

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B)

8 MARCH 2015



## Responsorial Psalm

You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

## Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,  
whoever believes in me will never die.  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

John places his account of Jesus clearing out the Temple at the beginning of the public life of Jesus, whereas the other Gospel writers place it at the end, just before his Passion. Their intentions are in fact very similar. Matthew, Mark and Luke offer the actions of Jesus as one of the final straws in his irritation of the authorities. Such an attack on Temple practices would be viewed as blasphemous by them and push them into arresting Jesus. John is concerned throughout his Gospel to portray Jesus replacing the great symbols of Israel's past with his own person.

What more central symbol was there in the people's belief than that of the Temple? Here was celebrated the very presence of God, originally in the form of the tablets of the Ten Commandments handed down to Moses as the expression of the Lord's Covenant with his people. For John this replacement of the Temple by the person of Jesus will lead ultimately to his Passion, death and resurrection, but he wants his readers to be aware of this transformation as they read the rest of the Gospel. As ever in John's Gospel the timing of the event is significant. It is just before Passover, the occasion in which the freedom of the people from slavery is celebrated. Jesus in his person will be the freedom of those who follow him.

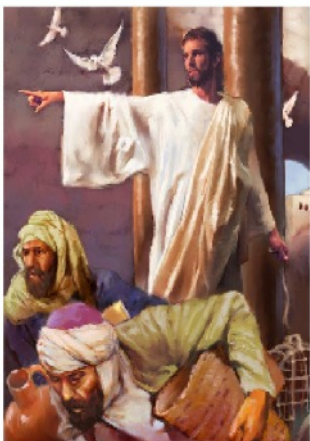
Jesus wanted to make the point that the people had lost sight of the real meaning of the Temple. Treating it as a commercial thoroughfare, they no longer placed God's commandments at the centre of their lives. As Jesus cleansed them of this abuse, however, he also pushed them to see himself as the new centre of their relationship with God. It is through their allegiance to him that they will be renewed and really cleansed. In this time of Lent we are asked to reflect on our own preoccupations and allegiances. Where is Christ in our lives today? Do we have time for him or do we let our concerns and practices leave him little space or time? If our relationship with Christ is central, then the way we deal with the business of life will flow from that, and we will have a sense of peace and direction.

As Jesus says elsewhere in John's Gospel, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life". A central element to our Lenten journey is getting rid of what stops Christ being at the centre of our lives and so uplifting us with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**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 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. The Church Repair Fund are holding their annual Easter Egg raffle shortly, all donations gratefully appreciated.

### WALSINGHAM TRIP

This year is our 40<sup>th</sup> year of running the Walsingham Pilgrimage. We leave on Easter Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> of April, returning on 9<sup>th</sup> April. The cost of the trip will be £165. Can all those who are going please pay the balance ASAP. Contact Therese Thompson (01942 253507).

### ST JOSEPH'S

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Fr Adrian Brinn, Sydney Butterworth, Alf Case, Margaret Coleman, Teresa Cooney, Margaret Featherstone, Malcolm Freeman, John Garvey, Joseph Garvey, Anne Monaghan, Josephine Cora Oddie, Marlene O'Neill, Roy Sharples, Ken Sroka, Private Intention, Special Intention Our Lord, Our Lady & All saints. Anniversary of the Golborne Colliery Disaster:- John Terence Berry, Colin Dallimore, Desmond Edwards, Patrick Franey, Peter Grainey, Raymond Arthur Huill, John James McKenna, Walter McPherson, Brian Sherman, Bernard Trumble.

#### SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of the Support Group will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

#### WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be a meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00pm in the Side Hall. All ladies welcome.

#### CLEANERS

The ladies that clean the church have asked if anyone would like to join them. They clean every other Friday; the next time being Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Please come along on Friday morning if you can help.

#### FLOWERS

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

### OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

#### EASTER LILIES

If you wish to donate a lily in memory of a loved one, there will be a box at the back of church with envelopes, the cost of a lily is £1.50.

#### EASTER RAFFLE

We will be doing our Easter Raffle again this year and would appreciate any donations of Easter Eggs, chocolates or fancy goods. Thank you.

**Raffle Tickets will be on sale today.**

### ST GABRIEL'S, HIGHER FOLDS

As we prepare to close the church shortly after Easter, the Archbishop will come to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at St Gabriel's on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm. Please let people know about this celebration, especially those who may have moved away from the area or who have connections with St Gabriel's and may appreciate an invitation. It would be lovely to fill the church once again on this occasion. More details next week.

## PRAYER VIGIL FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015, St John's church, Wigan.  
7.30 - 9.00pm

Aid to the Church in Need

This Lent, we invite you to stand shoulder to shoulder with suffering Christians around the world – especially in Pakistan, Nigeria, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, across the Middle East.

#### Prayer: Your Faith... their Future

The persecuted faithful around the world need our help and our prayers. This Lent, please remember all those who face danger for holding fast to their belief in Jesus Christ. Over the next six weeks, as we spiritually walk the Way of the Cross with Our Lord, you might like to use our prayer suggestions and resources.

- Week 3: Please pray for the Christian community in Nigeria who despite violent and unprovoked attacks from terrorist group Boko Haram, find hope in their faith.
- Week 4: Please pray for the Christian community of Sudan and South Sudan, who after 30 years of civil war now continue to be beset by political instability and grinding poverty.
- Week 5: Please pray for Christians and their communities in Syria who are refugees amidst the rubble of a bitter civil war and who are specifically targeted by anti-Christian kidnappers.
- Week 6: Please pray for Christians in Iraq who face the profoundly troubling decision of whether to stay in the land they love or to leave the country that 'doesn't love them', and see the effective wipe-out of their 2,000 year Christian tradition.



### SERVICES OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm  
St Richard's, Atherton

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm  
Holy Family, Boothstown

### "CONFESSATHON"

The priests of the Pastoral Area will be available for Individual Confession on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March at St Joseph's from 10.00am – 2.30pm (except during Mass at 12.00noon).

### HELP NEEDED

Sr Megan has asked if anyone has a TV they no longer need. she knows a family who are in need of one. Thank you.

### HOLY LAND EASTER CARDS

To again encourage our long suffering Christian sisters and brothers in the Holy Land, Easter cards (made by the Carmelites) will be available at church next week-end. You may write a greeting in one or more of these, or you may bring your own small, religious Easter card. There is no need to address the envelope or to buy the right stamp. Cash contributions towards the 50p card and Air Mail postage (20 grams costs £1.28) are most welcome. The cards will be sent to: Church of the Annunciation, Jerusalem; St. Catherine's, Bethlehem; The First Miracle Church, Cana; Holy Family Church, Gaza and Good Shepherd Church, Jericho.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| <b>PARISH TOTAL</b> | £1,675.94 |
| CAFOD               | £ 529.25  |

Thank you for your generosity and continuing support.  
This weekend the retiring collection is on behalf of the S.V.P. Society

### SICK

Please remember in your prayers all who are sick at this time, especially Carolyn Burke, Patricia Grundy, Albert Hollingshead, Elizabeth Landers,

### RECENTLY DECEASED

James John Cheetham, Bill Fairclough, James Kenneth Hughes, Anne Monaghan, John Walter Nichols, Roy Bernard Sharples,  
Eternal rest grant unto them....



### Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays St Joseph's 7.00pm  
Thursdays after 12 noon Mass Sacred Heart

### A Time for Change and Renewal

Evenings of Prayer and Reflection led by the Irenaeus Team  
**Tuesdays during Lent at St Ambrose Barlow**  
(24<sup>th</sup> February, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> March)  
7.30 - 9.00pm  
Everyone very welcome

### Ecumenical Lenten Talks

Every Thursday during Lent at 7.30pm  
Salvation Army Chapel, Atherton

### The Rosary

Each Wednesday in Lent the Rosary will be prayed before  
12 noon Mass at St Joseph's :- the intention - Vocations.



Pope Francis @Pontifex · Mar 5  
If we are too attached to riches, we are not free. We are slaves.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Mar 3  
The heart grows hard when it does not love. Lord, give us a heart that knows how to love.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Feb 28  
Jesus intercedes for us each day. Let us pray: Lord, have mercy on me; intercede for me!

### CHRISM MASS

We are hoping to take a coach to the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass on Wednesday 1st April. The Mass begins at 7.30 pm, so the coach will probably leave at 5.45/6.00 pm. If you would be interested in going to the Mass and would like a place on the coach, please sign the list at the back of church. Thanks.



### Thank You Supporting CAFOD Fast Day

So far our parish has raised £529.25 for CAFOD's work. With the UK Aid Match funding, this means we have ensured £1,058 can be used to help more of our sisters and brothers to deal with the devastating impact of extreme weather such as storms, droughts and floods. Thank you for your generous compassion for those living in poverty, and for fasting in solidarity with them!

The CAFOD collection will remain open throughout Lent.

### Prayer of Intercession

WE pray for those affected by storms, floods and droughts: that through God's grace we may work together to help rebuild lives and communities and prepare for future disasters.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer



### 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.

- ENO's "La Traviata" - Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.

### WINE TASTING EVENING

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.45pm  
St Ambrose Church Hall

This event has been run for a number years by the Catenian Association and they offer this event to anyone in our Pastoral Area to come along and enjoy.

The price of £10.00 will include cheese and french baguettes! Funds raised will go to Cornerstone in Manchester, which is a day centre providing services to people facing a wide range of social issues including homelessness, poverty, social isolation, poor mental health, drug and alcohol addiction. Please contact Des (876050) or Maurice (518895)

Due to Popular Demand

St Joseph's Players  
Present

## BRASSED OFF

By Paul Allen

(Contains some strong language)

Curtain up 7.30pm

St Joseph's Hall Chapel St, Leigh

Tuesday 21st April to Saturday 25th April

Tickets Adults £8 under 16 yrs £4  
Available from Ratcliffes Bike Shop,  
Bradshawgate, Leigh

## 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 7 March

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Agnes and Allen Newton

### Sun 8 March

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B)

StJ 8.30am MASS James Owen McDermott  
SH 9.30am MASS Doris Gaskell & Doris Stout  
StJ 10.30am MASS Pauline Reynolds Birthday Memorial  
OL 11.00am MASS John Nee  
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

### Mon 9 March

#### Weekday of Lent (Third Week of Lent)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 11.00am FUNERAL MASS Bill Fairclough

### Tue 10 March

#### Weekday of Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
SH 12.00noon MASS Jim Fay LD

### Wed 11 March

#### Weekday of Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 12.00noon MASS May, John & Christine Gillbanks  
StJ 2.00pm FUNERAL SERVICE Roy Bernard Sharples  
StJ 7.00pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction  
SH 7.00pm MASS James Marsh

### Thu 12 March

#### Weekday of Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 11.00am FUNERAL MASS Anne Monaghan  
SH 12.00noon MASS Elizabeth & Jack Cleworth  
SH 12.30pm Stations of the Cross  
StJ 2.15pm FUNERAL SERVICE John Walter Nichols

### Fri 13 March

#### Weekday of Lent

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
OL 10.00am MASS Rose Family  
StJ 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS James John Cheetham

### Sat 14 March

#### Weekday of Lent

StJ 10.00am Exposition & Reconciliation ("Confessathon" continues until 2.30pm, except during Mass)  
StJ 12.00noon MASS Olivia, Ken & Stephen Hartnell  
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Mary Fildes LD

### Sun 15 March

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B)

StJ 8.30am MASS Golborne Colliery Disaster (Anniv)  
SH 9.30am MASS Lillie Bradbury LD  
StJ 10.30am MASS Sylvia Withington (Anniv)  
OL 11.00am MASS People of the Pastoral Area  
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 27<sup>th</sup> February, the numbers drawn were 6, 8, 20. NO WINNER of £466. This week's estimated jackpot is £550.

**Our Lady's 500 Club** £10 No. 471 Mrs E West, £5 No. 279 M Flannery, £3 No. 097 A Unsworth, £2 No. 140 A Sharkie  
**Bonus Ball** No. 43 Mrs F Rasburn

### 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  
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Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood  
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Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson

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