

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) 19 JANUARY 2014



Responsorial Psalm

Here I am, Lord!
I come to do your will.

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

Once upon a time there was a king who called one of his servants. This servant was known to be a cruel, mean man, who had no friends. The king said to him, "I want you to go and travel the length and breadth of my kingdom and find for me a truly good person." The man went. In the course of his travels he met and spoke with a great number of people. However, after a long time, he came back to the king saying, "I have searched the whole kingdom as you asked me, but I couldn't find even one truly good person. All of them, without exception, are mean, cruel, deceitful and evil. The good person you seek is nowhere to be found." Then the king, worried by this news, called another servant, a person well known for his kindness and generosity, a servant loved by many, and asked him to search for a truly wicked person. The man went and travelled far and wide. But, after a long time, he returned to the king saying, "I have failed in the task you have given me. I found people who are misguided, people who are misled, people who act in blindness or in passion, but nowhere could I find a truly evil person. All of them are good at heart, despite the bad things they have done."

Sometimes we see people not as they are but as WE are. Today's Gospel reminds us of this. Jesus had only recently arrived from Nazareth. As yet he was completely unknown. He needed someone to introduce him to the public, and so help launch him on his public ministry. He found that person in John the Baptist. One day, shortly after he had baptized Jesus, John saw Jesus passing by. Turning to his disciples he said, "There is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said, a man is coming after me who ranks before me ... " With these generous words John introduced Jesus to his own disciples and to the public.

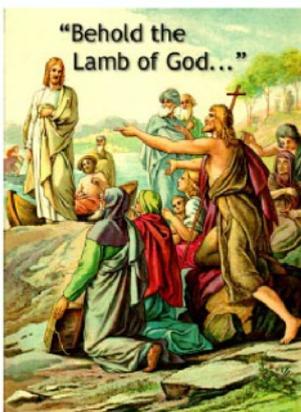
The words of John tell us a lot about the true identity and mission of Jesus. Jesus was that servant whose coming was foretold by Isaiah, and whose mission was to bring sinners back to God. But these words also tell us a lot about the kind of person John was. John could have ignored Jesus. He could have even criticized him for being different. But, far from doing this, he pointed Jesus out to the people: he built him up before them. He did not see Jesus as a threat, but as a friend and an ally. In this way John helped the start of Jesus' mission.

We can learn a lot from John's example. At the beginning of a New Year John's story challenges us to ask ourselves how do we point others in the way of Jesus today? And also, how do we see the good – rather than the bad – in others?

**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

Margaret Bradley, Sylvia Davey, Pat Leyland, Michael Muldowney, Hannah O'Hora, Special Intention & Thanksgiving Our Lord, Our Lady & All Saints.

CAFOD FUN RUN

Thank you to Chris Hallinan and those who sponsored him for the Boxing Day Fun Run. He raised a wonderful £425!

RED MISSION BOXES

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the Presbytery tomorrow, Monday 20th January. Thank you.

SACRED HEART

The Sanctuary Lamp candle that burns all this week was gifted in memory of the Glynn family.

CHURCH CLEANING is a continuing 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!

TWELVE APOSTLES

CLUB NEWS

Bingo every Wednesday from 8.30pm. Please consider us for your special occasion tel 01942 209192 for details.

Today is our monthly retiring collection, please be your usual generous selves. Wednesday is our 200 club draw. There are still a few selection box prizes left check your tickets.

PARISH SOCIAL EVENING

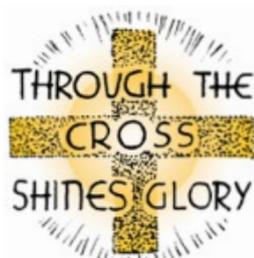
Once again this year Fr Steve and Fr Kieran would like to say thank you for all the hard word work that people do all year round and the support given to each of the Church Communities. This year the Social Evening is being held at St Joseph's on Friday 14th February, with Mass at 7.00pm then on to the Main Hall for the entertainment, provided by Fr Kieran and Fr Steve's Hot Pot.

Last year proved to be a great success and a good time was had by all. It would be lovely to see more people this year and all our communities to get to know each other better. If you would like to come along tickets are available after all Masses. The tickets are free, we just need to know numbers for catering purposes.

CARE OF THE SICK

If you have a sick relative in Hospital, in the Hospice or in a Nursing Home, it is important, because of Data Protection rules, that you inform the Nursing Staff that your relative is a Catholic and would like a visit from the priest or lay minister.

If you know of anyone who has come out of hospital or is in need of Holy Communion taking to them please contact the parish office with name, full address including postal code and telephone number



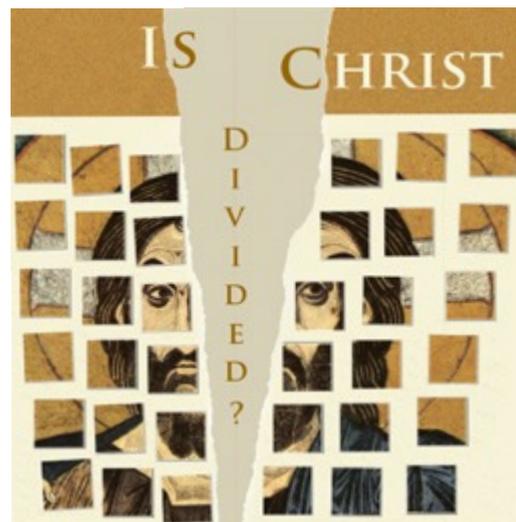
DEMENTIA FRIENDLY

Wigan Council want to improve the lives of people with dementia and their carers.

They have access to a small amount of funding to support local ideas and projects in Leigh. Do you have any suggestions? The council want to know. You are invited to join them for lunch at Leigh Miners on Wednesday 29th January 12 noon till 3pm and for Decision Day: Thursday 27th February. A speed vote from 12.00 till 2pm or 2pm - 4pm to listen to the presentations before casting your vote.

To book a place call 01942 404260
or email R. Killen @wigan.gov.uk

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18 - 25 January 2014



This year's theme comes to us from the Churches of French Canada. Canadians live in a country that is marked by diversity in language, culture, and even climate, and it also embodies diversity in expressions of Christian faith. Living with this diversity, but being faithful to Christ's desire for the unity of his disciples, has led them to a reflection on Paul's provocative question in 1 Corinthians, "Has Christ been divided?" In faith we respond, "No!" yet our church communities continue to endure scandalous divisions. 1 Corinthians also points us to a way in which we can value and receive the gifts of others even now in the midst of our divisions, and that is an encouragement to us in our work for unity.

THE WORLD - Pray (Saturday)

*Merciful God, as you have made us a chosen race,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
so draw us together,
strengthening us to do your will.
This we pray through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*

THE WORLD - Pray (Sunday)

*We thank you, gracious God,
that we can recognise your grace in one another.
May this grace enable us to experience your gift of
unity in new ways.
This we pray through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*

More resources can be found at:
<http://www.ctbi.org.uk/657>

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,880.05
SPUC White Flower Appeal £ 259.21

The Special Collection this weekend at Twelve Apostles is for the church repair fund.

Thank you for the donation of £100 to the Red Box Missions in Memory of Marian Woodward.

SICK

Please remember Kitty Gallagher, Baby Kara Hughes, Fr Patrick Shanahan M. Afr. and all who are sick at this time.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Eternal rest grant unto them ... Albert Saunders, Patricia leyland, Mary Sheila Croft, Michael Mullowney

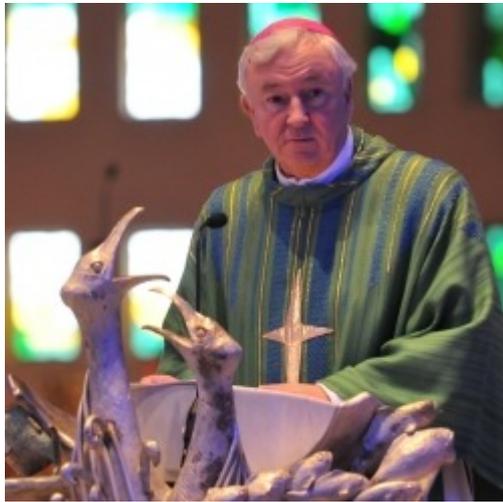
HELP NEEDED

The Back Stage Crew at St Joseph's Players are looking for help to get the sets ready for the pantomime and also help during the show. If you feel you would like to get involved with the dramatic society in this way, please go along on Monday or Thursday evenings at 7.30pm. It is a friendly atmosphere and your help will be very much appreciated.

NEW YEAR

Thank you to everyone who came to see in the New Year at St Joseph's. We hope you all had a wonderful evening. Thank you also to all those who organised the evening and especially to Fr Steve for his fantastic Hot Pot!

ARCHBISHOP VINCENT NICHOLS NAMED A CARDINAL



His Holiness Pope Francis has announced that Crosby born Archbishop Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, will be made a Cardinal at the next consistory on 22 February 2014. The announcement came during Pope Francis' Angelus in St Peter's Square on Sunday 12 January, in which he created 15 more elector cardinals and three non-electors.



Pope Francis @Pontifex Jan 16
Let us pray for peace, and let us bring it about, starting in our own homes!



Pope Francis @Pontifex Jan 14
May we always say thank you to God, especially for his patience and mercy.

St Joseph's Players

Present

The 2014 Pantomime,

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

From Wed, 22 January to Sat, 1 February
Evening Performances curtain 7.15pm,

Three matinees 25, 26 January and 1 February
Curtain 2.00pm.

Adults £8, 16yrs and under £4

Tickets are available from Ratcliffe's Bike Shop,
Bradshawgate, Leigh.

Special Offer: Two for the price of one, Wed and Thu only

TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH THE FABULOUS NOSTALGIA SHOWBAND



50s & 60s Rock & Roll Band
St Joseph's Hall Chapel St, Leigh

Refreshments included, Bar

Saturday 8 February 2014 at 7.30pm

Tickets £10.00 available from Des 01942 67488

Pauline 01942 604603 or St Joseph's 673517

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS SWAP & SHARE CATECHESIS

Animate Youth Ministries are delighted to be hosting a creative workshop "SWAP AND SHARE CATECHESIS" that allows you, the catechist, an opportunity to share ideas and thoughts with people from all the many parts of the Archdiocese of Liverpool and beyond. It is a chance for you to be in the presence of fellow catechists and to share ideas that work for you in your parish and youth groups. There will be a selection of new ideas, ice breakers, small group work, songs and many more fun and exciting activities that have been tried and tested with young people by the ANIMATE team. The ANIMATE team will be on hand to guide you through the activities and to answer any queries. Please bring along any of your own resources and ideas and share them with the group. Date: 23rd January 2014. Time: 6.30 - 8.30pm. Location: Lowe House, St. Helens WA10 2BE.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY CATECHISTS "Let your light shine"

An Afternoon Preparing to Celebrate Lent
Sunday 9th February

2.00 - 4.00pm at LACE

Led by Jo Boyce of CJM Music

Please tell one of our priests if you would like to attend.

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 18 January

12A 5.30pm

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Allen & Agnes Newton

Sun 19 January

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

(Day of Prayer for Peace)

StJ 8.30am

MASS

SH 9.30am

MASS Eileen Featherstone

StJ 10.30am

MASS

OL 11.00am

MASS Ann Devlin

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Mon 20 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Week 2, Year 2)

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon

REQUIEM MASS Patricia Leyland

Tue 21 January

Memorial: St. Agnes, V.M. (3rd/4th c.)

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon

MASS Molly Yates L.D.

Wed 22 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

SJ 12.00noon

MASS

SH 7.00pm

MASS Brendan Vesey L.D.

Thu 23 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

12A 9.30am

MASS Peggy Sharrock (90th Birthday)

SH 12.00noon

MASS Adrian & Family

StJ 12.00noon

FUNERAL SERVICE Michael Mallowney

Fri 24 January

Memorial: St. Francis de Sales, B.D. (16th/17th c.)

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

OL 10.00am

MASS John Fisher

StJ 12.00noon

REQUIEM MASS Albert Saunders

Sat 25 January

FEAST: CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL, APOSTLE

OL 11.00am

Exposition & Reconciliation

OL 12.00noon

MASS Special intention (Brian Smith)

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Marie & John Daven (Special intention)

Sun 26 January

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

StJ 8.30am

MASS

SH 9.30am

MASS John Heneghan

StJ 10.30am

MASS

OL 11.00am

MASS Ruth, Walter & Dorothy Elmer

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 10 January the numbers drawn were 2, 14, 19. No winner of £48. Last week's estimated jackpot was £100.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club results at the back of church.

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

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

