

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 11 AUGUST 2013



**LEIGH
PASTORAL AREA**
www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk

**St. Edmund
Arrowsmith
Parish**

**St. Joseph,
Sacred Heart,
Twelve Apostles,
and
Our Lady of the
Rosary
churches**



Responsorial Psalm

Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's readings we hear Abraham described as a man "who was already as good as dead." He is an old man and his wife has passed child-bearing years a long time ago. For these two nomadic pensioners, the prospect of having their own children seems highly unlikely. But their faith in God enables them to believe what they cannot see, to build up a vision of what the future may be like. They act on this vision of faith and they are rewarded with a son. They set out for the Promised Land "without knowing where they are going". Their map is their faith in God. When Abraham and Sarah reached their Promised Land, they lived there as strangers. They did not have the same rights as the citizens who belong there. They believe that their descendants will enjoy being citizens of the land. But Abraham looks even further beyond as he looks out of his tent: he looks to another city where the founder and the architect and the builder will be God. Abraham's faith enables him to see beyond everything he is experiencing at this time. It allows him to see God's plan for him and his descendants in the future. As Tennessee Williams once wrote, "Time is the longest distance between two places." Abraham looks to another time and to a place in which he can settle as a true citizen. He looks forward to a place he can call home. In this homeland he will share the address of God himself.

Abraham's deep faith in God enabled him to dare. Wherever he went he took his treasure with him. His treasure was part of him. He could not be separated from it even in time of trial. Abraham's real treasure was his faith in God, and his heart was in the same place as his treasure. This is something which Jesus hopes will be true of his own disciples. Jesus says that "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." But the question that needs to be answered is, "What is our real treasure?" So what is it? What do we value most in our lives? If we were all to list honestly what we really value it would reveal so much about our real selves. Today's Gospel asks us whether our treasure is something that will NOT fail us? The kind of treasure Jesus talks about is the kind that cannot be stolen or destroyed. If we had to take just one thing from our homes what would it be? Abraham risked everything, but his risk was funded from his real treasure, his faith in God. Jesus risked everything too, but his risk was funded from the treasure in his heart – his great love of God the father. Is our real treasure rich enough to fund the risks the Gospel challenges us to take?



Many of you may be aware that a number of Foodbanks have opened in the past year or so. They are much needed in this present financial climate as they help to feed 100s of families each week. The primary sponsorship for the Atherton Foodbank came from the local Churches Together group and many Church members have become actively involved in the work of Foodbank. They are now looking for Churches in Leigh to join the Foodbank by becoming Church champions, committee members and volunteers, especially in the distribution centres. If you would like to help Foodbank in Leigh or Atherton please provide your name and contact details (email if you have one) and send them to Atherton & Leigh Foodbank, 2, The Convent, Orchard Lane, Leigh, WN7 1EF or email info@athertonleigh.foodbank.org.uk

Atherton & Leigh Foodbank have also organized training days for those interested in St. John's Parish Church, Atherton, on Monday, August 19 12.30-4.30pm. there will also be an open meeting, for anyone who simply wants to get to know more about the Foodbank, to see where and how they can get more involved, in Kingsleigh Methodist Church this Tuesday at 7.30pm.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH NEWS ST JOSEPH'S MASS INTENTIONS

Mary Connor, Patrick & Deirdre Anne Costello, John Fisher, Silver Wedding Thanksgiving.

READERS

We are urgently in need of more readers at both the 8.30am and 10.30am Sunday Masses at St. Joseph's. The commitment would be approximately once every six weeks and a rota is provided. If you feel that you are able to help us in this area, please contact Fr. Cooper, or Kath Roberts on 01942 601878.

YEAR OF FAITH

During exposition and Reconciliation at St Joseph's next Saturday there will be a holy hour of readings from scripture and Vatican II Council decree on the Apostolate of Lay People.

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 the Yates family.

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.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL	£2,266.60
Day for life	£ 38.80

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to: Grace Alyssia Stockton Beesley.

SICK

Please remember Teresa Cooney, Fred Lyth, Vernon Byrne and all who are sick at this time.

LATELY DEAD

Bernard (Billy) Lee
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

Thanks again to all who supported the Sri Lankan Street Children. £2,673 was raised.

Leigh Catenian Association

Dance to Swing Time

St Richard's Parish Hall, Atherton
Dress Smart casual

14th September 2013

7.00 for 7.30pm - 11.30pm

Tickets £10.00 Buffet included

Available from Ratcliffe's Bike Shop Bradshawgate

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday 10 August

12A	5.30pm	MASS Kathleen & Mac McLoughlin (LD)
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Sunday 11 August

StJ	8.30am	NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C) MASS People of St Edmund Arrowsmith and people of St Margaret Clitherow parish
SH	9.30am	MASS Cecilia Sharrock
StJ	10.30am	MASS
OL	11.00am	MASS Brian Smith
StR	6.30pm	SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Monday 12 August

StJ	8.30am	Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 19) Morning Prayer
OL	12.00noon	MASS John Purcell
StJ	12.00noon	MASS

Tuesday 13 August

StJ	8.30am	Weekday in Ordinary Time Morning Prayer
SH	12.00noon	MASS John Fisher LD

Wednesday 14 August Memorial: St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe P.M.

StJ	8.30am	Morning Prayer
StJ	12.00noon	MASS
SH	7.00pm	1ST MASS OF THE HOLYDAY Seamus Conroy

Thursday 15 August

StJ	8.30am	HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION SOLEMNITY: ASSUMPTION OF THE B.V.M. Morning Prayer
12A	9.30am	MASS John Fisher L.D.
StJ	12.00noon	MASS
OL	7.00pm	Special Intention

Friday 16 August

StJ	8.30am	Weekday in Ordinary Time Morning Prayer
StJ	12.00noon	MASS

Saturday 17 August

StJ	11.00am	Weekday in Ordinary Time Exposition & Reconciliation
StJ	12.00noon	MASS
12A	5.30pm	MASS Karol Gredecki

Sunday 18 August

StJ	8.30am	TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C) MASS
SH	9.30am	MASS Jim & Mary Gore Ruby Wedding
StJ	10.30am	MASS
OL	11.00am	MASS Joe Moore
StR	6.30pm	SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 2 August the numbers drawn were 2, 7, 20. No winner of £312. Last week's estimated jackpot was £370.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 334, Michale; £5, 012, S Wilkinson; £2, 292, B&H Edwards; £2, 048, B Woods. **Bonus Ball** 15, N Flynn.

PASTORAL AREA TEAM

Priest: Fr. Stephen Cooper	Tel: 01942 673517
Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady	Tel: 01942 673517
Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood	Tel: 0161 790 2390
Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon	Tel: 01942 883395
Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson, Dennis Vint	