

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

15 FEBRUARY 2015



Responsorial Psalm

You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

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

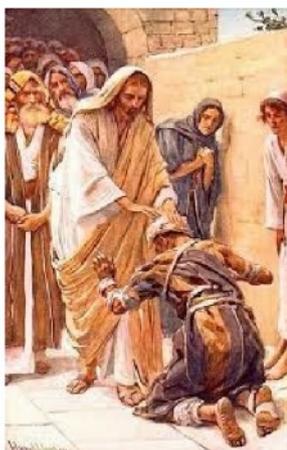
Sometimes we communicate what we mean not so much by what we say but by how we say it. We've all had the experience of someone saying good morning to us in a tone that sounds as though they would rather be anywhere else. When the leper in today's Gospel says to Jesus, "If you want to, you can cure me", what is the tone of his question? Is he saying, "Go ahead, you can do it. Don't worry, you can cure me". Or is the leper taunting Jesus? Is he being sarcastic? If this is the case then the leper isn't necessarily doubting Jesus' power to heal, but he is doubting his good will. He questions whether Jesus wants to cure him. Has the leper been a religious and social outcast for so long that he doubts whether anyone has the will to bother with him? When people question our good intentions we tend to get a bit flustered. How does Jesus react to the leper? The translation we read this weekend says that Jesus felt sorry for him, but many of the early Greek manuscripts suggest that Jesus was actually angry. The New English Bible tries to compromise and says that Jesus reacted with "warm indignation". So, does Jesus protest, when he says, "Of course I want to, be cured!" Then he sternly orders the man to say nothing to anyone. Jesus tells the leper to keep his mouth shut, but he broadcasts the story everywhere, possibly out of a sense of shock as much as anything. And while the cured man now moves around freely, Jesus hides in places where nobody lives. Somehow, they see to have changed places.

This brief encounter between Jesus and the leper, with its strained exchanges and emotions, gives us a fascinating insight into the ministry of Jesus. It gives us the opportunity to ask ourselves: what kind of Jesus emerges from Mark's portrait? Mark, the author of the first Gospel, is well known for presenting a very human Jesus. Throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus demonstrates human feelings and strong emotions. He is critical, angry, impatient, fearful. His Gospel really asks ourselves how well we know the real Jesus. Mark's portrait of Jesus can often be blunt, even shocking, which is why it was used so rarely in the liturgies of the early Church. The work of Mark waited a long time to be fully accepted and appreciated as part of the celebration of the Church's life. But it's insight into the humanity of Jesus is one that touches many people, more so than the high theology of John or the brilliant teachings of Matthew. Mark believes that Jesus is the Son of God, but he also portrays him in such a human light that everyone can identify with him. Immersed in the strengths and the limitations of humanity, the Jesus we see in Mark's Gospel is alive, real, always struggling to be authentic. For many Christians, it is Mark who gives the most moving account of the Lord's commitment to a broken and fragile world. For many years Mark's Gospel was ignored, but now the Church is rediscovering his work, like a lost treasure. And the Good News is that when we rediscover the Gospel of Mark, we rediscover the person of Jesus.

**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 call on 07921 816501. Please consider us for your special occasion. Bingo on Wednesday at 8.30pm. We are looking for a few volunteers to shout the Bingo on a rota basis, if you can help please contact Therese Thompson (01942 253507). Please support the groups who regularly use your club.

Wednesday is the 200 Club Draw in the lounge, you can pay Therese or Jane after Mass if you wish.

WALSINGHAM TRIP

This year is our 40th year of running the Walsingham Pilgrimage. We leave on 6th of April, returning 9th April. The cost of the trip will be £165 and a deposit of £20 is required to secure a place. Please contact Mr & Mrs Hawkins, on 01942 675368 or Therese Thompson on 253507.

ST JOSEPH'S

MASS INTENTIONS

Boone & Campbell Families, David Butler, Mary Corner, Kevin Fleming, Ellen & Joseph Joyce, Sadie McGillion, Marlene O'Neill, Sylvia Withington, Deceased Members of the Yates Family, Speedy Recovery.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

Mothers Prayers will be held at 7:30pm Tuesday 17th February at St Josephs.

All mothers and grandmothers welcome

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Rotas are now available from the Sacristy.

FLOWERS

Anyone willing to attend to the flowers in church, please contact the Parish Office.

PARISH VOLUNTEERS' MASS & SOCIAL

Friday 27th February at the Twelve Apostles church and Parish Centre. Mass will be at 7.00pm followed by a social evening. There will be hot pot, bingo and music and a chance for us all to catch up and have a chat. The past couple of years this event has been very popular. Please sign up on the list at the back of church if you wish to go, so we have an idea of how many people we are catering for.

WOMENS' WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

Composed by Christians of the Bahamas on the theme: *Jesus said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"* Friday, 6th March, 7.30pm at Kirkhall Lane Independent Methodist church, Leigh, WN7 1SA. Men, women, young people and children are all most welcome. All (male, female, any age) who enjoy singing are invited to the singers' practices on Mondays 23rd February and 2nd March, 7.30-8.30pm, at the same church. Car parking opposite at B&Q and in Byron St.



VOCATIONS

Responding to the Call: Monthly Discernment Meeting for those considering Priesthood

A series of meetings is being held at St Charles Borromeo church, Liverpool for anyone considering the priesthood. There is a poster at the back of church with all the dates and times. For more details please contact Fr James Preston, Vocations director, on 0151 727 2493.

Prayer cards are also available in each of the porches with the names of the nine men currently in formation for our diocese. Please take one and keep them in your prayers. This summer two men will be ordained to the Priesthood: Matthew Jolly on 4th July and Stephen Lee on 18th July. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to be ordained.

"How does one become a priest? This is an initiative which the Lord takes. The Lord calls. He calls each of those whom He wills to become priests.

Perhaps there are some of you here who have heard this call in their hearts ... If some of you have heard this call in your heart, it is Jesus who has placed it there.

Pay attention to this invitation and pray that It might grow and bear fruit for the whole Church".

Pope Francis



LENTEN TALKS – FR CHRIS THOMAS

A series of Lenten Talks entitled "*Lent – A Time of Change & Renewal*", will place in the Pastoral Area during Lent this year. Many of you may remember that Archbishop Patrick gave a series of talks a few years ago. A number of people have asked for this to take place again. This year Fr Chris Thomas, who leads the Irenaus Group in the Archdiocese, will lead the talks every Tuesday evening in St Ambrose Barlow church in Astley. The five talks will begin on February 24th until March 24th. Fr Chris has written a number of books on prayer and spirituality. He is a fabulous speaker. Please come along and join us for these very special evenings.



Ash Wednesday Services

Parish of St Edmund Arrowsmith

9.00 am Mass at St Joseph's
10.00 am Mass at Twelve Apostles
12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's
12.00 noon Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary
7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

9.15 am Morning Prayer & Mass at Holy Family
12.00 noon Mass at St Richard's
2.00 pm Service of Ashes at St Gabriel's
7.00 pm Mass at St Ambrose Barlow
7.00 pm Mass at Holy Family

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL

£1,271.93



Thank you for your generosity and continuing support.

SICK

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



RECENTLY DECEASED

Michael Noon, Maureen O'Neill
Eternal rest grant unto him ...

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.

SACRED HEART LOTTERY

After the Lottery draw on 6th February, due to holidays, there will be two Fridays without a draw. The next draw will take place on 27th February. Extra tickets will be made available so, if you like, you can keep buying tickets each week and they will all be entered into the one draw.

FEEDING BRITAIN

Continuing a series of excerpts from 'Feeding Britain' - a report by the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Hunger in the UK: <http://foodpovertyinquiry.org>

"Benefit-related problems was the single biggest reason given for food bank referrals by almost every food bank that presented evidence to us. The Inquiry is concerned that there are avoidable problems occurring in the administration of social security benefits, which have a particularly detrimental impact on poor and vulnerable claimants."

"The Inquiry believes that benefit delays have been a key reason as to why individuals have turned to food banks over the past ten years. We heard extensive evidence suggesting that lengthy delays in the administration, and subsequent receipt, of benefit payments is causing severe hardship for new claimants."

"The Inquiry heard evidence of claimants being left for an extended period of time with no income because they were unaware of the discretionary support that might be available to them."

You can read the whole report here:
<http://foodpovertyinquiry.org>

CINeworld IN LEIGH

There are a number of good looking productions that are being screened live at Cineworld, Leigh. It has been good meeting up with fellow parishioners to watch them together. If you would like to join us please book your ticket(s) and just turn up and meet up together in the foyer.

- RSC's "Much Ado About Nothing" (renamed "Love's Labours Won") - Wednesday March 4th at 7.00pm.
- ENO's "La Traviata" - Wednesday March 11th at 7.30pm.

"We must protect creation for it is a gift which the Lord has given us, it is God's present to us; we are the guardians of creation. When we exploit creation, we destroy that sign of God's love."

Pope Francis, General audience, 21st May 2014

Pope Benedict XVI expressed a need for us to rediscover the covenant between humans and the environment.

Creator God, open our eyes to see your love throughout creation. Inspire us to treat creation and each other as you would, with respect and compassion. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, Amen

For every £1 donated this Lent, up to the value of £3.5 million will be matched by the UK Government.

Please continue to hold the work of CAFOD in your prayers that through the grace of God we may continue to support people to improve their own lives and bring hope to those in greatest need.

LENT FAST DAY: Friday 27th February



Barry Jackson and Jeriatric Jazz

An evening of music from the great American Songbook - including Jazz, Blues and Easy Listening - will be held in St Stephen's church, Manchester Road, Astley on Friday 27th February from 7.00pm. There will be a wine bar available. Tickets cost £10 (or £7.50 for concessions) and can be obtained from Anne Edwards 01942 892285, or you can pay on the door. Proceeds to go to St Stephen's Raise the Roof appeal.

New Fitness Class - Adults of all ages

WEDNESDAY 18th FEBRUARY 8.00 – 8.45PM

Come along for a great workout, fun while exercising and a good social atmosphere.

Who: Adults of all ages.

Starting at a beginners level working up to a more advanced and challenging workout. Warming up the body and then a 20 minute Aerobic workout, easy to learn exercises to great up to date music to help motivate and enjoy.

Where: St. Joseph's Church Hall, The Mather Suite, Mather Lane, Leigh. WN7 2PR
(Large free carpark at front of hall)

Please contact Julie to book on the classes as soon as possible as numbers limited.

ATTEND THE CLASS FOUR WEEKS IN SUCCESSION & GET A WEEK FREE. BRING A FRIEND AND AS LONG AS THEY ATTEND THE NEXT CLASS YOU GET A PRIZE.

For more details prices etc. contact Julie ;
julie.foulds@btinternet.com, Facebook Julie Foulds School of Dancing Group or 07809673564.

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 14 February

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

Sun 15 February **SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year B)**

StJ 8.30am MASS Eddie McGrath

SH 9.30am MASS Cosgrave family

StJ 10.30am MASS Daniel & Catherine Porter

OL 11.00am MASS Edward Keegan

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

Mon 16 February **Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year 1, Week 6)**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

OLR 10.00am MASS Special Intention

StJ 12.00noon MASS Marlene O'Neill RIP

Tue 17 February **Weekday in Ordinary Time**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS Jim Fay LD

SH 1.30pm FUNERAL SERVICE Michael Noon

Wed 18 February **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Day of Fast and Abstinence

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am MASS Robert Farrimond

12A 10.00am MASS Dr Bob Dittman L.D.

StJ 12.00noon MASS Julie Lock (Birthday memorial)

OLR 12.00noon MASS John Thompson

SH 7.30pm MASS Beatie Fletcher

Thu 19 February **Thursday after Ash Wednesday**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am MASS Michael Mallowney (Anniversary)

SH 12.00noon MASS William Landers Birthday Anniv.

Fri 20 February **Friday after Ash Wednesday**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 12.00noon MASS Catherine Crook RIP

Sat 21 February **Saturday after Ash Wednesday**

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

12A 12.00noon MASS Stacey Daniels (90th birthday)

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Mary Fildes

Sun 22 February **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B)**

StJ 8.30am MASS Dr Richard Fletcher RIP

SH 9.30am MASS Kitty Gallagher Anniv.

StJ 10.30am MASS Mary Tyrer (Anniversary)

OL 11.00am MASS Stephen Duffy

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

Sacred Heart Lottery On 6th February, the numbers drawn were 13, 18, 25. NO WINNER of £380. The next estimated jackpot is £460.

Our Lady's 500 Club £10 No. 263 M Smith, £5 No 138 R Ellis, £3 344 R Ellis, £2 No 369 L Betty

Bonus Ball No. 22 K Jones

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
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Email: kjmogrady@hotmail.com
Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood
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Email: frdave@virginmedia.com
Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson

Priest Fr. Colin Fealey
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Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
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