

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) 14th SEPTEMBER 2014



Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Over the last few weeks we have heard, quite rightly, of the heroes of the First World War. All the different stories remind us of the heroes who gave their lives for the freedom of their country. One thing that stands out, from many of the stories, is the fear the men must have felt, stood in the trenches, awaiting the final "push". As he faced the Cross, do we think Jesus was afraid? We know, of course, that he was fully human and therefore he would have been afraid. Had he not dreaded the torture and death awaiting him, he would not have been human. Facing increasing opposition from the Jewish authorities, Jesus had a choice. Either he could abandon his efforts to tell the people of his Father's love and the Kingdom of God, or he could fulfil his mission even though it would cost him his life. Luke's Gospel tells us that, in Gethsemane, Jesus sweated blood, a phenomenon that scientists say only happens under conditions of extreme stress. Yes, Jesus was terrified, but, in a real sense, he had no choice. In his battle against evil, there could be no surrender. Humanly speaking, Jesus was weak and undefended, surrounded by friends and supports who fled when the going became tough. In the eyes of those who captured him, Jesus was the inevitable loser and a dangerously outspoken fool who deserved to face the bloody consequences of his words and actions.

Yet the full story went beyond the physical aspects of Calvary. Those who rebelled against God and against Moses' leadership in today's First Reading needed a bronze serpent to save them from the bite of the poisonous snakes in their midst. Broken humanity needed Jesus to save it from the evil that threatened to engulf the world. Moses raised his fiery serpent on a staff for all to see. Jesus, on the Cross, would be, for all time, a sign of the resurrection to come. The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross recalls the day when in AD 326, according to tradition, St. Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, discovered the true cross and, on this site, built the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. The Cross, however, is more than a holy relic. It has a meaning that underlines the whole of Christianity. It proclaims that Jesus, as human as we are, overcame his fears and faced suffering and death in a supreme act of self-sacrifice. It declares that there is no Easter Sunday unless it is preceded by Good Friday. The unsung heroes and heroines of the First World War gave themselves freely as they tried to protect and defend those around them. That is why, in spite of the horrors of war, we remember them with honour and pride. None of us can escape the experience of suffering. It is part and parcel of our human existence. Looking towards the crucified Jesus, we can see for ourselves someone who knew rejection and pain from personal experience. The Cross is the symbol of the resurrection. Death prepares us for eternal life. With Jesus in our sights, we can face anything.

**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

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 26th October for more information ring the club

We are no longer having retiring collections for Twelve Apostles Church Repair Fund, however you can still make your donations in the wall box at the back of church.

Full Monty Wednesday 17th Sept, coach leaves Twelve Apostles Club at 6.00pm you can leave your vehicle on the car park if you wish

COFFEE MORNING

Coffee Morning at St Joseph's this week will be held in the Green Room. Please come through the Sacristy.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Can the Eucharistic Ministers at St Joseph's Church please send a list of the people they visit into the office. If you have only recently updated your list you do not need to send in another one. Thank you.

WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday 16th September at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The first meeting of our Sacramental Preparation Programme "Come to the Water", is on Wednesday 24th September in St Joseph's Church at 3.45pm. The session will be repeated in Sacred Heart Church on Thursday 25th September. You are able to attend either session, regardless of which you your child attends.

The first session for Twelve Apostles children is on Wednesday 1st October at 4.30pm in Twelve Apostles Church.

If your child is in Year 4 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 by Monday 15th September.

THANK YOU

We have received a Thank You Card from Fr Silviu, he writes "Dear Paridhioners, Thank you for your support and kindness during my stay in the Parish, Thanks also for the gifts and cards when I left. Fr Silviu

God bless you."

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

On Wednesday 24 September there will be a Mass for present and deceased members of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society in Sacred Heart church at 7.00pm. Pastoral area SVP members, past members and families are specially invited.

JUSTICE & PEACE

The next meeting of the Pastoral Area Justice & Peace Group will take place on Thursday October 9th at 7.30 pm. The venue has not yet been finalised 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 involved? Everyone welcome.



Pope Francis [@Pontifex](https://twitter.com/Pontifex) (<https://twitter.com/Pontifex>)

We cannot trust in our own strength, but only in Jesus and in his mercy.

- [Pope Francis @Pontifex · Sep 9](#)
God's faithfulness is stronger than our unfaithfulness and our infidelities.

- [Pope Francis @Pontifex · Sep 6](#)
Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He seeks us out and he stays near us even though we are sinners, indeed because we are sinners.

- [Pope Francis @Pontifex · Sep 5](#)
I pray every day for all who are suffering in Iraq. Please join me.

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. And don't forget to bring a friend!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS
PARISH TOTAL £1,515.38

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to : Charlie Robert Hornby & Joshua Joseph Hornby

RECENTLY DECEASED

Ruth Ellison, Patricia Moore, Edward Unsworth
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

MACMILLAN NURSES

Cancer Support Day
At The Fir Tree Inn
170 Firs Lane Leigh

Sunday 28th September 11.30am - 3.30pm

Tea Coffee Cakes Biscuits & Raffle etc
All funds go to Macmillan Nurses
Home made cakes & biscuits donations most welcome
Phone Judith on 07507 738098



Harvest 2014

Lord,

You who reign over all creation and nature
we ask you to help us this year
with a good rainy season.

We ask you, Lord, to bless our seeds
make them fertile with the sky's dew
and protect them from any harm
so that they may grow to fruition
for the benefit of our families.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.



*Prayer from the office of the Jesuit Development Service,
Guaymango, El Salvador
Photo: Sarah Smith-Pearse*

Generous God,

Thank you for our food.

May we appreciate what we have
and never take it for granted.

We pray for those around the world,
who do not have enough
to provide for their family.

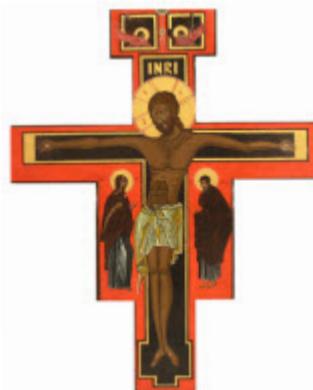
We pray for a good harvest,
for generosity and love,
as we seek a better, fairer world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.



*Prayer: Katharine O'Brien, Youth Leader, Wanstead
Photo: Wilde Fry*

The North West Launch of CAFOD's new Campaign "One Climate One World" takes place in Manchester on Saturday September 20th at the Quaker Friends' Meeting House (6 Mount Street, Manchester M2 5NS) starting at 2.00 pm (arrivals and refreshments from 1.30 pm) and finishing at 5.00 pm. The programme for the afternoon includes input from members of CAFOD's Campaign Team, Eilidh Macpherson and Maria Elena Arana, as well as from Sarah Wykes, our Senior Analyst on Climate Change and Energy. There'll be an opportunity for a community action and time for reflection and questions too. We hope you can join us for what promises to be an interesting, active and informative afternoon. You can book your place through the CAFOD website. Alternatively you could let us know at the CAFOD Liverpool Office on 0151 228 4028, or email liverpool@cafod.org.uk



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 13 September

12A 5.30pm MASS Joe Jackson (LD)

Sun 14 September TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

StJ 8.30am MASS Betty Sroka
SH 9.30am MASS Tom Ramsdale
StJ 10.30am MASS Alicia Cox
OL 11.00am MASS Kenneth Kilduff
StR 6.30pm MASS

Mon 15 September *Memorial: Our Lady of Sorrows*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 1.00pm Funeral Service Patricia Moore

Tue 16 September *Memorial: Ss. Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.00am MASS Daniel & Catherine Porter
SH 12.00noon MASS Special Intention
StJ 1.00pm Funeral Service Ruth Eillison

Wed 17 September *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Edward Unsworth
SH 7.00pm MASS Gerald Conaboy LD

Thu 18 September *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.00am MASS Agnes Ellis
SH 12.00noon MASS Frank Tesmer LD

Fri 19 September *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 10.00am MASS Marie Corner
StJ 12.00noon MASS Raymond Jarvis

Sat 20 September *Memorial: Ss Andrew Kim Taegon, P.M. And CompanionsMM.*

StJ 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
StJ 12.00noon MASS Joan Gibbson
12A 5.30pm MASS John Fisher

Sun 21 September FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

StJ 8.30am MASS Helen Hudson
SH 9.30am MASS Doris Gaskell & Doris Stout
StJ 10.30am MASS Mary Marsh
OL 11.00am MASS Chris Herlihy
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

Sacred Heart Lottery £305.74

Sacred Heart Lottery on 5 September 2, 4, 16 no winner of £916, this week's estimate £1,000.

Our Lady's 500 Club

Bonus Ball

Twelve Apostles 200 club

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. Colin Fealey
Tel: 01942 673517

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