

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

9 MARCH 2014



Responsorial Psalm

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone but on every word
that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The story of the fall of Adam and Eve and the Gospel story concerning the tempting of Jesus are stories about making choices. Before the fall Adam and Eve had no choice. It was as though they were automatically programmed to do the will of God. They had no sense of being personally responsible for their actions and choices. They knew no such thing as remorse or regret. But then they had no sense of well-being at doing the right thing either. They were no better – or worse – than the animals, who live not by choice but by instinct. But then God gave them the freedom to choose. In so doing he made it possible for them to be moral, that is, to choose freely to do what was right. They had the freedom to say “Yes” or “No” to God. Unfortunately they abused that freedom. All our achievements, all our discoveries, all our wars, all the heights to which we have risen, and the depths to which we have sunk, have been about using or abusing the freedom of choice which God has given to us.

In the desert Jesus was faced with the same choice as that which faced Adam and Eve – to do his own will or to do the will of God. Unlike Adam and Eve he made the choice to do God’s will instead of his own. Sometimes we think he made this choice BECAUSE he was the Son of God. But the choice was his, as a human being. The fact that Jesus was without sin does not mean that he was not human. Every day we are faced with choices too. We can choose to do good or evil, to choose for or against God. It’s clear that we can have in us a strain of rebelliousness, or self-centring, or short-sightedness, which causes us to make the wrong choices which can lead us to self-destructive behaviour. The fact that Jesus won an important victory in the desert didn’t mean that the war was over. There would be other attacks. Every choice in life must be remade, perhaps many times. However, every right choice makes the next right choice easier. If we do the right thing often enough it becomes second nature.

In the garden Adam and Eve lost their original innocence. The only way we can regain it is through the love of Christ. At the beginning of Lent Jesus calls us to follow him and choose the good, that which God would want us to do. Let us pray that he may fill us with the gifts of the Spirit so that, as we journey through our desert, no matter what they may be, we will know that Jesus our Saviour walks with us every step of the way.

**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 MASS INTENTIONS

Alice Brown, Fr S Cowell, Dorothy Griffiths, Raymond Jarvis, Josephine Cora Oddie, Marlene O'Neill, Annie Smith, Ken Sroka, Special Intention, Special Intention Our Lord, Our Lady & All Saints, Special Intention Annitta, Angiola, Carlo & Loui Manfredi

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St Joseph's with St Thomas'

Stations of the Cross will be held in St Joseph's church every Friday in Lent at 7.00pm. Fr Robert Dixon will be leading the Stations this week.

Tea & coffee will be available afterwards.

Sacred Heart

There will be Stations of the Cross after Mass on Thursdays at the Sacred Heart

GARDENING DAY

The next gardening Day is Saturday 14th April.

If you can spare a couple of hours to help with tidying up the Church Gardens please come along on Saturday morning at about 10.00am.

All help welcome. No expertise required!

COFFEE MORNING

St Joseph's

The coffee morning at St Joseph's next Sunday, 16th March, has had to be cancelled. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Sacred Heart

Tea and Coffee will be available after 9.30 Mass

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

Mothers' Prayers will be held at 7.30pm at St Joseph's on Tuesday 11th March. All mothers and grandmothers welcome.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** candle that burns all this week in Sacred Heart church was gifted in memory of the Hindley/ Cannon families. 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.

HELP NEEDED

Sr Megan has asked if anyone has a washing machine that they can spare, she knows a lady who is in urgent need of one. Thank you.

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

Saturday 22nd March at Twelve Apostles HCPT Family Fun Quiz at 7.00pm all proceeds to help underprivileged children to have the holiday of a lifetime in Lourdes, any donations of raffle prizes much appreciated see John or Therese Thompson (tel 01942 253507)

DE-CLUTTER SALE

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

For further information, please contact Joan 07785112206.



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



Pope Francis@pontifex

Let us pray for Christians who are victims of persecution, so that they may know how to respond to evil with good.

Lent is a good time for sacrificing. Let us deny ourselves something every day to help others

In life we all make many mistakes. Let us learn to recognize our errors and ask forgiveness.

Let us thank all those who teach in Catholic schools. Educating is an act of love; it is like giving life

How to live a good marriage? United to the Lord, who always renews our love and strengthens it to overcome every difficulty.

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

PARISH MEETING

The parish meeting scheduled for 20th March, 7.30pm at Our Lady of the Rosary has been postponed until further notice.

THANK YOU

Matthew, Theresa, Dominic and I thank you all so very much for all the love and support shown to us during Paul's illness and since he has died. All the Mass and sympathy cards, the letters, texts and hugs have been such a help to us over the past two months. Thank you for being with us at the vigil and funeral Masses. CAFOD, the Cardinal Hume Centre and Leukaemia and Lymphoma research each benefited by more than £1,500 from the collections, and a number of people have made personal donations too. Thank you for your generosity. Paul would be so pleased and proud. Bless you all. Wyn Goggins

GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN (aged 15 to 25 years)

We now have a Guide "Senior Section" unit in Leigh who meet at Twelve Apostles Community Centre. For more information ring either Lesley on 01942 887709 or Cheryl on 07719 357069.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £ 1,873.58
CAFOD Lent Fast Day Friday 14th March



Tonight, one in eight of us will go to bed hungry. For some, finding food is a daily struggle. CAFOD is working with poor communities around the world on our behalf, so they can put food on the table. Fast Days are our opportunity to support that work. Collect your Fast Day envelope from Church this week. Please give as much as you can in next week collection, so hunger doesn't remain a fact of life.

Fast day Prayer

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

SICK

Please remember 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:

Mylie Kate Simpkin, Sienna Faith Bevvett, Tom Lawrence Sims, Aleesh-Jade Morris.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Jim & Sandra Gainer on the occasion of their Golden Wedding.

Apologies for the misspelling of the name last week.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Raymond Jarvis

Eternal rest give unto him....

MASS WITH CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS

Following his investiture as Cardinal, Vincent Nichols will return to his native city on Sunday, 16th 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.

PASTORAL AREA NEWS

By now most people will probably have heard the sad news that Fr Steve has had to leave the Pastoral Area with immediate effect. It's been a great shock to everyone, people and priests alike. All we can do at this time is to keep everyone concerned in our thoughts and prayers. Fr Steve arrived in Atherton in 1990 and is well known to many people in the area. He has done lots of good work in the different parishes he has served, and we are enormously grateful to him for that.

Bishop Williams and Bishop Malone have been in touch to suggest that a priest, who has been helping out in the Archdiocese, comes to the Pastoral Area to assist us until a more permanent appointment can be made. So Fr Silviu Climent, originally from Romania, will arrive this weekend. He will reside at St Joseph's, but will help across the Pastoral Area. This will enable us to sustain the Sunday and weekday schedule of Masses and other liturgies for the time being without too much disruption. This weekend, Fr Silviu will be at St Richard's and St Ambrose Barlow.

Thank you for all your kindness and support, especially during the last week.

Fr Paul, Fr Dave & Fr Kieran

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 22ND 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).

St Joseph's Players Present

"SAILOR BEWARE"

A Comedy

By Philip King and Falkland Cary

Produced by June Lee

From Tuesday 8th April to Saturday 12th April

Curtain up 7.30pm

Tickets £8 Adults 16yrs & under £4

Advance Tickets Ratcliffe's Bike Shop

Bradshawgate, Leigh.

or Pay on the Door on the Night

Bar.

SPRING MARKET

Sunday 23rd March

Twelve Apostles Club

11.00am to 4.00pm

entry only 50p for adults (children free)

stalls £10 pre-booked (£15 on the day if space)

to book a stall ring 01942 887709 or 07719357069

or see Lesley Garvey

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 8 March

12A 5.30pm MASS Fr Peter Mockler LD

Sun 9 March

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Sylvia Davey

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS People of the Pastoral Area

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Mon 10 March

Monday of Week 1 Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

Tue 11 March

Tuesday of Week 1 Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS Special Intention

Wed 12 March

Wednesday of Week 1 Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon REQUIEM MASS Raymond Jarvis

SH 7.00pm MASS Moira Marsh

Thu 13 March

Thursday of Week 1 Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

12A 9.30am MASS Mark Prescott

SH 12.00noon MASS Thomas McCulloch

SH 12.30pm Stations of the Cross

Fri 14 March

Friday of Week 1 Lent

(CAFOD Lent Fast Day)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

OL 10.00am MASS Bridie Greenhalgh

StJ 12.00noon MASS

StJ 7.00pm Stations of the Cross

Sat 15 March

Saturday of Week 1 Lent

StJ 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

StJ 12.00noon MASS

12A 5.30pm MASS McArt and Murnan Families

Sun 16 March

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Ken Makinson

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Mr Ritchie

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 28 February the numbers drawn were 06, 12, 19. No winner of £496. Last week's estimated jackpot was £560.

Our Lady's 200 Club £10 242 M Moore, £5 103 T Jones, £3 110 M&D Flannery, £2 448 D Davies

Bonus Ball No. 45 M Flannery

12 Apostles 200 Club £40 no 35 K Marsh, £15 no 133 M McCoy, £5 no 18 Margaret Frain, £5 no 70 K Hulme

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. Kieran O'Grady

Tel: 01942 673517

Email: shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk

Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood

Tel: 0161 790 2390

Email: frdave@virginmedia.com

Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon

Tel: 01942 883395

Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk

