

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

5 JANUARY 2014



## Responsorial Psalm

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We saw his star as it rose  
and have come to do the Lord homage.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

The word "Epiphany" means a manifestation or a revelation. Literally, it means a "drawing back of the veil". On this day, this feast of the Epiphany, the veil is drawn back on a great mystery, namely, that Christ Jesus is the Saviour, not only of the Jews, but of ALL people. It is God's will that ALL people should be saved and come back to the knowledge of the truth.

In the Old Testament, the Jews are portrayed as God's chosen people. But this idea was interpreted in a way that involved second-class status for all other people. The feast of the Epiphany shows that election by God is not a privilege for a few but a hope for all. The feast of the Epiphany tore down the barrier between Jews and Gentiles. It opened up the hope of salvation for all people.

Very often on this feast, we focus on the star that led the wise men to Bethlehem. We sometimes focus on the gifts they brought. We even wonder where the wise men came from to visit Jesus and what really brought them there. Over the centuries there has been much discussion and arguments over the meaning of the wise men, the star and the whole incident that occurred in Bethlehem. Yet only so much about the whole incident can be known for sure. What we do know is that the meaning of the story is most significant for all of us. The faith we have and share is NOT meant to be exclusive. Faith in Christ, and the hope it brings, is there for everyone. Jesus himself acknowledged this throughout his life as he reached out to others – his mission was never restricted to the Jewish people. The Epiphany reminds us of this as the wise men represent the rest of the world. They did him homage. They declared him to be their king even though, according to some sources, they were meant to be kings themselves.

As we begin a New Year, we pray that we may always be reminded that Jesus is our King and the King of the whole world. But he needs us today to be his true subjects and to share our faith with others. May 2014 be a great year for all of us, and may the light of Christ lead us through the darkness of this world, until we reach the Heavenly Bethlehem where we shall see our King in glory.

## PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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**LEIGH  
PASTORAL AREA**

[www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk](http://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

Christine Attaheri, Shane Bourke, Vernon Byrne, Robert Farrimond, Rose Kyndelan, Pat Leyland, Sr. Eileen Wall.

#### WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

#### TWELVE APOSTLES

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME** The next meeting for the children who are to be Confirmed and make their First Communion is on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 4.30pm. The theme is Holy Spirit: the Helper.

#### SACRED HEART

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME** The next meeting for the children who are to be Confirmed and make their First Communion is on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 4.30pm. The theme is Holy Spirit: the Helper.

**CHURCH CLEANING** is becoming a problem due to a lack of new volunteers. If you could spare an hour or two on Tuesday morning (10.00am) you would be made most welcome, even men!

**SANCTUARY LAMP** The candle that burns all this week was gifted in memory of Tom Sales. We will be opening a new list again around about Easter.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**PARISH TOTAL Christmas Day** £3,062.87

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>** £1,688.79

Donation from Women's Sodality £ 200.00

Special Collection next weekend, 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> January is the White Flower Appeal on behalf of SPUC.

#### BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Parish through Baptism to Lily Rose Cooper.

#### WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Liam Shaun Coleman & Christy Marie Wood who were married at St Joseph's last Friday, to Mathew Christopher Ganley & Anna Georgiades who were married at St Joseph's last Saturday and also to Steven Gore & Sarah Louise Devlin who were married at Our Lady of the Rosary last Saturday.

#### SICK

Please remember Kitty Gallagher, Baby Kara Hughes, Pat Leyland and all who are sick at this time.

#### LATELY DEAD

Gyula Kushnyer  
Eternal rest grant unto them ....

#### FUNDRAISING

Lottery, raffle and 500/200 club results etc. are displayed at the back of churches.

#### HELP NEEDED

Sr Megan is asking for help for a couple who need a cooker, washing machine, microwave, pots pans plates and cutlery. If you are able to help please contact St Megan on 01942 683554. Thank you

## MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

### Sat 4 January

12A 5.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> MASS OF SUNDAY Eddie McGrath

### Sun 5 January THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Marion Woodward LD

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Eileen Massey

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

### Mon 6 January Weekday after Epiphany

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Tue 7 January Weekday after Epiphany

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH NO MASS

### Wed 8 January Weekday after Epiphany

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

StJ 1.45pm FUNERAL SERVICE Gyula Kushnyer

### Thu 9 January Weekday after Epiphany

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

12A 9.30am MASS John Fisher LD

SH 12.00noon MASS Elizabeth

### Fri 10 January Weekday after Epiphany

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

OL 10.00am MASS In Thanksgiving

StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Sat 11 January Weekday after Epiphany

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

12A 12.00noon MASS Peggy Sharrock 90<sup>th</sup> birthday

12A 5.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> MASS OF SUNDAY Liz Cassidy LD

### Sun 12 January BAPTISM OF THE LORD

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Philomena Gaughan

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS People of the parishes

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

### St Joseph's Players

Present

### The 2014 Pantomime,

## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

From Wednesday Jan. 22 to 1<sup>st</sup> February  
Evening Performances curtain 7-15pm,

Three matinees Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> February  
curtain 2pm.

Adults £8 16yrs and under £4

Tickets are available from Ratcliffes Bike Shop,  
Bradshawgate, Leigh.

**Special Offer**, 2 FOR THE PRICE OF 1 WED and THURS.  
(TICKETS ARE SELLING FAST SO BOOK ASAP)

### BURNS NIGHT SUPPER

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January at St Ambrose Barlow Hall

The Haggis will be piped in at 8pm

Supper - £5 per person

Includes Haggis, neeps and tatties" a "wee dram" or soft  
drink and a sweet

As usual we welcome people from across our Pastoral Area  
to a great evening of food, entertainment and an odd "high-  
land fling" or two!!!

Please contact Des 876050 to guarantee your place