

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

25 JANUARY 2015



## Responsorial Psalm

Lord, make me know your ways.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is close at hand;  
believe the Good News.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Many of us have heard the story of Jonah and the whale. It is quite an intriguing one. Jonah has the opportunity to repent. He is out of his element as he attempts to avoid God's command to go to the people of Nineveh and deliver God's message to the people there. Eventually, after his encounter with the whale, Jonah obeys God's command. He goes to the city and tells the people that everything in it will be destroyed in 40 days, unless they repent. There is no ambiguity about the message. The message is certain. Everyone pays attention. The king and his ministers command the people to renounce their evil ways: "Who knows, God may yet repent and turn from his furious anger?" They hope that if they repent, so too will God. God repents when the people repent. He changes his mind when he sees the people respond to his message, given to them through the prophet Jonah. Everyone is overjoyed. All except one. While the people rejoice, Jonah leaves the city. As he suspected from the beginning, God has a controlling habit of forgiveness. He argues again with God: "That was why I fled ... I knew you were a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in graciousness and mercy, relenting from evil." He asks God to take his life. He has been put to shame. The prophet has been proved a failure.

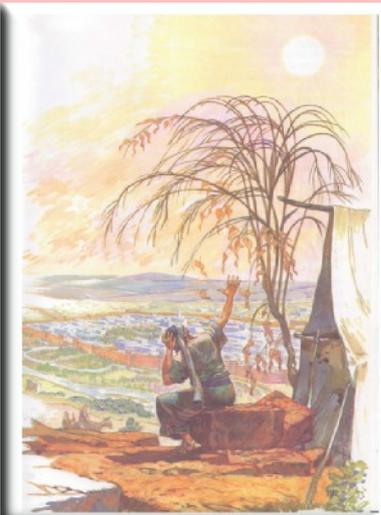
Jonah decides to sit in the hot sun until he dies. But God causes a tree to grow, to shade the prophet. Jonah feels better. But God causes the tree to die, and then Jonah feels sorry for the tree! God has the last word. He asks Jonah why he is sorry for the tree. Should God not feel sorry for the city of Nineveh and all the people there? With this question from God, the story of Jonah comes to an end. Jonah is obsessed with being right and is willing to see all the people perish to be proved right. But the prophet has to learn that the point of being a prophet is not necessarily to be accurate all the time but to bring people to repentance and turn them back to God. Jonah has been made to look foolish, at least to himself, but his foolishness is much less important than the people's repentance and their relationship with God. He has to learn that it is NEVER too late to repent, and that it is always good when the "give-them-hell" prophet is proved wrong.

The story of Jonah holds out hope for all of us. In the story everyone repents: Jonah himself, the people of Nineveh, even God, who changes his mind about how to treat the people of that great city. The Good News is that no one is tied to a planned fate, no one is doomed to embrace disaster. By choosing to repent we can change our lives. Repentance is Good News because it means nothing is settled, nothing is sealed. Things can change. If God can begin again, so can we begin again and again and again. It is NEVER too late to turn back to God. This is the Gospel. This is Good News. And we are challenged to be like Jonah in sharing this news with others.

**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

### TWELVE APOSTLES & PARISH CENTRE

Any enquiries for the club please call on 07921 816501. Please consider us for your special occasion. Bingo on Wednesday: please support the groups who regularly use your club. Please check your numbers for the Selection Box Raffle. Due to illness there will be no Wednesday Bingo until further notice. The next 200 Club Draw will be after Mass on 24<sup>th</sup> January, payments can be given to Therese or Jane Thompson, you can also put the money and your details in an envelope and either put it with the offertory collection, through the church or club letterboxes.

### ST JOSEPH'S

#### WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Bill Burke, Danny Gardner, Margaret Fleming, Margaret Gildhart, Frank Grogan, Eddie McGrath, Hilda Naylor, Gerrard Oddie, Thanksgiving (Heaton Family), Special Intention & Thanksgiving, Our Lord Our Lady & All Saints, Louis Manfredi & Family

### St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School Admissions Policy for 2016/2017

Catholic schools across the Archdiocese are consulting on proposed changes to Admissions Policies to take effect for school admissions for September 2016. The consultation period will run until the 23 February 2015 and you are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal to: The Archdiocese of Liverpool, Schools Department, LACE, Croxteth Drive, Sefton Park, L17 1AA. Alternatively you may wish to e-mail Mr C.Williams at: [c.williams@rcaol.co.uk](mailto:c.williams@rcaol.co.uk). Comments should also be sent to the Chair of Governing Body at the school address.

A copy of the proposed Admissions Policy can be found at: <http://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/schools/admissions2016> or on the school website at <http://www.saintjosephs.wigan.sch.uk>. A copy can also be obtained from the school office.

### ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH SVP

... would like to thank parishioners for their donations to the Society between October and December 2014. Received with gratitude. *The Treasurer.*

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

... on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> January, 7.00pm at Twelve Apostles club. All welcome.

### CAFOD at Wavertree Park

Many thanks for the Leigh Sacred Heart donations (£170) and with 12 Apostles' Friday Self Denial contributions, a total of £240 has been sent to CAFOD Ebola, Liverpool.

### WALSINGHAM TRIP

This year is our 40<sup>th</sup> year of running the Walsingham Pilgrimage. We leave on 6<sup>th</sup> of April for five days. The approximate cost of the trip will be £150 and a deposit of £20 is required to secure a place. Please contact Mr & Mrs Hawkins, if you would like to go, on 01942 675368.

## JUSTICE & PEACE

The next meeting of the Justice & Peace Group will take place in the Parish House at St. Richard's, Atherton, on Tuesday January 27<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm. Please come along and get more involved in Justice & Peace issues.

### SACRED HEART YEAR FOUR CHILDREN

Next Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> February and on the first Sunday of most following months we will be inviting our Year Four children from Sacred Heart school together with their teachers and families to join us at Sunday morning Mass. We hope that they will enjoy these special Sundays and we will surely enjoy their participation in the readings and bidding prayers as well as leading us in song. Please help to make them welcome.

### SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN YOUTH CONFERENCE

The annual SPUC Youth Conference has been very successful in recent years in educating and motivating the youth of today to engage in peaceful and effective pro-life work all over the UK. The youth conference is also open to attendees from other countries. Young people from Spain and Malta have been welcomed in recent years.

The conference will run from Friday 6 March (late afternoon) until Sunday 8 March 2015 (after lunch), at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Southport (near Liverpool).

The price is £100, including all meals and accommodation. The conference is open to those from the age of 16 to 35.

Our speakers will include His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke, who has been very outspoken in defence of human life and the family; and Obianuju (Uju) Ekeocha, founder of Culture of Life Africa. Uju travels all over the world promoting the defence of human life in Africa, which is under huge pressure to cede to the Western practices of abortion and contraception.

Other speakers will include Ira Winter, a member of the Life Fertility Care team, which promotes an ethical alternative to IVF; and Dr. David Paton, a professor of Economics at Nottingham University and an expert on issues surrounding teenage pregnancy.

Entertainment will include Friday evening quiz and film, Saturday evening ceilidh, and drinks in the bar (over 18s only) on Friday and Saturday evening.

To book, please: visit [www.spuc.org.uk/youth/conference2015](http://www.spuc.org.uk/youth/conference2015) download the application form, complete it and post it with the conference fee enclosed to: Youth Conference, SPUC, 3 Whitacre Mews, Stannary Street, London, SE11 4AB.

If you have a query about the conference please contact Rhoslyn Thomas by email to [conference@spuc.org.uk](mailto:conference@spuc.org.uk) or by telephone to 020 7820 3140.

To subscribe to SPUC's email information services, please visit [www.spuc.org.uk/em-signup](http://www.spuc.org.uk/em-signup).

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### MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

At Christ the King Church, Childwall,  
Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.30pm.  
Everyone welcome.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,539.75

Thank you for your generosity and continuing support.

Retiring collections next weekend are for the benefit of the Catholic Education Service

## EDUCATION SUNDAY 2015

Education Sunday will take place next Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> February. It is a day of celebration for all those involved in the world of education. For over a century it has been part of an ecumenical celebration in which the Catholic Church participates. The Catholic Education Service's theme for Education Sunday 2015 is 'All Gifts and All People'. Education Sunday is an opportunity for schools and parishes to come together to celebrate and give thanks for all the students, staff and parents who work so hard in and for Catholic schools. It is also a chance for us to reflect upon the contribution that Catholic education makes to our communities.

## SICK

Please remember in your prayers all who are sick at this time, especially John Thompson.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Veronica Whittaker, John Francis Grogan, Joan Taylor, Frank Aigus.

Eternal rest grant unto them ...



Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 22  
Every Life is a Gift. #Marchforlife  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 19  
Sa aking mga kaibigan sa Sri Lanka at Pilipinas: Naway pagpalain kayo ng Diyos. Sana'y patuloy niyo akong ipag-dasal.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 19  
To my friends in Sri Lanka and the Philippines: May God bless you all! Please pray for me.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 18  
How often we forget to dedicate ourselves to that which truly matters! We forget that we are children of God.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 18  
We who are Christians, members of God's family, are called to go out to the needy and to serve them.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 17  
The com-*passion* of God, his suffering-with-us, gives meaning and worth to our struggles and our sufferings.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 16  
The family is the greatest treasure of any country. Let us all work to protect and strengthen this, the cornerstone of society.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Jan 16  
The Philippines bear witness to the youthfulness and vitality of the Church.

## HELP NEEDED

Sr. Megan is asking for help for a young family she knows who are refugees and do not have anything. They need all items of furniture, bedding, kitchen utensils, white goods etc. If you can help please ring Sr Megan on 01942 683554. Thank you.



This Lent, the UK Government will match every pound you give up to the value of £3.5 million. Please give what you can this Lent Fast Day to transform the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world. You can ensure more of the world's poorest people are able to not only survive, but thrive after a disaster strikes.

## FRIDAY SUPPERS

Looking for inspiration for simple Friday abstinence meals? Make sure you get your hands on a copy of CAFOD'S new Friday Suppers recipe book. Written by Delia Smith's recipe-tester, it's packed with delicious meat-free, fish, and vegetable recipes. All funds raised are donated to CAFOD's work. £6.99 available from [shop.cafod.org.uk](http://shop.cafod.org.uk)



St Joseph's Players Present

# The Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor

St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St, Leigh

*A Panto full of comedy, dance, and song, by the multi-talented cast. Plus Live Band.*

*St Joseph's Players Pantomimes have been bringing the best of entertainment to generations of families and this year is definitely no exception.*

21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> January

Matinées 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> January

Tickets: Adult £8 evening performances,  
£10 matinées, under 16yrs £4

**Ticket office: Ratcliffe's, Bradshawgate, Leigh**  
**Last year's winners of the BATS**  
**Best Pantomime**

## 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 January

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Mary Smith LD

### Sun 25 January **THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

StJ 8.30am MASS Dr Patrick Fulton

SH 9.30am MASS Fr Graeme Dunne

StJ 10.30am MASS Gerard Oddie

OL 11.00am MASS Bernard Aspinall

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

### Mon 26 January **Memorial of Saints Timothy & Titus, Bishops**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am MASS Jack McWilliam (Birthday memorial)

### Tue 27 January **Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 3)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 7.00pm MASS Winnie Carney

### Wed 28 January **Memorial of St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS Alan Mee (Anniversary)

StJ 2.00pm FUNERAL SERVICE John Francis Grogan

SH 7.00pm MASS Kevin Mulhearn

### Thu 29 January **Weekday in Ordinary Time**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am MASS Greta Quong

SH 12.00noon MASS Patricia Whalley née Walsh

### Fri 30 January **Weekday in Ordinary Time**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

OL 10.00am MASS Special Intention (JM)

StJ 12.30pm FUNERAL MASS Joan Taylor

### Sat 31 January **Memorial of St. John Bosco, Priest and Doctor**

SH 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

SH 12.00noon MASS Holy Trinity & Our Lady

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Mary Fildes LD

### Sun 1 February **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

#### **Education Sunday**

StJ 8.30am MASS Eddie Unsworth RIP

SH 9.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area

StJ 10.30am MASS Brian Ashton Birthday Memorial

OL 11.00am MASS Lee Jones

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 16<sup>th</sup> January, the numbers drawn were 15, 18, 28. NO WINNER of £170. This week's estimated jackpot is £230.

**Our Lady's 500 Club** £10 No.

**Bonus Ball** No.

### 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: [kjmogrady@hotmail.com](mailto:kjmogrady@hotmail.com)

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

Tel: 01942 673517/ 01942 731280

Email: [stjosephs@live.com](mailto:stjosephs@live.com)

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon

Tel: 01942 883395

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