

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)

25 MAY 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

**Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'**

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

It's the night of the Last Supper. Jesus' heart is filled with fear and foreboding. In just a few hours' time he will face the most gruesome of fates – death by crucifixion. And yet his thoughts are centred not on himself but on his disciples. He knows how devastating his death will be for them, and how lonely and vulnerable they will feel without his presence. And so he reassures them with the promise, "I will not leave you orphans," and says, "I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate to be with you forever." The Greek word for Advocate is rich in meaning – a comforter, a consoler, a counsellor. Jesus has been all these to his friends, and now he assures them that someone will continue his work. This special helper, joint gift of the Father and the Son, is of course the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of love and peace. It is this Spirit who, as love, is at the heart of the Church; the Spirit who, as truth, enables us to remain firm in the truths of our faith despite the many pressures we may face in life.

Today's other readings give us a glimpse of the Holy Spirit in action. In today's First Reading the Spirit enables Philip to proclaim, to announce fearlessly, the Good news of Jesus Christ to people in Samaria. And then, through the coming of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation, the newly baptized are strengthened in their faith and their desire to share it with others. We learn that there was "great rejoicing". Joy is one of the special gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Many years ago Pope Paul VI was asked, "What is the greatest need of the Church today?" Without hesitation he replied, "The Holy Spirit". This need has not diminished with the passing of time. We perhaps need it even more today than we did when Pope Paul was still alive. The word "Advocate", used to explain the Holy Spirit, literally means someone who has been called in. It has been wisely stated that the Holy Spirit very rarely gatecrashes into people's lives. The Spirit waits to be invited. These final few weeks before Pentecost, the Feast of the Holy Spirit, are the ideal time for us to invite the Holy Spirit into our lives, that we may be ever more richly blessed with the gifts of love and joy and power and gentleness. Of course, the Holy Spirit has been with us since Baptism, so we are really praying that this divine guest may enrich our lives in a new and fuller way.

Jesus was anxious that his friends should not feel like orphans. We are his friends too. Why then would we want to remain orphans when, on request, we can experience the loving support of the Holy Spirit who is, in the words of a well-known hymn, the "best gift of God above"?

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ST JOSEPH'S MASS INTENTIONS

William Atherton, Boon & Campbell Families, John Donohue, Michael Fallon, Terry Fallon, Edel Quinn, Mary Sutton, Elizabeth Wilcock, Special Intention, Successful Operation,

### WOMEN'S SODALITY

The next meeting for the Women's Sodality will be on this Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

### FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation for the children who will be receiving the Sacraments at St Joseph's church in June, will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 6.00pm.

### THANK YOU

I completed my three peaks challenge last weekend. Thanks to everyone who sponsored me and wished me well. I have raised £300 towards my target which is a fantastic amount of money. I will be at the back of church on Sunday at St Josephs to collect any outstanding money or if anyone would like to ask me anything about the project. Thanks once again. *Lewis*

### TWELVE APOSTLES & CLUB

Many thanks to all those who supported the concert, which was very enjoyable, last week £300 was raised for HCPT Please support the parish centre for your special occasion a free function room is now available ring 01942 209192.



Pope Francis<sup>†</sup>@Pontifex

May 22

We will never be disillusioned or lose our way if we are guided by God.

May 21

I ask all of you to pray for the victims of the floods in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Serbia and in other countries in the region.

May 20

Come, Holy Spirit! Help us to overcome our selfishness.

May 19

The one who listens attentively to the Word of God and truly prays, always asks the Lord: what is your will for me?

May 17

The month of May, dedicated to Mary, is a fitting time to begin to recite the rosary daily.

May 16

Our mission as Christians is to conform ourselves evermore to Jesus as the model of our lives.

### SANCTUARY LAMPS

At Sacred Heart church there has been an encouraging take up of the sponsored eight day sanctuary lamp candles dedicated to deceased loved ones. There are only twelve remaining of the issue of 50 and the list will be closed after this weekend until next year. If you would like to dedicate a candle, please write the person's or family name on an envelope and enclose payment of £5. A list will be displayed of names and the date the candle is scheduled to be lit.

### LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE ASSOCIATION

The Pilgrimage takes place from Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August. While it may not be possible for you to join us, you

can join us in spirit by becoming an Associate member of the Pilgrimage. All that is asked is that you recite the prayers on the leaflet (to be found in church porches) during the Pilgrimage. If you are able, we would also be very grateful for any contribution you can make to the Sick Fund, which goes to provide the many things necessary to make our sick pilgrims' journey and stay in Lourdes as comfortable as possible. Without your help and prayers, many of our sick pilgrims would not be able to travel to Lourdes.

### MAY PROCESSION



This year the May procession will be held at St Joseph's church on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm. We would like to invite the children from all four churches who are receiving the Sacraments this year, to lead the procession. Everyone is welcome to come along to honour Our Lady. Please bring a flower to place on the Lady Altar.

### WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

World Communications Day takes place this year on Sunday 1 June 2014 - the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. This is the day when Catholics are asked to reflect on the necessity of fulfilling the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world. A key to communicating with "the whole world" is the world of the media and its demands for news relating to every aspect of the life of the Church and its people. Here you will find Pope Francis' message:

*The media can help us to feel closer to one another, creating a sense of the unity of the human family which can in turn inspire solidarity and serious efforts to ensure a more dignified life for all.*

*Pope Francis,*

*World Communications Day Message 2014*  
[www.catholicnews.org.uk](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk)

### World Communications Day Prayer

*O God,  
whose word is truth  
and in whose light we see light,  
guide those who tell the story  
of our times through  
word and image.  
Make them seekers after truth  
and advocates of human dignity.  
Grant discernment to all  
who rely on their labours,  
and, as we confront the pain  
and promise of this world,  
awaken in us a sense of  
wonder at your presence  
and of longing for your peace,  
Through Christ Our Lord,  
Amen.*

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**PARISH TOTAL** £1,555.90

The second collection at all our churches next weekend will be on behalf of Catholic Communications Network.

### BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to :  
Grace Erin Markland, Ryder Jay Coleman, Oscar Alexander Hatfeild.

### SICK

Please remember Baby Kara Hughes, Fr Patrick Shanahan M. Afr., Stephen Crompton, Pat Wareing, Alan Pearson and all who are sick at this time.

### LATELY DEAD

John Barker, Mary Brunskill, Ivy O'Neill, Marguerite Whittle, Eternal rest give unto them ...

### "CELEBRATE THE CHILD" MASS

This year's Mass will take place on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July at St Mary's, Lowe House, St Helens at 1.30pm. The Principal Celebrant will be Archbishop Malcolm McMahon. It is an opportunity to give thanks to God for the gift of children and those who nurture them practically and spiritually. So children, parents, catechists and clergy are invited to attend and make this a vibrant celebration in a large beautiful church. Posters with more details are in our church porches or call the Safeguarding Department on 0151-522-1043.

### HELP NEEDED

Sr Megan is asking for help for a homeless person who has just been given a flat. He has nothing at all so, if you can spare anything (carpets, curtains, furniture, bedding, cutlery, cooker, fridge etc), it will be most gratefully received. Thank you.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sr. Catherine Darby, SND, is leading a Skills Workshop at St. Teresa's, College Road, Upholland on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, from 6.30 to 9.00pm. This workshop will help new and current Children's Liturgy leaders and supporters. Please book a place with Mrs. Veronica Murphy 0151 522 1048 or e-mail v.murphy@rcaol.co.uk

### SACRED HEART LOTTERY

Thanks to those who buy tickets every week, those who take tickets to sell to others as well as school staff and the team who count the cash and look for winning entries, a balance has again built up and cheques for £1,000 each have this week been handed to Sacred Heart school and to parish funds. The school intends to use their share to buy I.T. equipment.

### TWELVE APOSTLES SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

XII Apostles RCPS are looking for a Foundation Governor to start in September. This is a voluntary role and you don't need any qualifications or expertise just a commitment to making a difference to our young children's future. If anyone is interested or would like to find out more about the role please contact Father Kieran or Mrs Newton the Headteacher on 01942 674312 for an informal chat.

## CAKE SALE & NEARLY NEW SALE



On 15<sup>th</sup> June Our Lady of the Rosary are having a cake and nearly new sale after Mass.

Please come along and support us. Also we need help on the day and offers to make cakes.

World Day of Prayer  
St Joseph's Group Charity Effort

## A Coffee Morning

In St Joseph's Hall, Mather Lane, Leigh

Saturday 31st May  
10.30am - 12.30pm

Admission 50p including coffee & biscuits

Proceeds for the benefit of  
Columban Fathers Philippines  
Village Resettlement Project

Any donations would be most welcome and can be left at the presbytery any weekday between 8.30am and 4.00pm.

Stalls include: tombola, cakes, plants, books, cards, bric-a-brac

### "Dance Night"

5<sup>th</sup> September

St Richards Hall, Atherton

After a very successful Dance Night in July 2012, the Catenian Association of Leigh are delighted to sponsor and promote another live band "Dancing to Swing".

Ticket price of £10 will include live dance band and a buffet

Tickets are available now

as there was a strong demand last time

Please contact Des 876050 or Eamonn 892967

## 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 24 May

12A 5.30pm MASS Timothy Stott

### Sun 25 May

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)**

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS The O'Reilly family

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Michael Newill (Ann)

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

### Mon 26 May

**Memorial: St. Philip Neri, Cong Orat, P. (16<sup>th</sup> c.)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Tue 27 May

**FEAST: ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, OSB, B. (6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> c.)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS Maureen Lewin

### Wed 28 May

**Weekday of Easter (Week 6)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

StJ 7.00pm PARISH MAY PROCESSION

### Thu 29 May

**Weekday of Easter (Week 6)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS

### Fri 30 May

**Weekday of Easter (Week 6)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Sat 31 May

**FEAST: VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

StJ 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

StJ 12.00noon MASS

12A 5.30pm MASS People of the Pastoral Area

### Sun 1 June

**SOLEMNITY: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (YEAR A)**

**World Communications Day**

StJ 8.30am MASS

SH 9.30am MASS Paul & Mary Caren

StJ 10.30am MASS

OL 11.00am MASS Josephine & Roman Grosvenor

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 16 May the numbers drawn were 1, 6, 21. No winner of £250. Last week's estimated jackpot was £320.

**Our Lady's 200 Club** £10 No. 201 H Edwards, £5 No. 423 B Ryan, £3 No. 357 B Ryan, £2 No. 100 M & D Flannery

**Bonus Ball** No. 25 U Lightford

**Twelve Apostles 200 Club** £40 no 113 Rachel Thompson, £15 no 223 J Harrison, £5 no 79 Mrs Hampson, £5 no 110 Marie Frain

### 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. Kieran O'Grady

Tel: 01942 673517

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

Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood

Tel: 0161 790 2390

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

Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon

Tel: 01942 883395

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

