

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

26 JANUARY 2014



## Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is my light and my help.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom,  
and cured all kinds of sickness among the people.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

When Matthew writes of the call of the first disciples, there is no suggestion of any hesitation on the part of the four fishermen. Matthew does not tell us why they follow Jesus. His story is simple. Jesus calls them and they follow him. There is no mention of where they are going or what they are going to do when they get there. There is no detail of what it will mean to be a disciple of Jesus. Nothing is promised. Nothing is signed. Matthew is clearly not interested in any of these questions. Matthew is more concerned to show that the disciples are called by Jesus and that discipleship requires them leaving everything that occupied their lives before the moment of their call. Obviously the whole episode would not happen as simply as this. The disciples did not leave the security of their homes and jobs on the spur of the moment to follow a stranger they had never even seen before. In their accounts, Luke and John allow time for the disciples to find out about Jesus before they are called.

The absence of any of this detail in Matthew points to the fact that he wants to focus on something more important – that is, the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. With John the Baptist now in prison, the great voice of the wilderness is silenced. It is time for Jesus to begin. Matthew shows that Jesus is the fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah. Jesus is the great light that has dawned. He is the one who begins his mission in the Galilee of the Gentiles. He begins a mission to all people. Matthew keeps the focus on Jesus throughout his Gospel and shows the authority of his Word and the power of his healing. Discipleship is centred on Jesus. Because of WHO he is, others will change. Jesus alone is the source of discipleship. Without the person of Jesus, discipleship is meaningless.

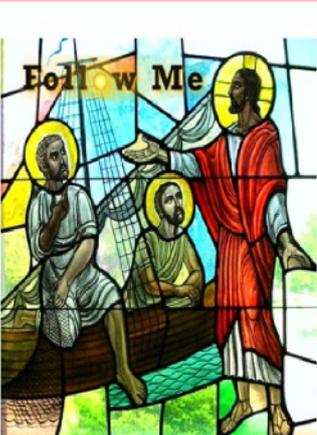
Like Matthew, St Paul is insistent in today's First Reading that Jesus is to be the focus of Christian discipleship. Jesus is the great light, and no one, however exalted, can take his place. The people to whom Paul is writing, the people at Corinth, had divided into different factions. Some are following Apollos, an eloquent and enthusiastic teacher who attracts the well-educated to Christianity. Some, the mainly Jewish Christians, rally to the name of Peter. Some stay loyal to the memory of Paul himself. The division of the early Church is destructive and Paul argues for unity under the name of Christ. Christianity IS Christ. It was Christ who died for the sins of the world and all Christians are baptized in his name. Paul wants the community at Corinth to be a Christian Community, not a collection of different factions and groups and not slaves to personality cults. No leader, however important, can attach disciples to himself, for everyone is called to be a disciple of Christ Jesus. As Paul writes later, there is only one foundation of the Christian community: "For the foundation, nobody can lay any other than the one which has already been laid, that is Jesus Christ."

For Paul, religious leadership is about leading others to Christ. Religious authority should never lead people to itself but ONLY to Christ. Sometimes we can get carried away by the trappings of our faith, the statues, the style of prayer we may prefer, the different leaders we may have. For Paul and Matthew there is only one answer to the question "Who are you for?" The Christian answer is "I am for Christ Jesus."

**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 MASS INTENTIONS

Ron Ashton, Deceased Members of the Flynn Family, Elaine Baites, Betty Brookes, Margaret Fleming, Flynn Family, Francis Norman Gibbons, Frank & Cecilia Grogan Diamond Wedding, Ken Makinson, Moira Marsh, Edna Massey, Thomas McGullock, Peggy Sharrock, Anne Turner, Irene Yates, Special Intention,

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The next Sacramental Programme meeting for the children from St Joseph's will be on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February either at 2.30pm in the school or 6.00pm in the church.

### MAIN HALL HEATING

Everyone who attended the New Years Eve Concert in St Joseph's Main Hall will be aware of the problems we had in heating the Hall adequately on the night. Many people who attended said that it was probably the best New Year's celebration which they had attended, but we apologise for the inadequate heating and hope that it did not spoil anyone's enjoyment of the night entirely. However we do now have doubts that the system has the capacity to heat the hall and we are seeking advice from heating consultants.

### WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 8.00pm in St Joseph's Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** candle that burns all this week in Sacred Heart church was gifted in memory of John & Ellen Morris. We will be opening a new list again around about Easter.

### TWELVE APOSTLES CLUB

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

### THANK YOU

Peggy Sharrock and family would like to thank everyone for the lovely birthday cards and greeting received on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Thank you for making it a wonderful celebration.

### 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 please sign the sheet at the back of church. We do need to know numbers for catering purposes, so please sign the list.

### 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 29<sup>th</sup> January 12 noon till 3pm and for Decision Day: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> 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

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Justice & Peace meeting on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at St Joseph's, 7.30p.m.

World Day of Prayer Service on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm at St. Mary's parish church, Leigh centre.

Singers' practices on Mondays, 24<sup>th</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 7.30pm to 8.30pm at St. Mary's church. Men, women and young people all welcome to help us praise God.

### 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 discernment group for young men, aged 15-21, who are discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or religious life. Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014 @ St Charles Borromeo, Aigburth, Liverpool, 2pm.**

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 Fr. James Preston on 0151 727 2493 for more information.

### BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY



Are you a boy in Years 3 - 5? Do you enjoy singing and working hard in a team? If so, you are invited to come and meet the choristers at the Metropolitan Cathedral in Liverpool and sing in the largest Catholic church in the country for a day! We are holding a "Be a Chorister for a Day" event next Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February: 10.30am - 4.00pm. Come and find out more about being a chorister and have fun playing, singing, eating and exploring. Application forms and further information are available on the Cathedral website or by contacting the music office. Places are limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

Website: [www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk)  
Music office: [music@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:music@metcathedral.org.uk)  
or 0151 708 7283.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**PARISH TOTAL** £1,852.29

### SVP Christmas Collection

Thank you for your generous contribution to the Christmas Collection:- St Joseph's £375.99

XII Apostles £ 38.26

Saced Heart Collections September to November 2013 £450.30.

These contributions help us to assist those most in need in our community at this special time of year.

### BAPTISMS

Welcome into the Parish through Baptism to Ella Rose Keegan.

### DIAMOND WEDDING

Congratulations to Frank & Cecilia Grogan on the occasion of their Golden Wedding.

### SICK

Please remember Kitty Gallagher, Baby Kara Hughes, Fr Patrick Shanahan M. Afr. Tom Ramsdale - Congratulations on your 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday last week, get well soon. and all who are sick at this time.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Les Jones, Sheila Ann Leigh, Mary Edna Massey, Eric Gannon ... Eternal rest grant unto them ...



Pope Francis<sup>1</sup>@Pontifex Jan 23

Like Mary, may we nurture the light born within us at Christmas. May we carry it everywhere in our daily lives.



Pope Francis<sup>1</sup>@Pontifex Jan 22

I join the March for Life in Washington with my prayers. May God help us respect all life, especially the most vulnerable.



Pope Francis<sup>1</sup>@Pontifex Jan 21

If we live the faith in our daily life, then our work too becomes a chance to spread the joy of being a Christian.



Pope Francis<sup>1</sup>@Pontifex Jan 20

It is not enough to say we are Christians. We must live the faith, not only with our words, but with our actions.



Pope Francis<sup>1</sup>@Pontifex Jan 18

Wars shatter so many lives. I think especially of children robbed of their childhood.



Pope Francis<sup>1</sup>@Pontifex Jan 17

How powerful prayer is! May we never lose the courage to say: Lord, give us your peace.

## 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**

Is January getting you down? Feeling flat after the Christmas and New Year celebrations?  
Come and dance away the winter blues 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



### CHILDREN'S LITURGY CATECHISTS

"Let your light shine"

An Afternoon Preparing to Celebrate Lent

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> 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.*

### Are you having a party? Do you need a venue?

Why not consider booking one of St Joseph's Halls? The Main Hall complex consists of a side hall for 80 or so guests, with a well maintained kitchen. The ballroom/theatre holds approx. 280/300 guests. The Sodality Hall holds approx. 100 guests. Both locations have ample parking and are easily accessible and have been refurbished.

We take bookings in both halls for birthday parties, wedding, baptism & funeral receptions, dance classes, keep fit etc and in our main Hall dance shows, musicals, plays etc.

We also have Brownies, Guides, Rainbows, Slimming World, Keep Fit, Zumba and Karate, dancing classes. Please contact Mrs Prince on 01942 709034 for further details of these classes or to enquire about a booking.



Twelve Apostles Walsingham Pilgrimage will once again be taking place from Easter Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April till Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> anyone interested please see Therese Thompson, Jane Lovett or Lawrence Hawkins a £20 deposit is required as soon as possible.

## 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 25 January

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

### Mon 27 January

**Weekday in Ordinary Time (Week 3, Year 2)**

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon

MASS

### Tue 28 January

**Memorial: St. Thomas Aquinas, OP, P.D. (13<sup>th</sup> c.)**

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon

REQUIEM MASS Sheila Ann Leigh

### Wed 29 January

**Weekday in Ordinary Time**

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon

REQUIEM MASS Mary Edna Massey

SH 7.00pm

MASS Bill Foulkes

### Thu 30 January

**Weekday in Ordinary Time**

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

12A 9.30am

MASS John Fisher LD

SH 12.00noon

MASS Norah Heneghan

### Fri 31 January

**Memorial: St. John Bosco, SDB, P. (19<sup>th</sup> c.)**

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

OL 10.00am

MASS Phyllis Sarbutts

StJ 12.00noon

REQUIEM MASS Eric Gannon

### Sat 1 February

**Weekday in Ordinary Time**

SH 11.00am

Exposition & Reconciliation

SH 12.00noon

MASS People of the parishes of St Edmund Arrowsmith & of St Margaret Clitherow

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Timothy Stott & Lawrence Cooney

### Sun 2 February

**FEAST: PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

StJ 8.30am

MASS

SH 9.30am

MASS Jane Gibbons

StJ 10.30am

MASS

OL 11.00am

MASS Fred Ryan

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 17 January the numbers drawn were 12, 23, 29. No winner of £106. Last week's estimated jackpot was £170.

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

**Twelve Apostles 200 Club** £40 no 48 B Parry, £15 no 3 L Ashley, £5 no 85 P Newton, £5 no 135 T Thompson

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:fathercooper@btconnect.com)

Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood

Tel: 0161 790 2390

Email: [frdave@virginmedia.com](mailto:frdave@virginmedia.com)

Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson

Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady

Tel: 01942 673517

Email: [shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk)

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon

Tel: 01942 883395

Email: [paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk)

