

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) 31 AUGUST 2014



## Responsorial Psalm

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

After last week's heroics, today's Gospel is a damning one for poor Peter. Jesus calls him "Satan". All Peter has done is try to console Jesus and give him his support. Jesus has come to the point when he wants to tell his disciples what is going to happen to him. He says that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer and die. He also makes it clear that he will rise again on the third day. The disciples don't seem to have focused on the rising from the dead – how could they have any notion as to what this meant?! They focus on the suffering and dying. So Peter says to Jesus, "Heaven preserve you, Lord ... this must not happen to you."

Last Sunday we heard Jesus speaking to Peter in a very different way, "You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church." The section when Jesus says this in Matthew's Gospel is only five verses before today's "Get behind me, Satan!" The change in tone happens so quickly. It is almost as though Jesus says one thing in one breath and then something very different in the next. Peter has many wonderful qualities, and we rejoice in them. However, the scriptures make sure we are aware of Peter's failings too. For example, when Peter is walking on the water, he panics and cries out for help. When Peter tells Jesus he will die for him, he very soon denies knowing Jesus and runs away. Peter is a real person of flesh and blood, full of all the bravery and fears involved in discipleship, yet he is an example we would do well to follow. When he makes mistakes, Peter never gives in to despair but comes back time and time again to Jesus, even though this means taking up the cross on a daily basis.

Are we not basically the same as Peter in his humanity and unworthiness? Could Jesus say the same to us, "Get behind me, Satan!"? Probably many of us, if not all of us, can think of times in our lives when we have done bad things and possibly deserved to be spoken to in this way. But let us also remember the things we have done that would lead Jesus to commend us. One of the reasons we come to Church is to help us be better followers of Jesus. Yet at the same time we can be so conscious of our sinfulness and failure that we are left feeling helpless on the road to holiness. Today let us focus on what Jesus is telling us in the Gospel. He is saying to us, "If you want to be a follower of mine, you have to pick up your cross and follow me every day."

It's not an easy road that we are offered, and at times we can find ourselves tempted to take a different direction. We know what Jesus calls us to do – do we have the determination to do it? And when we fail, do we have the faith to turn back to 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

Dierdre Anne Costello, Past Darwell, Peter Galloway, Albert Gornall, Vincent Lythgoe, Joseph Smith, Lee Thompson, Special Intention



### TWELVE APOSTLES & PARISH CENTRE

Any enquiries for the club please use the new number 07921 816501. Please consider us for your special occasion, bingo every Wednesday at 8.30, please support the groups who regularly use your club. Craft Fair 26<sup>th</sup> October for more information ring the club

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Our sacramental preparation programme will be starting again in September. If your child will be in Y4 in September, and does not attend XII Apostles, Sacred Heart or St Joseph's schools, has been baptised (proof needed) and wishes to be confirmed, make their first confession and Holy Communion, please contact the parish office with the child's name address and contact details as soon as possible.

### DANCE NIGHT

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September** - After a successful event in July 2012, Leigh Catenian Association again presents Dancing to Swing Time with live band, St Richard's church hall, Atherton. Raffle proceeds shared with local HCPT. Tickets £10, buffet included from Ratcliffe's cycle shop or Maurice McCarthy (518895).

### PARISH FEAST CELEBRATION



This year's Parish Feast Days of St Margaret Clitherow and St Edmund Arrowsmith will be celebrated at St Gabriel's, Higher Folds, on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** at 7.00pm. **Practice** for musicians and singers in St Gabriel's church the evening before, **September 1<sup>st</sup>**, at 7.00pm. If you are an **altar server** and would like to serve, please bring your alb and arrive twenty minutes before the Mass is due to begin.

### URGENT APPEAL

Sr Megan has asked if we can help a young lady moving into a flat, who does not have anything at all. She needs carpets, chairs, bed, wardrobe, bedding, cutlery, plates, pans, cooker, microwave, fridge etc. If you can help at all, please contact Sr Megan on 01942 683554

### GOOD BYE

This is Fr Silviu's last weekend with us and so we would like to say good bye and thank you for all your hard work. Fr Silviu, has served us here since the beginning of March and his faith and devotion have been an inspiration to us all. He will be missed. We wish him well in his new parish. Our prayers and good wishes go with him.

Pope Francis'@Pontifex (<https://twitter.com/Pontifex>)  
Aug 28

From the cross, Christ teaches us to love even those who do not love us.

Aug 26

God's love is unbounded: it has no limits!

Aug 23

Christians know how to give. Their lives are filled with generous acts – often hidden – towards their neighbour.

Aug 21

Let us ask the Lord for this grace: that our hearts become free and filled with light, so that we can rejoice as children of God.

### EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

We welcome inquiries from everyone. You may be someone who has never belonged to any faith community or you may have been baptised in another Christian tradition. You may simply feel a sense of curiosity to find out more or you may have already decided to seek membership of the Catholic Church. Whatever your starting point you are very welcome. You may be asking yourself:

#### What is R.C.I.A?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (or RCIA for short), is a sacramental process rather than a programme of study and is the normal way in which newcomers are welcomed into the life of the Church. Over the weeks and months that follow, you will be listened to and helped to grow spiritually as you deepen your knowledge and understanding of the Lord and the teachings of the Catholic Church. It is easiest to think of this process as a journey in faith that has four periods of preparation and three "Rites". The Rites are like doorways that you pass through marking the end of one period and the start of the next. These Rites are liturgical celebrations that may also be thought of as milestones or "Steps" along your journey.

#### How long does it take?

The rites take place during the six weeks of Lent, with the sacraments of Baptism (for the unbaptised), Confirmation and Eucharist all received during the Easter Vigil, which will be earlier next year on Saturday, 4 April 2015. But first comes a time of preparation.

#### How long does preparation take?

Preparation takes as long as you, in your circumstances, want it to take. Meetings will begin at Sacred Heart church in the first week of October this year. If you are still attending meetings, haven't changed your mind, and feel ready by February 18 (Ash Wednesday) next year, you can then commit to the completing stages. Some people aren't ready and need to defer until the following year. It's up to you. We do not ask for any earlier commitment to the process. You can drop out at any time.

#### Who do I contact?

If you are already attending church then please leave your details with the local priest. If not, or if you prefer, please leave your name, number and address with Deacon Tony on 01942 606329 or e-mail [deacon@sacredheartleigh.org.uk](mailto:deacon@sacredheartleigh.org.uk). And don't forget to bring a friend!

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**PARISH TOTAL** £1,888.49  
**CAFOD Gaza Appeal** £ 589.47

## BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to :  
William John Plimley, Sam Frederick Coyle, Charley James Wilcock, Lucy Jane Fletcher, Bella Rose Owen Rigby

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Teresa Bostock, Anne Cocker, Kathleen Downs, Calum Lancaster (14yrs), Alan Roy Pearson, Sid Woodcock (formally of Leigh), Eternal rest grant unto them ...

## SANDYMOUNT RETREAT

16 Burbo Bank Rd Blundellsands, Liverpool L23 6TH  
**A place to relax, reflect and pray**

|   |      |
|---|------|
| September 26-28                         |      |
| <i>Food for Thought</i>                 | £119 |
| October 10-12                           |      |
| <i>Women at the Well</i>                | £119 |
| November 8                              |      |
| <i>Divine Beauty of the human heart</i> | £15  |
| November 21-23                          |      |
| <i>Healing through the Word of God</i>  | £119 |
| December 12-14                          |      |
| <i>Men together</i>                     | £119 |

Tel: 0151 924 4850 or email:  
Info @sandymountretreats.org.uk for more details

## POPE FRANCIS ON "CHIT CHAT"

During his weekly Audience on Wednesday, Pope Francis once again spoke about the damage gossip does. While speaking about unity, he invited us to "think of the many common failures in our communities, of 'parish' sins. Sometimes, in fact, our parishes, called to be places of sharing and communion, are marked sadly by envies, jealousies, antipathies. And this chitchat is carried to all. How much this chitchat exists in the parishes! This is not good. This is not the Church! One must not do this, we must not do it! We need to ask the Lord for the grace not to do this. This is human, all right, but not Christian! This happens when we seek the first places, when we put ourselves at the centre, with our personal ambitions and our ways of seeing things, and we judge others; when we look at the defects of our brothers instead of their gifts, when we give more weight to what divides that to what brings us together. In face of all this, we must make a serious examination of conscience. In a Christian community, division is one of the gravest sins, because it renders it not the work of God but a sign of the devil, who by definition is he who separates, who ruins relations, who insinuates prejudices. Instead, God wants us to grow in the capacity to accept, forgive and love one another, to be ever more like Him who is communion and love."

## "With You Always - Baptism"

In January 2015, we will be introducing "With You Always - Baptism" - a new way of preparing and celebrating Baptism in the Pastoral Area. We hope it will be especially supportive and welcoming to those who don't come to church regularly. We will need volunteers from each church community to lead and facilitate this process. If you think you could help, please let any of the priests know. Training will be provided.

## Justice & Peace Group

The next meeting of the Pastoral Area Justice & Peace Group will take place on Thursday October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. The venue has not yet been finalized but we will let you know as soon as possible. Please make a date in your diary for this meeting.

There is so much to discuss concerning Justice & Peace at the moment. Why not come along and get more?

## St Joseph's Players Present The Comedy

## IMPROBABLE FICTION

Written by Alan Ayckbourn  
Curtain 7.30pm

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September to  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September  
Tickets Adults £8,  
16yrs and under £4.50

Available from Ratcliffe's Bike Shop,  
Bradshawgate



Ice  
Water  
Challenge?

## Prayer for the People of Iraq

**Lord, send us the gift of peace**

Watch over the people of Iraq who have been forced to flee their homes and face violence and fear.

**Lord, send us the gift of peace**

Lead them to a place of safety, comfort those who grieve and bring healing to those in pain.

**Lord, send us the gift of peace**

Convert the hearts of those who commit violence and wage war.

Turn them away from persecution towards peace.

**Lord, send us the gift of peace**

Turn hatred to understanding, and anger to compassion.

Through your love, transform horror into hope.

**Lord, send us the gift of peace**

And fill us all with your Spirit so that with one voice, throughout the world, we may cry out:

**Lord, send us the gift of peace**

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

*Catherine Gorman/CAFOD*

## A FABULOUS AFTERNOON'S ENTERTAINMENT

(In aid of Pensioners Link Leigh)

In the **Mather Room**, Mather Lane, Leigh  
With

**HEATHER MARIE & Fit MATTHEW LITTLE**  
UK Popular War Time Tribute Act

From 2pm until 5pm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September  
Tickets £6 from Pauline 01942-604603

**Or Pensioners Link Office**

Refreshments available and Raffle

If you wish to bring a bottle, please do.

## MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

12A = Twelve Apostles, StJ = Saint Joseph, SH = Sacred Heart, OL = Our Lady of the Rosary, StR = St Richard, HF = Holy Family, StG = Saint Gabriel, StAB = Saint Ambrose Barlow

### Sat 30 August

12A 5.30pm MASS Karol Gredecki  
StG 6.00pm MASS John Braid  
StR 6.00pm MASS Dorothy Hunt

### Sun 31 August TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

#### StJ NO 8.30am MASS DURING AUGUST

HF 9.00am MASS Lois O'Neill  
SH 9.30am MASS Tom Gibbon  
StR 9.30am MASS Roy Benjamin  
StJ 10.30am MASS  
OL 11.00am MASS  
StAB 11.00am MASS Vincent Topping

#### HF NO 11.00am MASS DURING AUGUST

StR 6.30pm MASS Harold Haigh

### Mon 1 September Weekday in Ordinary Time (Week 22, Year 2)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Anne Cocker

### Tue 2 September Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
SH NO MASS

### StG 7.00pm PARISHES FEAST DAYS CELEBRATION MASS

### Wed 3 September FEAST: ST. GREGORY THE GREAT, pope, D. (6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> c.)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 12.00noon MASS  
12A 1.30pm FUNERAL MASS Teresa Bostock  
SH 7.00pm MASS Francis Tesmer LD

### Thu 4 September Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
12A 9.45am FUNERAL MASS Kathleen Downs  
SH 12.00noon MASS B&S Fletcher

### Fri 5 September Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
OL 10.00am MASS (Moss Bank Court)  
StJ 12.00noon MASS

### Sat 6 September Weekday in Ordinary Time

SH 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation  
SH 12.00noon MASS Marian Woodward  
12A 5.30pm MASS Pat Atherton

### Sun 7 September TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

StJ 8.30am MASS  
SH 9.30am MASS Maria Ashbrook  
StJ 10.30am MASS  
OL 11.00am MASS  
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 22 August the numbers drawn were 8, 11, 15. No winner of £768. Last week's estimated jackpot was £830.

**Our Lady's 500 Club** £10

**Bonus Ball**

**Twelve Apostles 200 club** £40, 140, T Thompson; £15, 153, JP Thompson; £5, 48, B Parry; £5, 32, P Newton.

### 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. Colin Fealey  
arriving 5<sup>th</sup> September

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon  
Tel: 01942 883395  
Email: [paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk)