

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

3 NOVEMBER 2013



Responsorial Psalm

I will bless your name for ever,
O God my King.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

We all have different images of God. Sometimes we imagine him to be the great accountant who keeps an exact record of everyone's sins. Nothing escapes his attention and he waits eagerly for the day when he can face us with the punishing record of our sins. This depiction of God is a world away from the image of God presented in today's First Reading. The author of the Book of Wisdom declares that God will ... "Be merciful to all, because you can do all things and overlook men's sins so that they can repent ... you love all that exists." God is celebrated as the great lover of life who forgives the sinner and welcomes them back to him.

This attitude to sin is evident in today's Gospel, when we see how Jesus treats the tax collector, Zacchaeus. Jesus was passing through Jericho on his way to Jerusalem. Jericho was a wealthy city, an important customs centre on the trade route between Jerusalem and the East. It was the ideal spot for an ambitious tax collector. Zacchaeus, as chief tax collector, would seem to have more than distinguished himself in exploiting others. Although his occupation made him very rich, it would have made him an obvious target for the hatred of his fellow Jews. Tax collectors were put in the same social bracket as thieves, murderers and prostitutes. And because they were in the employment of the Romans, they were regarded as traitors by their own people.

Confined to his own small circle of friends, Zacchaeus would have led a lonely and isolated life. His riches gave him a loveless privilege. But he had heard of this prophet from Nazareth and his reputation for dealing with sinners and outcasts. Zacchaeus wants to see Jesus – the Gospel does NOT say that he wants to MEET Jesus. The tax collector is too small to see over the crowd, so he climbs a sycamore tree. From there, he could overlook Jesus as he passes by. Jesus, however, notices Zacchaeus. He initiates the contact and calls Zacchaeus by name. He does not shout condemnation at him. He does not exact repentance from him. Rather, he overlooks the sins of Zacchaeus and invites him down from his lonely perch: "Hurry, because I must stay at your house today." Zacchaeus is delighted to welcome Jesus to his home. The crowd, however, are enraged. But Jesus is more interested in the outcast than the outraged. The crowd is transfixed by the sins Zacchaeus has committed. Jesus sees beyond the sins to the person Zacchaeus can become. The effect is instantaneous. Zacchaeus makes a public amendment for his wrongdoing. Jesus does not make a demand for repentance from Zacchaeus before eating with him. Because of Jesus' attitude to sinners in welcoming them and eating with them, Jesus gives them the opportunity for repentance in an atmosphere of acceptance. This is why Zacchaeus comes down from the tree. This is why we will all come down from our lonely perches to face the one who loves us and wants us to repent. The story of Zacchaeus can continue to be told in all of us 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

Eileen Appleton, Sr Megan, Liam Barker, Alf Case, Eva Worthington.

CHRISTMAS CARD SALE

Christmas cards will be on sale at the back of church after both Masses.

MISSION BOXES

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the Presbytery on Monday, 4 November. Thank you.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting of the Parish Support Group will be on Monday, 4 November at 7.30pm. The main topic for discussion will be the Autumn Fayre. If you have any ideas or would like to help, please attend the meeting, if you are not able to attend, you can contact St Joseph's presbytery and leave your details.

ST JOSEPH'S AUTUMN FAYRE - Request for Donations

This Years Fayre is on Sunday, 24 November after the 10.30am Mass. Donations of Good as New Handbags, Books & DVDs, Bottles for the Bottle Tombola, (alcohol & non-alcoholic), Gift Tombola prizes, small new items valued at about £1 suitable for Game Prizes would all be appreciated. You can leave them at the presbytery during the week or bring them to Mass on Sunday.

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 the Ruane family.

REPOSITORY

A new supply of Christmas cards is now available to buy in our little shop in church. The shop is next door to the confessional on the right hand aisle and stocks a wide range of religious items both for yourself and suitable for gifts.

SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS FAIR

... on Saturday, 30 November. The organizers will be grateful for donations, bottles, fancy goods, Tombola prizes etc. No clothes or DVDs please. We need volunteers to organise a stall or game. Raffle tickets for a Christmas Hamper will be on sale after Mass today. Helpers needed. Please consider taking a few extra books and selling them to friends and family.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Many thanks to all donors, helpers and supporters of our autumn market which was held last Sunday. A few remaining items will be available for sale at the back of church especially for anyone who couldn't attend the event. Feel free to browse after Mass and perhaps pick up a bargain.

TWELVE APOSTLES

Please use the Parish Centre for your special occasion and support the many groups who use it. 01942 209192 for info. Bingo Wednesday from 8.30pm every week. Christmas Fair 17 November - we will be looking for donations for raffle/tombola prizes please see Therese Thompson, Ann Clews or Lesley Garvey.

This Friday, 8 November from 7.00pm Leigh Guides are holding a Christmas Market, please come along and support them.

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.

THE ROSARY

A decade of the Rosary is prayed in St Joseph's church every weekday morning at 8.30am and Monday, Wednesday & Friday before 12 noon Mass.

HELP NEEDED

Sr Megan is looking for help for a family who are in difficulties. Any item of furniture, white goods, bedding etc would be appreciated; especially a Hoover. Please ring 01942 683554.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

If you are looking for a Christmas present for someone who has everything, why not consider a World Gift from CAFOD. You can buy anything from a community well to drought resistant crops, from teaching someone to read to vaccinations for children. Gifts start at £4 for a queen bee. You will really be helping someone who needs a gift at Christmas! Catalogues available at the back of church.

ST JOSEPH'S PRAYER CENTRE, FORMBY

St Joseph's Prayer Centre are holding two retreats: **"The Path To Acceptance"**, which takes place between **15-17 November**, is a residential weekend retreat exploring how we can heal the wounds of our poor self esteem. **"Preparing for Christmas"**, held between **6-8 December**, will be a retreat helping us to keep Christ at the centre of our Christmas celebrations.

For more information or to book a place, please phone 07722 572753 or 01704 879665.

DISCOVERING YOUR VOCATION IN LIFE

'Dear young friends, only Jesus knows what definite service he has in mind for you, be open to his voice resounding in the depths of your heart. Even now, his heart is speaking to your heart.' Benedict XVI, Hyde Park Vigil, 2010.

A group for young men, aged 14-25, who are discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or religious life next meets **today** Sunday, 3 November 2013 in Animate Youth Centre, Lowe House, St. Helens at 2.00pm. Make a small commitment of time to the Lord and join our monthly gathering; we pray together, share our experiences, listen to some teaching and benefit from meeting like-minded individuals. Please contact Father James Preston on 0151 727 4135 for more information.

VACANCY

A part-time Clerical Administrator for the archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage is to be appointed. The closing date for applications is Monday, 11 November. Full details in the newsletter area of leighpastoralarea.co.uk

THE TEN MARKS OF A TRUE DISCIPLE

Jeff Cavins, American Scripture Scholar and Director of the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute in St. Paul, Minnesota will be giving a talk: 'The Ten Marks of a True Disciple' at 7.00pm in the Gibberd Room of the Metropolitan Cathedral on Tuesday, 12 November. Places are limited to 120, and are on a strictly 'first-come-first-served' basis. For information and to register to reserve your place visit: www.catholicbibletour.com

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL	£1,731.08
APF	£ 301.19
CAFOD	£ 45.95

The second or retiring collection this week is for the benefit of L.A.M.P. (Liverpool Archdiocesan Missionary Project).

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to:
Ellie-May Morris, Eadie Mae Rasburn, Aidan Jakob Brown and Annie Francesca Marsh.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Wasył Swatkiw

Eternal rest grant unto them ...

SICK

Please remember Kathleen Lythgoe, Mabel Mee, Geoff Prescott, and all who are sick at this time.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve (Tuesday)

5.30pm	Twelve Apostles
6.30pm	St Joseph's
Midnight	Sacred Heart

Christmas Day (Wednesday)

8.30am	St Joseph's
9.30am	Sacred Heart
10.30am	St Joseph's
11.15am	Our Lady of the Rosary

PREPARATION MEETING FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Today, Sunday, 3 November at 2.00pm in St Joseph's Presbytery, there will be a meeting for anyone involved in or interested in helping to prepare the 6.30pm, 8.30am & 10.30am Christmas Masses at St Joseph's.

SPONSORED TREK IN AID OF FRANCIS HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

In November this year, Deacon Ken Holding from Sacred Heart, Hindley Green and former parishioner of Our Lady of the Rosary, will trek through the mountains and deserts of Jordan, walking from the Dead Sea to Petra. He is doing it as part of the first Francis House Children's overseas fundraising challenge.

Francis House was founded in 1990 by Sr Aloysius to support families in the North West who have children with life-limiting conditions, and it is open to all children under sixteen years of age who have a life-threatening or life-limiting condition, regardless of faith or cultural background. Care is given free of charge to families.

Donation envelopes are available at the back of church.

ANNUAL MASS FOR THE DECEASED

The Parish Annual Mass for those who have died in the past twelve months will be held in St Joseph's church on November 14 at 7.00pm.

NOVEMBER, MONTH OF HOLY SOULS

The November Pious Lists are available at the back of each church for you to place the name of your relatives and friends who have died. Please put your list, along with your contribution in a sealed envelope marked 'Pious List'. (If you have not got a printed November List envelope). The names of everyone on the lists will be placed on the altar at all Masses

during November and they will be remembered during the Masses. Envelopes can be given in at the offertory or put into a box (if provided) in the church.

PARISH VISITORS

If you are a Eucharistic Minister, member of the SVP or the Bereavement Teams, or undertake some other form of ministry and visit people in their homes, then you are invited to a **Safeguarding Awareness** meeting on **Tuesday, 19 November**, 7.00 – 9.00pm, at Holy Family, Boothstown. The meeting will be led by the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Team and will involve information on elder abuse as well as how to keep yourself safe when carrying out your ministry. If you intend to go to the meeting, please phone Holy Family (0161 790 2390) to confirm **before the end of October**.

ROME & ASSISI PILGRIMAGE

The Catholic Pictorial are organising a Pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi and a short break in Sorrento in May 2014. If anyone is interested, please call 0151 733 5492.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

St. Mary's Catholic High School History Department would like to invite you to take part in a short Remembrance Service on Friday, 8 November at 10.30am. The service, involving students, cadets and members of the Royal British Legion, will take place in the Lower School Hall. Following this, we will move outside to lay a wreath at St. Mary's Remembrance Memorial and observe two minutes silence. On your arrival, please sign in at the main reception and ask to be directed to the Conference Room in the Excellence Centre. RSVP by email to: r.barrett@smchs.org.uk

OLD GREGORIAN'S

The Annual Mass for deceased former pupils and teachers of St Gregory's R.C. High School, Ardwick Green, Manchester is to be celebrated at St Kentigern's church, Wilbraham Road, Fallowfield, M14 7DW at 7.30pm on Friday, 29 November 2013 and will be followed by a gathering in the St Kentigern's Social Club. For further information telephone Terry O'Neil on 0161 442 6839 or e-mail terry.oneil43@ntlworld.com. St Gregory's was a school which drew its pupils from all over Greater Manchester and surrounding areas and who are now living far and wide. Over recent years attendances at the Annual Mass have increased to around 200.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Manchester Road, Astley

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OPEN EVENING

**Thursday, 28 November 2013
5.30 – 8.00pm**

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100% pass rate in all BTEC courses with
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Talks will take place at 6.00pm and 7.00pm.

Subject staff will be available to discuss and promote their courses.

**Contact us on 01942 884144 or
e-mail: sixthformenquiries@smchs.org.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

Sat 2 November

12A 5.30pm MASS Kathleen McArt

Sun 3 November

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C)
(LAMP SUNDAY)**

StJ 8.30am MASS People of St Edmund Arrowsmith and people of St Margaret Clitherow parish

SH 9.30am MASS Teresa Cooney LD

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS William Power

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Mon 4 November *Memorial: St. Charles Borromeo, Bp. (16th c.)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

OL 12.00noon MASS Special intention

Tue 5 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 31)*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS Winnie Carney

SH 3.00pm EXPOSITION & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for one hour

Wed 6 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

SH 7.00pm MASS Harvey Dowell

Thu 7 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

12A 9.30am MASS Mark Prescott

SH 12.00noon MASS Edmund Waddelove LD

Fri 8 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

Sat 9 November **FEAST: THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA**

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

12A 12.00noon MASS Special intention (G)

12A 5.30pm MASS Nora & John Devaney & Jimmy Maxwell

Sun 10 November **THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C)
(REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY)**

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Arthur Hennessey LD

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Tom Sales

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 25 October the numbers drawn were 8, 13, 14. No winner of £662. Last week's estimated jackpot was £700.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club: £10, 170, Jennifer & Fiona; £5, 361, Mr & Mrs T Ellis; £3, 078, B Ellis; £2, 369, 2 Betty's. **Bonus ball:** 9, D Vint.

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

Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson, Dennis Vint

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

