

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

16 MARCH 2014



Responsorial Psalm

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the course of their lives many people change direction and explore unfamiliar paths. In today's First Reading we hear how something happens to Abraham that dramatically changes the course of his life. He is invited to leave the world of the familiar, his country and his father's house, and find his security in the promise of God. He cannot see either the land or the family he has been promised, yet he begins this journey without maps. Living as a nomad he has no land or children. But he travels hopefully in the belief that one day his journey will lead to the fulfilment of God's promises. Throughout his journeying Abraham experiences setbacks and trials, but he travels on, rooted in the conviction that God's purposes are being fulfilled. This same conviction works in the heart of another man who changed direction in his life, Paul. In the Second Reading Paul is persuaded that the hardships which come from following the Gospel serve God's purposes. Something happened to Paul which altered the whole course of his life. And even though many people were suspicious of the new direction he was following, Paul himself maintained this new path until his death. This new path was, of course, his discipleship. His discipleship led to his death but to new life with God in Heaven.

Jesus too had a change in the direction of his life – a change that confused his family and neighbours when he left Nazareth to take up the work of the wandering prophet. The more Jesus shares his understanding of the reality of God and his Kingdom, the more determined are the religious authorities to get rid of him. As his ministry develops, Jesus becomes increasingly aware that carrying out his Father's mission will bring him face to face with a violent death. Before he tells us the story of the Transfiguration Matthew tells us how "Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and raised up on the third day." Matthew tells us that Jesus understood his journey to death as part of God's plan. In the story of the Transfiguration Matthew shows us that Jesus is not just going to suffer, but he is going to dwell in the glory of the Father. The suffering and the glory are evident in the person of Jesus.

In our own journeys we can face difficult decisions more surely in the knowledge that we are loved and supported. When we hear our own name called in love we can face our road to Jerusalem. The power of God's unique love for us can help us face an uncertain future. In the death of Jesus, God demonstrated the extremes of his love for us. In the Transfiguration God reveals who Jesus really is – his Son who died and rose again for us all.

**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

Brian Ashton, Tony Broster, John & Agnes Coan, Kevin Fleming, Francis Gallagher Jnr., Edith Smith, Sylvia Withington, Special Intention, St Jude.

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.

EARLY MORNING MASS

Every Friday during Lent, at 7.30am there will be Mass at Sacred Heart church.

Sacred Heart

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

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Sacred Heart/ Our Lady's Thurs 20th March 4.30pm

St Joseph's Mon 24th March 2.30pm in school
or 6.00pm in church

Twelve Apostles Wed 26th March 4.30pm

WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday, 18th March at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All Ladies welcome.

GARDENING DAY

The next gardening Day is Saturday 15th March.

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

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

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

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY EASTER RAFFLE

Tickets will be on sale after Mass today for the Easter Raffle. Donations for prizes would be most welcome. Thank you to those who have already donated.

TWELVE APOSTLES CLUB

We will shortly be having our Annual Easter Egg Raffle all donations gratefully receive Wednesday is our 200 Club Draw Saturday 22nd March HCPT Family Fun Quiz at 7pm 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)

CHOIR PRACTICE

Thursday, 20th March 7.00pm St Joseph's church, there will be a choir practice for Lent & Easter. Choirs from all the churches are welcome and anyone new who would like to be involved with the choir would be most welcome also.

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.



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

Mar 13 (First anniversary as Pope). Please pray for me.

Mar 8. The challenge for Christian spouses: remaining together, knowing how to love one another always, and doing so in a way that their love grows.

Mar 7. Our deepest joy comes from Christ: remaining with him, walking with him, being his disciples.

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.

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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

Thanks to the many who made this a joyous worshipping together of our Leigh area Christian community. May we all be challenged by and act on the theme "Streams in the Desert". Special thanks to St. Mary's Parish Church, our welcoming hosts and to the Christians of Egypt for all their work in preparing this beautiful Service. May we continue to hold them in prayer at this hard time for them.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL

£2,360.25



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 this week's 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., Stephen Crompton and all who are sick at this time.

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our Community through Baptism to:
Joey Gillibrand, Jessica Sarah Conn.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Kevin Kinney, John Harold Dyer
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

MASS WITH CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS

Following his investiture as Cardinal, Vincent Nichols will return to his native city today 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.

NORTH WEST THIRTY-SOMETHINGS

Are you in your 30s? Would you like to meet other Catholics your age? We are a group who share the same faith and interests. Recent events have included art galleries, meals, theatre, city tours. Our next event is on Saturday 12th April, meeting outside Manchester Town Hall for lunch, then Manchester Art Gallery and concluding with Mass at the Hidden Gem. We welcome new members. Just come along or, if you would like to receive our newsletter of future events, contact Fr. Hugh on hugh@p2030onmicrosoft.com or Sarah on sarahheaton@uwclub.net

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

Cushion Concert!

(Bring your own Cushion)

Sunday 30th March, 7.30pm

St Joseph's Church

Mather Lane, Leigh

Band Concert

comprising of local brass musicians from

The Halle, Liverpool Philharmonic and

Local Brass Bands

Admission Free

(Donation if desired to the upkeep of St Joseph's church)

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 15 March

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

Mon 17 March

FEAST: ST. PATRICK, B. (4th/5th c.) PATRON OF IRELAND

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon REQUIEM MASS Kevin Kinney

Tue 18 March

Tuesday of Week 2 Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 12.00noon MASS Special Intention

Wed 19 March

SOLEMNITY: ST. JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY Patron of the Universal Church, Patron of the Diocese

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon MASS
SH 7.00pm MASS Francis Norman Gibbons

Thu 20 March

Thursday of Week 2 Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
12A 9.30am MASS Peggy Booth
SH 12.00noon MASS Irene Yates
SH 12.30pm Stations of the Cross

Fri 21 March

Friday of Week 2 Lent

SH 7.30am decd. members Flynn family
StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 10.00am MASS
StJ 12.00noon MASS
StJ 7.00pm Stations of the Cross

Sat 22 March

Saturday of Week 2 Lent

OL 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
OL 12.00noon MASS
12A 5.30pm MASS Charles Fairclough

Sun 23 March

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

StJ 8.30am MASS
SH 9.30am MASS Edna Massey
StJ 10.30am MASS
OL 11.00am MASS
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 7 March the numbers drawn were 5, 19, 21. No winner of £580. Last week's estimated jackpot was £650.

Our Lady's 200 Club £10 No. 232 B & H Edwards, £5 No. 081 Mrs J Newill, £3 No. 492 B Ryan, £2 No. 114 Mrs B Ellis

Bonus Ball No. 5

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

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
Tel: 01942 883395
Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk

Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson

