

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) 23 FEBRUARY 2014



**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**



## Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is compassion and love.

## 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

The story is told of a holy man who used to meditate every morning under a large tree on the banks of the River Ganges in Northern India. The place he chose was near a site of pilgrimage where Hindus came to wash themselves in the sacred river and cleanse themselves of sin. One morning, after he had finished his meditation, the old man noticed a large scorpion floating helpless on the strong current of the river. The scorpion got caught in the tree's long roots that extended into the river bed. The more it struggled to free itself, the more entangled it became in the twining roots. The old man reached out to free the captive animal and, as soon as he touched it, the scorpion lifted its tail and stung him. But the old man reached out again in an effort to free it. A young man was passing and saw what was happening. He shouted out, "Old man, what's wrong with you? You must be mad! Why risk your life to save such a dangerous, ugly creature?" But the old man turned to the onlooker and said, "Friend, because it is in the scorpion's nature to sting, why should I give up my own nature to save? The story of the old man and the scorpion raises a problem that we all face: do we always take action from the treatment we receive from others, or do we continue in the way of love and service even when we get stung ourselves?"

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus address himself to the question of how the disciples should conduct themselves when are faced with hurt and hatred. Jesus again develops the Law that he has received: "you have learned how it was said...but I say this to you..." Jesus quotes the ancient law of retaliation, which fixed the boundaries of vengeance. The Law stated: "Anyone who injures a neighbour shall receive the same in return, broken limb for broken limb, eye for eye, tooth for tooth." (Leviticus 24) This might sound a savage law but it was introduced as a legal practice to limit blood feuds between families and communities. Jesus, however, revokes the law saying that his disciples must not be provoked into taking retaliation for the wrongs done against them. The disciples must not allow another person's hostility to be their cue for action. Their cue for response is taken from the nature of their discipleship, not from the wrong they have experienced. Jesus confirms the ancient Law that you should love your neighbour, but rejects any interpretation of the Law that permits people to hate their enemies. Jesus argues that the love his disciples give is not related to the love they receive from others. The disciple is called to love because LOVE is the nature of discipleship itself. So as we consider this weekend that God's love is unique – that he allows the sun to shine and the rain to fall on the good AND the bad – so we must love others, even perhaps especially those we do not like. Who knows, if we do we may well make our world a better place.

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ST JOSEPH'S MASS INTENTIONS

Shane Bourke, Tony Broster, Vernon Bryne, Elizabeth Cleworth, Michael Collins, Eileen Hogan, May Malley, Michael Mullaney, Ellen Mullahy, Vincent McKiernan, Roy Parr, Mary Tyrer, Special Intention Our Lord, Our Lady & All Saints, Special Intention, Thank you for Good Deed.

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

### READERS MEETING

For Sacred Heart, Our Lady of the Rosary & Twelve Apostles Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in the Sacred Heart Church.

### TWELVE APOSTLES CLUB

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

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Session 5: Teach us to Pray

Twelve Apostles this Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February at 4.30pm.

Sacred Heart & Our Lady of the Rosary this Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 4.40pm.

St Joseph's Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2.30pm in School or 6.00pm in Church.

### PARISH SOCIAL

Thank you to all those who came along to the Parish Social last Friday evening. It was good to see so many of you there and to celebrate our Parish.

### ASH WEDNESDAY - 5<sup>th</sup> MARCH



9.00am	St Joseph's School Mass in Church
10.00am	Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary
12noon	Mass at St Joseph's
7.00pm	Mass at Twelve Apostles
7.00pm	Mass at Sacred Heart
	For Twelve Apostles and Sacred Heart School Masses, please ring Fr Kieran for details.
9.15am	Morning Prayer & Mass at Holy Family
12 noon	Mass at St Richard's
7.00pm	Mass at St Ambrose Barlow
7.00pm	Mass at Holy Family

### 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.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Men, women, young people and children are all most wel-

come. All (male, female, any age) who enjoy singing are invited to the singers' practices, led by Mrs. Ursula Lightford, on Mondays, 24<sup>th</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 7.30 to 8.30pm, at St. Mary's church.

HCPT Quiz Night Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Twelve Apostles. Twelve Apostles School Prize Bingo 7<sup>th</sup> March.

### DE-CLUTTER SALE

There will be a Wardrobe De-clutter Sale at St Richard's Social Centre on Friday March 14<sup>th</sup> from 2.00pm - 4.00pm and Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> 10.00am - 2.00pm. Proceeds from the sale will go to CAFOD.

Good quality men's, women's, children's and babies' clothing and accessories donated for the sale can be left in the church porches at: Holy Family, St Ambrose, St Gabriel's or St Richard's on weekends February 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>. For further information, please contact Joan 07785112206.



**Twelve Apostles Walsingham Pilgrimage** from Easter Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April until Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>. We require £20 deposit as soon as possible. Please see Laurence Hawkins, Therese Thompson or Jane Lovett as soon as possible.



Pope Francis@pontifex

Dear young people, don't be afraid to marry. A faithful and fruitful marriage will bring you happiness.

Let us pray for peace in Africa, especially in the Central African Republic and in South Sudan.

To all who are sick, do not lose hope, especially when your suffering is at its worst. Christ is near you.

Let us learn from Christ how to pray, to forgive, to sow peace, and to be near those in need.

*The Pope's Lenten message can be found at:*  
[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/francesco/messages/lent/documents/papa-francesco\\_20131226\\_messaggio-quaresima2014\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/messages/lent/documents/papa-francesco_20131226_messaggio-quaresima2014_en.html)



## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

<b>PARISH TOTAL</b>	£1,646.79
Catholic Education Service	£ 370.77

### SICK

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

### BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Community through Baptism to:  
Paula & Jessica Hilton, Eryk Ernrt Magdon, Caitlin Holly Purlé

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Eternal rest give unto them....  
Bill Burke, James Anthony D'Arcy, Anne Smith

### EVENING COURSES & WORKSHOPS

See *Archdiocesan Website* for full details:

[www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk)

#### Christ in Scripture & Tradition

A module in the Diploma in Pastoral Leadership, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> February & 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 6.30 - 9.00pm at Liverpool Hope University.

#### A Skills Workshop - Ways of Working with Scripture

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February, 6.30 - 9.00pm, at St Patrick's, Southport.

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

Why not consider booking one of the Parish Halls?

The Main Hall complex at St Joseph's consists of a side hall for 80 or so guests, with a well maintained kitchen. The ballroom/theatre holds approx. 280/300 guests. The Mather Room (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 Parish Hall has a Lounge (30-40), Concert Room (100-120), Small Meeting Room (20-30) and the Common Room which can hold children's parties.

Sacred Heart also has a Meeting Room with catering facilities for groups of between 40-50.

### BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND,

(The Best Band In The Land )

## ASHTON - ON - MERSEY- SHOWBAND

Presenting

### "A NIGHT AT THE PROMS"

St Joseph's Main Hall, Chapel St. Leigh,

SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> March 8pm

Ticket only Event price £8-50p

Available NOW from Pauline on 01942-604603  
and RATCLIFFES BIKE SHOP BRADSHAWGATE LEIGH  
or St Joseph's 673517

**All profits to be donated to Pensioners Link, Leigh**  
(Voluntary service for the support of elderly persons in our community).

## MASS WITH CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS

Following his investiture as Cardinal, Vincent Nichols will return to his native city on Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> March to celebrate Mass for the Second Sunday of Lent in the Metropolitan Cathedral at 3.00pm. It will be an opportunity for the clergy and people of his home diocese to congratulate him and to join with him in prayer as he embraces this added responsibility in his ministry. Bishops of the Northern Province have also been invited to participate in this Mass. On this occasion he will be presented with the gift from the archdiocese that has been collected for the Friends of the Holy Land.



We have received a letter from the Director of CAFOD "Each time I travel to see projects the parishioners donations support throughout the year, I am suck by the determination and resourcefulness of te people I meet who are working to lift themselves and their families out of poverty.

Mohammed is a 14-year old boy from Sierra Leone. Wit the farming tools and raining that he has received wit the help of parishioners here. Mohammed is now able o grow food for e family, and raises enough money from crop sales to pay for his younger siblings' education. His fervent dream is to save up enough so that he too can return to school next year.

By raising funds for CAFOD's Lent Fast Day, your parish will be digging deep in solidarity wit Mohammed and countless other brothers and sisters who are building a better future for themselves, free from under. Every prayer and each donation makes a difference.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our work. We are keeping you all in our prayers this Lent. With very best wishes"

Chris Bain



### Family Fast Day Friday 14th March

#### Your garden of plenty

Giver of life,

From tiny seeds and parched earth  
your gentle hand grows richest fruit.

Reveal to us, Creator God, the seeds within us;  
moisten the soil that our neglect has made dry.

For alone we lack the vision of your Kingdom.

Alone, we fail to recognise the hungry in our midst.

Alone, we lack the strength to fulfil your purpose.

With your inspiring love, Redeemer of all,  
may the shoots of our potential break free  
and our hands, voices and spirits toil in communion  
so that your garden of plenty can be shared by all.  
Amen.

*Anna Cronin-Nowakowska/CAFOD*



## 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 22 February

12A 5.30pm MASS John & Susan Gredecki (Ruby Wedding)

### Sun 23 February

#### SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

StJ 8.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area

SH 9.30am MASS Doris Stout

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Liz Cassidy LD

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

### Mon 24 February

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time (Week 7, Year 2)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Tue 25 February

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS May Caulfield LD

### Wed 26 February

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

SH 7.00pm MASS The Mcloughlin Family

### Thu 27 February

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

12A NO MASS

SH 12.00noon MASS Fr. Paddy O'Malley (LD)

### Fri 28 February

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

OL NO MASS

StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Sat 1 March

#### FEAST: ST. DAVID, PATRON OF WALES, B. (6<sup>th</sup> c.)

SH 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

SH 12.00noon MASS Mai O'Boyle (LD)

12A 5.30pm MASS Kathleen McArt

### Sun 2 March

#### EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

##### (Day of Prayer for the Unemployed)

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Doris Stout (LD)

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Teresa Williams

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 14 February the numbers drawn were 2, 17, 25. No winner of £376. Last week's estimated jackpot was £440.

**Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club** £10 353 Mr & Mrs T Ellis, £5 439 J Riley, £3 29 N Flynn, £2 363 M Roach  
**Bonus Ball** No. 27 K Sales

### 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  
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