw, Shirley Florence Barry.
Eternal rest grant unto them

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.

CHARITY EVENING

A big thank you to all who supported in so many ways the Sri Lankan Street Children on Friday. Financial result next week

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

Monday 5 August

StJ 8.30am
StJ 12.00noon

Tuesday 6 August

StJ 8.30am
SH 11.30am
SH
SH 7.00pm

Wednesday 7 August

StJ 8.30am
StJ 12.00noon
SH 7.00pm

Thursday 8 August

StJ 8.30am
12A 9.30am
12A 12.00noon
SH 12.00noon

Friday 9 August

StJ 8.30am
StJ 12.00noon
OL 12.00noon

Saturday 10 August

12A 11.00am
12A 12.00noon
12A 5.30pm

Sunday 11 August

StJ 8.30am

SH 9.30am
StJ 10.30am
OL 11.00am
StR 6.30pm

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 18)

Morning Prayer
MASS

FEAST: TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD (Year C)

Morning Prayer
REQUIEM MASS Maria Dackiw
NO EXPOSITION
MASS Doris Stout

Weekday in Ordinary Time

Morning Prayer
MASS
MASS Harvey Dowell (very sick 3 year old)

Memorial: St. Dominic O.P. P.

Morning Prayer
No Mass
FUNERAL MASS John Fisher
NO MASS

FEAST: ST. TERESA BENE- DICTA OF THE CROSS V.M.

Morning Prayer
MASS
MASS Special intention

FEAST: ST LAWRENCE, DEACON

Exposition & Reconciliation
MASS Special intention (AR)
MASS Kathleen & Mac
McLoughlin (LD)

NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

MASS People of St Edmund
Arrowsmith and people of St
Margaret Clitherow parish
MASS Cecilia Sharrock
MASS
MASS Brian Smith
SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 26 July the numbers drawn were 7, 10, 23. No winner of £252. Last week's estimated jackpot was £300.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 479, K Jones; £5, 042, C Ellis; £3, 259, J Ramsdale; £2, 005, R Ellis.
Bonus Ball 37, C Ellis.