

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

EASTER DAY

5 APRIL 2015



## Responsorial Psalm

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;  
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Like so many of the others, Mary Magdalene believed that she had lost everything when Jesus died. John's Gospel tells us that, when Jesus died on Calvary, Mary Magdalene stood at the foot of the cross with Mary, the mother of Jesus, and with John the beloved disciple, as the dying Jesus entrusted his mother and John to each other. She witnessed at first hand the brutal death on the cross of someone she loved so much. We do not know why it was that Mary Magdalene went alone to the tomb on Easter Sunday morning. Was it that she wanted to be alone to pray there for a while? Did she perhaps want to spare Jesus' mother the agony of seeing her son's body before it was completely prepared for burial? On the day of his death these preparations were interrupted by the Sabbath celebrations. Mary's journey to the tomb was a solitary one but also very risky. Guards were protecting the tomb in case Jesus' followers tried to remove the body. They were rough men, and she was a solitary woman. The soldiers might not allow her access to the tomb. In those days, as now in so many places, a woman had very little status. And yet Mary Magdalene was the first witness to the Resurrection. Yet her unexpected news, so beyond the imagining of any of the disciples, had less credibility in the society of her day precisely because it was reported by a woman. Peter and John wanted to check the story for themselves. It was only when they entered the tomb of Jesus that they realised and began to understand the truth of the Resurrection. Jesus allowed women to be the heralds of the Good News of the Resurrection.

Many people who go through ordeals when their life is threatened in some way can still proclaim that it is a wonderful world afterwards. Perhaps this is because they have experienced something so terrible and managed to survive it and embrace life afterwards. Many of the Holocaust survivors, whose stories we have heard a great deal of this year, would share similar thoughts and emotions. Whilst the Holocaust is something that they will never be able to forget, they are so glad to have survived it and many continue to tell their story to this day.

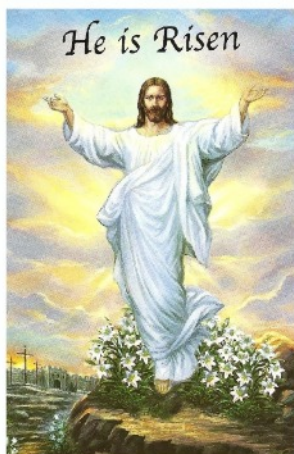
Mary Magdalene, an eyewitness to the horrors of Jesus' sufferings and death, also helped in his removal from the cross and the preparation of the body for burial. She witnessed his death but was considered less trustworthy when she tried to tell the disciples about the empty tomb. How did she feel when Peter and John returned to the Upper Room to report that the situation was exactly as she had said, that the tomb was indeed empty? Mary witnessed a reality that others found difficult to believe: the Resurrection was something way beyond human expectations. Yet it is also an everyday event. We all know of someone who has risen above their hardships and difficulties. Perhaps the Resurrection is part of our lives in that it brings us hope in the darkest moments. Just as Calvary made Easter Sunday possible, so life's challenges for us today can be the doorway to new hope and new meaning.

Just as Jesus was raised from the darkness of the tomb into the light of Easter, so may we follow in his journey one day too. Easter Sunday, the day of Resurrection, happens every day if we have the open eyes and heart to see it. Happy Easter!

**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. There is a list of winning numbers in the Easter Egg raffle at the back of church. Thanks for your support.

### WALSINGHAM TRIP

Our 40<sup>th</sup> Pilgrimage starts on Easter Monday with Mass at Twelve Apostles at 9.00am. We will be remembering all the parishioners of our Pastoral Area in our prayers and Masses. If you have any petitions please send them along and we will be happy to take them to Our Lady's Shrine.

### ST JOSEPH'S

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Terry Fallon, Molly & Fred Griffiths, Theresa & Edmund Hurst, John Maurice Hurst, Mary Keavney, Mary Malley, Anthony O'Donnell, Adam Orchison, Special Intention,

#### WOMEN'S SODALITY

There will be **NO** meeting for the Women's Sodality on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April. The next meeting will be on **21<sup>st</sup> April**.

#### RED MISSION BOXES

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the Presbytery on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you.

#### GARDENING DAY

Thank you to those who came along to the Gardening Day last Saturday to help keep the grounds looking lovely. A very big thank you to Mosses Garden Centre for their generous donation of all the beautiful plants.

#### COFFEE MORNING

Every Sunday after the 10.30am Mass there is Coffee Morning in the Side Hall. Come along and have a chat and meet new friends.

#### FLOWERS

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

### OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

#### EASTER RAFFLE

There is a list at the back of church with the winners of our Easter Raffle.

#### COFFEE MORNING

Please note, there is **NO** Coffee Morning today. Thank you.

### CLOSURE OF ST GABRIEL'S, HIGHER FOLDS

Saint Gabriel's church has now closed. The Saturday 6.00pm Mass will continue for a temporary period at the nearest church in the parish which is St Ambrose Barlow. Transport to this Mass will be provided for those who live in Higher Folds. The Friday 10.00am Mass will continue during term time in St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School. Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals will be celebrated in the other churches in the parish of St Margaret Clitherow.

### ST PIO OF PIETRELCINA

"Community Prayer is a powerful weapon in the hands of the Church and the faithful."

"If more souls unite together in prayer, they form a formidable power." St Pio of Pietrelcina.

Please come and share an hour of prayer with the Padre Pio prayer group each Saturday from 10.00am at St Ambrose Barlow church.

### THANK YOU

Fr Colin & Fr Kieran would like to thank everyone who work so hard in all our four churches to help keep the parish going. There is a lot of work going on and it is very much appreciated. Thank you also to you all for your support throughout the year.

*We would like to wish  
everyone a Very  
Happy and Holy Easter!*



*Christ is Risen!*



### ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

There are still spaces available to travel to Lourdes with the Archdiocese of Liverpool, 24<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015, by air from Liverpool Airport or by Jumbulance from Burtonwood. Assisted pilgrims (those with medical, mobility or other special needs) will be accommodated in the Accueil St Frai or in hotels depending on need and travel circumstances. For more information, or to register as an assisted pilgrim, please call Adam Taylor at the Lourdes office on 0151 727 4000 or visit our website [www.liverpool-lourdes.com](http://www.liverpool-lourdes.com) before the deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup> (deadline applicable to assisted pilgrims only). The pilgrimage is open to everybody in the Archdiocese and beyond.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL

£4,478.18

Thank you for your generosity and continuing support.

### SICK



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

### RECENTLY DECEASED



Tom Anderson  
Eternal rest grant unto him...



Pope Francis @Pontifex · Mar 31  
Confession is the sacrament of the tenderness of God, his way of embracing us.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Mar 30  
Holy Week is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with him is shown in times of difficulty.  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Mar 28  
As disciples of Christ, how can we not be concerned for the good of the weakest?  
Pope Francis @Pontifex · Mar 27  
Life is a precious gift, but we realize this only when we give it to others.

## The Three Towns Operatic Society

proudly present  
Gilbert & Sullivan's

## The Pirates of Penzance

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015  
7.30pm

St. Joseph's Hall, Mather Lane, Leigh. WN7 2PR

Tickets: £11 & £13, Concessions available

Contact 01942 883722

Join a crop of not-so-ruthless pirates,  
not-so-fearless policemen,  
and not-so-helpless young maidens  
for a swashbuckling and hilarious adventure!

[www.thethreetowns.net](http://www.thethreetowns.net)

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

## A PASTORAL AREA SOCIAL EVENT

### Tea Dance



in  
Saint Ambrose  
Church Hall

on  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May  
2.00pm - 5.00pm

£10 including  
Afternoon Tea

Raffle, spot prizes, good music and dance.  
Everyone welcome

For tickets contact Eamonn on 01942 892967  
Or Tony on 01942 673481 or 676652

## THE GENERAL ELECTION

The Bishops of England and Wales have written to Catholics encouraging us to vote in the election (7 May 2015) and offering some key questions for reflection on where candidates stand. Copies of the letter are available from the back of church, please take one home.

## 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 4 April

12A 7.15pm  
StJ 8.00pm

### HOLY SATURDAY

EASTER VIGIL, MASS OF EASTER NIGHT James Dunne LD  
EASTER VIGIL, MASS OF EASTER NIGHT Carolyn Burke

### Sun 5 April

StJ 8.30am  
SH 9.30am  
StJ 10.30am  
OL 11.00am  
StR

### EASTER DAY

MASS Steven Naylor  
MASS Derek Kedward  
MASS Alf Case  
MASS Lee Jones  
NO SUNDAY EVENING MASS

### Mon 6 April

StJ 8.30am  
StJ 9.00am  
12A 9.00am

### Monday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer  
MASS Golden Wedding  
MASS before Pilgrimage departure John Thompson

### Tue 7 April

StJ 8.30am  
SH

### Tuesday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer  
NO MASS

### Wed 8 April

StJ 8.30am  
StJ 12.00noon  
SH

### Wednesday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer  
MASS Bill Fairclough  
NO MASS

### Thu 9 April

StJ 8.30am  
SH 12.00noon  
StJ

### Thursday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer  
MASS Thanksgiving to Our Lord, Our Lady & All Saints  
NO MASS

### Fri 10 April

StJ 9.00am  
StJ 12.00noon  
OL

### Friday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer  
MASS Special Intention  
NO MASS

### Sat 11 April

StJ 9.00am  
OL 11.15am  
OL 12.00noon  
12A 5.30pm

### Saturday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer  
Exposition & Reconciliation  
MASS  
FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

### Sun 12 April

StJ 8.30am  
SH 9.30am  
StJ 10.30am  
OL 11.00am  
StR 6.30pm

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER DAY OF DIVINE MERCY

MASS Francis Gallagher  
MASS Patrick O'Sullivan Jnr (Anniv.)  
MASS Teresa Cooney  
MASS Eileen Massey and Danny O'Brien  
SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 27<sup>th</sup> March, the numbers drawn were 15, 20, 24. No winner of £92. This week's estimated jackpot is £120.

**Our Lady's 500 Club** £50, No. 056 R Ellis, £10 No. 328 K Grimshaw, £5 No. 452 E Wost, £3 No. 408 N Jones, £2 No. 178 D Quinn.

**Bonus Ball** No. 48 T 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](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  
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Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon  
Tel: 01942 883395  
Email: [paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk)