

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 1 SEPTEMBER 2013



Responsorial Psalm

In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

When Jesus goes to dine at the house of the Pharisee, he notices how all the other guests have already made sure of their own positions. The atmosphere is not relaxed. Everyone there is scrutinizing this young preacher. What will he do? What will he say? How will he behave? Jesus decides not to disappoint them. He tells them a story about going to a wedding. The wedding story reminds us of the importance of conducting ourselves with humility and not putting ourselves in places of honour. Jesus' story suggests that we are all invited to the wedding, not just some of us. We all have a seat at the table. Demanding or expecting special treatment is no way to behave. Jesus then goes on to tell a second story, about the poor and underprivileged, and how they never get invitations to a wedding, never get invited to share in life's resources and riches.

One of the problems with the Pharisees is that they liked to put people in an order of importance and to make sure that the privileges they had garnered for themselves did not get squandered on others. The Gospel has to make ourselves ask: are there any times in our lives when we are like the Pharisees? Do we look down on people the same way that they did? Jesus challenges us to think about the plight of the poor and needy in our lives today. It is easy to feed people and share with others who can repay us. Who knows, they might even give us more in return. But what about giving without the hope of receiving in return, especially giving to those who are in need?

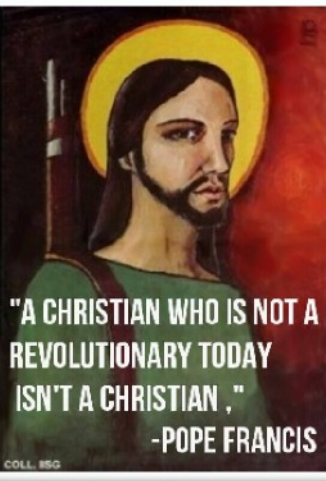
In recent times the Church has once again encouraged us to use the practice of fasting in order to show our love for God. It isn't something we HAVE to do but it is a good thing to do every once in a while, not only to give honour to God, but to associate ourselves with the poor. The act of fasting connects us with those who have no food. Perhaps, when we do fast, it allows us to think of the plight of those who hunger in the hope that this will want to make us help them even more in the future. Sending money to good causes is obviously a very good thing to do, but if we do not join those who are poor and hungry then we may never truly feel for them.

Our world is always prone to living according to the way of the Pharisees. Our human nature clings to comfort and privilege and position. And, although "the poor are with us always", we sometimes feel more comfortable if we keep them at a safe distance from our own door. In his famous "I have a dream" speech 50 years ago this week, Martin Luther King campaigned for freedom and justice for ALL people. The speech was unique in that he spoke about EVERYONE. A few years ago a fundraiser for CAFOD spoke in Liverpool Cathedral. He began by using bad language. He said, "Every day in parts of our world, 1000's of people die because of the lack of food that we take for granted and no one gives a ... (*insert your own word!*) And now, all of you here are more upset that I have used bad language in church than by the fact that today 1000's of people will die because they do not have enough food." In the Kingdom of God, as the Letter to the Hebrews states, we are ALL first-born children of God and equal citizens of Heaven. Do we show that in the way that we live our lives today?

**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 ST JOSEPH'S MASS INTENTIONS

Mary & James William Atkinson, Stella Bridge, Tom Conlin, Patrick Kelly, Bernard Billy Lee, Dorothy Lever, Marlene O'Neill, Robert Woods, Christopher Yates, Special Intention, Special Intention & Thanksgiving St Teresa & St Claire, Wedding Anniversary,

WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday, 3 September at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

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.

CATECHISTS

As I am sure you are aware, we have four weeks in every ten when there is no longer a Little Church. This is because we are so short of Children's Catechists. We just need another two to four people to fill that gap. There is a lot of support and help. All the catechists are very friendly and supportive. Could you please consider helping your church in this way. Please speak to Fr Steve or one of the Catechists if you would like to know more. Thank you.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Everyone is welcome to our coffee morning after Mass today Sunday, 1 September.

SACRED HEART SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING

Because of holidays September's coffee morning will be held on 15 September. It will return to the usual second Sunday in October and subsequent months.

PARISH HOLY HOUR

To mark the Year of Faith the Parish Holy Hour resumes 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 Peter Cosgrave.

TWELVE APOSTLES

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.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Hobby & Craft Fair Sunday, 23 October 11 till 3.

WEEKEND COURSE

Friday evening, 27 September to Sunday, 29 September 2013 will be a welcoming and affirming weekend; offering a chance to reflect share and pray together at Loyola Hall Jesuit Spirituality Centre, Prescott, Merseyside. This can be attended on a residential or non-residential basis. Contact www.loyolahall.co.uk or phone 0151 426 4137

NEW ALTAR SERVERS WANTED

If you have made your First Holy Communion, you are invited to become part of our Altar Servers Team. Please speak to Fr Kieran or Fr Steve after Mass. Being an Altar Server is a great way of helping in your Church and learning more about the Mass.

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Welcome back to all our schools. We hope that you have all had a very restful and enjoyable holiday. Welcome especially to all the new starters and the Year 7's at St Mary's. We hope you soon settle in and enjoy your time at school.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL OPEN DAY

The pupils and staff at St Mary's would like to invite you to attend their Open Day on Saturday, 28 September 2013 9.30am - 12.00 noon for September 2014 intake. The purpose of the day is to provide an opportunity for Year 6 students and their parents to see for themselves why St Mary's has such an outstanding reputation in the local community for its academic performance and pastoral care. The day will begin at 9.30am with a talk from the Head teacher, Mr Dawson. The talk will be repeated at 10.30am. There will be an opportunity to tour the school and meet students and staff. (Please arrive early if you wish to tour the whole school).

For further information please contact us on 01942 884144.

SYRIAN CRISIS - CAFOD

The alleged use of chemical weapons in Damascus last week highlights how catastrophic the humanitarian situation has become for millions of people in Syria. We are continuing to support our local Church partners as they provide aid to the most vulnerable on all sides of the conflict. We are also calling on MPs in the UK not to rush into supporting any form of military intervention. "The attacks last week shocked the world, and it's easy to see why the government is keen to do something in response," says Anne Street, CAFOD's Head of Humanitarian Policy. "But in a very complex situation where we know the only solution will be through diplomacy and dialogue, MPs must consider if any military action would serve only to fuel the war and jeopardise the chances of ending it." Church leaders in Syria and Lebanon have warned of the possible consequences of Western military action. Pope Francis called for peace during his Sunday Angelus in St Peter's Square. "It is not confrontation that offers hope to resolve problems, but rather the ability to meet and dialogue," he said. Over the last few months, CAFOD has supported efforts to push for a peaceful solution to the crisis in Syria. We are also calling on all sides to respect international humanitarian law, and to allow aid to reach all those caught up in the conflict. CAFOD is one of relatively few UK aid agencies able to support the delivery of aid inside Syria: the extensive community networks of the Church, even as a minority faith, mean that is well placed to provide aid in some of the worst hit and most inaccessible parts of the country. We are also working with Church partners to support Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. Thanks to your generous donations to our Syria Crisis appeal, we have been able to commit more than £1.8 million to respond to the crisis. But the needs on the ground are enormous, and we urgently need to scale up our work.

Please pray for a peaceful solution to the Syrian Crisis. If you wish to donate to the CAFOD appeal, visit www.cafod.org.uk

CAFOD
just one world

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,457.57

APPEALS & SECOND COLLECTIONS

This weekend at three of our churches there will be an appeal from the Missionary Sisters, Servants of the Holy Spirit. They already came to St Joseph's on 30 June.

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to: Rose Jean Lowe & Colton Michael Patrick Dunne Higson

SICK

Please remember Patricia Carlson, Teresa Doughty, Kitty Gallagher, Iside Greco, George Gibbons, Margaret Poyner, Peggy Sharrock, Morris Smith, Elsie Stanley, and all who are sick at this time.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary on Thursday, 5 September at 7.30pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

VISIT BY FR PAT COLLINS TO SOUTHPORT

Fr Pat Collins will be speaking on Thursday, 5 September at the Agape Mass at St Mary's, Prescott Road, Aughton L39 6TA at 8.00 pm. On Saturday, 7 September, he will be speaking at a Day of Renewal at The Marian Centre, St Marie on the Sands, Southport PR9 0EJ from 10.00 am – 3.00 pm. Tickets £10 from Cathy Cameron (01704 224286). Fr Pat will end his visit by speaking on Sunday, 8 September at the second of the Life in the Spirit seminars at St Patrick's, Churchtown PR9 9TJ at 7.30pm. Everyone is very welcome to any of the events. For any further information, please contact Archie and Cathy Cameron (01704 224286).

BEST CARE OF THE DYING PATIENT

In the light of the Neuberger Review of the Liverpool Care Pathway, a conference has been organised for Priests, Deacons, Bereavement Teams, Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Funeral Ministers, Healthcare Workers, and anyone involved or interested in the care of the dying. The conference will take place on **Monday, 14 October, 2.00 - 4.30pm or 7.00 - 9.30pm** at LACE. If you would like to attend this conference, further information and booking forms are available at the back of churches.



SANDYMOUNT HOUSE OF PRAYER

"The gift of Mary"

Sandymount House of Prayer at Blundellsands will be holding a day retreat next Sunday, 8 September to celebrate the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The day will begin at 10.00am and finish at 4.00pm. It will be led by Philip McParland and will include Mass and a time for reflection. If you would like to attend this retreat, phone Sandymount on 0151 924 4850 to reserve a place. The cost of the day is £13. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided.

ST JOSEPH'S PLAYERS

Productions at
St Joseph's Concert Hall
Chapel Street
Leigh
WN7 2PR

The Hollow

A murder mystery by Agatha Christie
Produced by Donna Wood.
Tuesday 10 September to Saturday 14 September
7.30pm

Billy Liar

By Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall
"A brilliant comedy"
Produced by Nicola Reynolds
Tuesday 15 to Saturday 19 October
7.30pm

For these productions the ticket price is £8: you can pay at the door on the night. Advance tickets are available from Ratcliffe's Bike Shop, Bradshawgate, Leigh.

Our annual pantomime is

Beauty and the Beast

Written and produced by Doreen Johnson
Wednesday 22 January to Saturday 1 February 2014

Advance tickets for the pantomime will be on sale during the 2013 September and October productions.

LEIGH CATENIAN ASSOCIATION

Dance to Swing Time

St Richard's Parish Hall, Atherton

14 September 2013

7.00 for 7.30pm - 11.30pm

Tickets £10.00 Buffet included
available from Ratcliffe's Bike Shop Bradshawgate

OUR CATHOLIC PRAYERS

THE CONFITEOR

The Confiteor is one of the three alternative forms of the Penitential Act that immediately follows the Introductory Rites at the beginning of Mass. The English translation according to the third typical edition of the Roman Missal can easily trip you up if you are used to praying from memory. Here is the "new version".

All recite together:

**I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,**

And, striking their breast, they say:

**through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;**

Then they continue:

**therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

The absolution by the Priest follows

**May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.**

Amen

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

12A = Twelve Apostles, StJ = Saint Joseph, SH = Sacred Heart, OL = Our Lady of the Rosary, StR = St Richard

Sat 31 August

12A 5.30pm

Weekday in Ordinary Time

MASS Vera Hilton

Sun 1 September

StJ 8.30am

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

SH 9.30am

MASS

StJ 10.30am

MASS Maureen Lewin

OL 11.00am

MASS

StR 6.30pm

MASS Rita Vint

SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Mon 2 September

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 22)

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon

MASS

Tue 3 September

FEAST: ST. GREGORY THE GREAT, pope, D. (6th/7th c.)

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

SH 3.00pm

EXPOSITION & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for one hour

SH 7.00pm

MASS Mandy Barwick

Wed 4 September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon

MASS

SH 7.00pm

MASS Anne Marsh

Thu 5 September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

12A 9.30am

MASS John Fisher LD

SH 12.00noon

MASS Liam Bradshaw

Fri 6 September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon

MASS

(OL) 12.00noon

MASS at Moss Bank Court Jemima Oxendale

Sat 7 September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12A 11.00am

Exposition & Reconciliation

12A 12.00noon

MASS John Fisher LD

12A 5.30pm

MASS Pat Atherton

Sun 8 September

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

Racial Justice Day

StJ 8.30am

MASS

SH 9.30am

MASS Don Kennedy

StJ 10.30am

MASS People of St Edmund Arrowsmith and people of St Margaret Clitherow parish

OL 11.00am

MASS Margaret Redmond

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 23 August the numbers drawn were 8, 26, 29. No winner of £50. Last week's estimated jackpot was £100.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 428, P Purcell; £5, 190, M Smith; £3, 463, N Flynn; £2, 230, A Simpson.

Bonus Ball 01, T 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
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Tel: 0161 790 2390
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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