

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

PENTECOST SUNDAY Year B

24 MAY 2015



Responsorial Psalm

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

One of the fascinating characteristics of John's Gospel is how he presents the story of Jesus as a lawsuit between God and the unbelieving world. Witnesses are ranged on either side to argue the case. And the case is this: Is Jesus the Messiah and the Son of God? God's witnesses are his Word, i.e. Jesus himself, John the Baptist, the signs and wonders of Jesus, and finally the Holy Spirit and the apostles. This is the group of witnesses who support the claim that Jesus really is the Son of God. The opposition is represented by the unbelieving people, who bring their own testimony against him. When Jesus' trial gets under way, the accusers are invited to bear witness regarding the evil that Jesus is alleged to have committed. Jesus boldly challenges the officer in court: "If I have spoken wrongly, bear witness to the wrong; but if I have spoken correctly, why do you strike me?" No one takes up the challenge. According to John's account, Jesus wins the most important lawsuit in history. And because Pilate declares Jesus innocent three times, the judge is guilty of perverting the course of justice when he hands Jesus over to be crucified. The trial of Jesus is seen as a masquerade: the innocent one is handed over to be executed. When Jesus dies on the cross the lawsuit is not finished. His claim to be the Messiah and the Son of God is confirmed in his resurrection, when the father raises the innocent one to glory. But there are many who do not accept the evidence. The principal advocate for Jesus' claim is now the Holy Spirit. He is now the one who advances the claims of Jesus before the court of the unbelieving world. And the Holy Spirit's principal witnesses are the apostles – those who have been with Jesus right from the beginning of his ministry.

What we celebrate at Pentecost is the coming of the Holy Spirit, the one who enables the apostles to be witnesses to Jesus in an unbelieving world. Before the coming of the Holy Spirit, the apostles were incapable of acting as witnesses. They were frightened men who were too confused and hurt to act as effective witnesses on behalf of Jesus. With the help of the Spirit they are graced with a new courage and boldness. They testify to Jesus in the market-place, on the street corner, even in the jails were they are kept because of their belief. They are willing to tell their stories about Jesus to anyone who is willing to listen to them. As we know from experience, the lawsuit still continues, the case is not closed.

As we continue to live out our faith, we are the disciples of today. We will meet opposition, we will encounter people who laugh at us because of our faith or who ridicule the idea of having any kind of faith for that matter. But we are the witnesses of today. The Holy Spirit continued to be the advocate, calling on generations of Christians to come forward as witnesses of Jesus today. Saint John finishes his testimony to the life and mission of Jesus by telling us he has written his Gospel "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life in his name." As we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost this weekend, let us pray that we may receive the Spirit's gifts and continue to be the witnesses of Jesus every single day.

**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

In Twelve Apostles Hall there are three rooms for hire -

- A nicely decorated function room complete with dance floor and stage with an adjoining kitchen and a fully stocked bar which is available for hire for weddings, engagement parties, adult birthday parties etc.
- A comfortable lounge available for those smaller functions, which also has a fully stocked bar.
- A nice community room which is suitable for children's parties and such like without bar facilities.

To hire any of the above rooms or for more information telephone 07921 816501.

ST JOSEPH'S

MASS INTENTIONS

Ashton Family, Francis & James Clarke, Susan Jones, Moylan Family, Paul Frederick Nuttall, David Robinson, Christine Wakefield, Special Intention & Thanksgiving Our Lord, Our Lady & all Saints, Special Intention.

DBS

If you have recently received your DBS Certificate it needs to be sent to the Safeguarding Office at LACE, Croxteth Dr, Sefton Park Liverpool L17 1AA by registered post. You also need to go online to register your certificate at www.gov.uk/dbs. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

GARDENING DAY

Our next Gardening Day will be on Saturday 30th May starting at 10.00am. Please come along to help to keep our gardens looking so beautiful. Lunch will be provided.

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.

SACRED HEART

The little shop next door to the confessional box is still fully stocked for the First Communion and Confirmation season with cards and small gifts suitable for our children. Please call in after Sunday Mass and see what else is available too!

THE ROSARY

The Rosary will be prayed before Midday Mass on Thursdays during the month of May in Sacred Heart church.



RED BOXES

We seem to have lost touch with some of those parishioners (zelators) who visit homes, empty, count and bring in the offerings of other box holders. Please visit the sacristy and add your name and contact details to the sheet there. This is only so that you can be advised when a collection is due or when the magazines have been received. If you haven't done this work before but now would like to try it and can spare an hour or two every three months - please add your details too.

HELP NEEDED

Sr Megan is helping a couple of families who need furniture, white goods bedding etc. If you can help please call 01942 683554.

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. Commencing 12th May we will meet each Tuesday evening at 7.00pm in St Ambrose Barlow church.



Pope Francis @Pontifex · May 19

God is always waiting for us, he always understands us, he always forgives us.

Pope Francis @Pontifex · May 16

It is better to have a Church that is wounded but out in the streets than a Church that is sick because it is closed in on itself.

Pope Francis @Pontifex · May 14

Dear parents, have great patience, and forgive from the depths of your heart.

CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

SACRED HEART & OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

During the month of May at 9.30am Masses at Sacred Heart and today, 24th May at the 11.00am Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary our Year 4 children will be Confirmed and make their First Holy Communion. We welcome them and their families. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue in their journey of faith.

"CELEBRATE THE CHILD"

Annual Celebration Mass for Children at St Mary's Lowe House, Crab Street, St Helens WA10 2BE, on Sunday 5th July at 3.00pm. Celebrant: Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP. Please bring a picnic to enjoy in the garden after Mass. For more information, please contact the Safeguarding Office on 0151 522 1043 or by email: celebratethechild@tesco.net

The St Vincent de Paul Society

The St Vincent de Paul Society (or SVP) is an international Christian voluntary organisation dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing practical assistance to those in need. The Society is a lay organisation initially formed in Paris in 1833 by Blessed Frédéric Ozanam and his companions, and active in England & Wales since 1844. Placed under the Patronage of St Vincent de Paul, it is inspired by his thinking and works.

The Founders of the Vincentian family St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise de Marillac, Blessed Frederic Ozanam and Blessed Rosalie Rendu encountered Christ in the poor of their time. The God revealed in that encounter was a God of compassionate love. Through their relationships with people who were oppressed because of poverty, Frederic, Louise and Vincent were themselves transformed.

Visiting those in need and sitting side by side with them remains the core work of the Society. Regular visiting and personal care, with relationships based on trust and friendship are what gives the SVP its unique character. Visits are made to individuals and families, to the sick at home or in hospitals and hospices, to residential homes and to offender institutes. Members spend a lot of time visiting housebound people. Many appreciate a friendly face and enjoy a chat over a cup of tea.

Membership is open to men and women, young and old, of any denomination. The SVP only asks that members accept fully the Christian ethos of the Society, and are committed to express their love of God through personal service to their neighbour.

If you are interested in joining the SVP in this parish, please contact the Parish Office 01942 673517.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £2,028.82

World Communications £ 535.61

This week's collection is on behalf of the SVP

Thank you for your generosity and continuing support.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Joanne Carrigar & Matthew John Kearns who were married at St Joseph's church last Saturday.

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Sandra Seddon, Kazimera Cooper, Joseph Lyons, Vlodimer (Walter) Windyk.

Eternal rest grant unto them ...

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

February 2016

Would you like to walk in the footsteps of Our Lord?

Visit the place of the Visitation?

Kneel at the spot of Christ's Birth?

Cross the Sea of Galilee?

Walk the Way of the Cross to Golgotha?

We are proposing a group led by one of our priests supported by an experienced Tour Leader. We want to weigh the possible interest in our area.

The cost is in the region of £950-£980 sharing a twin or double room - Half board including flights, transport and accommodation.

If you are interested please contact Des on 07973 114 365. If we get enough interest we will proceed with a meeting with full details etc.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER CHARITY EFFORT

Bring & Buy Coffee Morning

Saturday 30th May

10.30am - 12.30pm

In St Joseph's Side Hall, Mather Lane, Leigh

Tombola, Raffle, Refreshments

Proceeds for International Refugee Fund

Tickets 50p including refreshments



Any donations for Raffle and Tombola would be gratefully received. Please leave at the Presbytery. Thank you.

Brass Band Concert

In

St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St, Leigh

Featuring

CHAT BRASS

Monday 25th 2.30pm - 4.30pm

**An afternoon of
Informal light music**

Bar Refreshments

Tickets £5

Available from Des 01942 674868

Christine 01942 709034

St Joseph's Church 01942 673517

(weekdays only)

All proceeds to the upkeep of
St Joseph's Hall

"Chat Brass have no set musical philosophy or pre-determined musical genre. We are brass musicians of various capabilities and backgrounds who are motivated by a desire to make music and enjoy the experience. The group grew out a desire to play Christmas music three years ago and such was the success the group has attracted a growing number of players from both the professional and the amateur worlds to meet together and make music for their own and the audience's enjoyment. The group have a regular core of key players who help to organise the concerts, this is done purely for the love of making music and the friendship it engenders."

THE LOOM OF LIFE

Songs and stories with

John Bell

Friday 29th May 7.30 pm

English Martyrs Church, Preston

Garstang Rd, PR1 1NA

(By very kind permission you can park at B&Q,
Brookfield St)

Admission £6 on the door



In support of L'Arche Preston
... building communities with people who have
learning disabilities
of the Iona Community,
musician, composer, inspiring speaker

Charity no. 264166

For further details contact

Judith 01772 719847

Refreshments available at interval

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 23 May

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Thanksgiving for recovery (TM)

Sun 24 May

PENTECOST SUNDAY

StJ 8.30am MASS Wallace Standing
SH 9.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area
StJ 10.30am MASS James Unsworth (Anniv)
OL 11.00am MASS Anne Devlin (Anniv)
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

Mon 25 May

Memorial of Saint Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.00am MASS Mary Stout RIP

Tue 26 May

Memorial of Saint Philip Neri, Priest

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Joseph Lyons

Wed 27 May

FEAST OF SAINT AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, BISHOP

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Vlodimer (Walter) Windyk
SH 7.00pm MASS Mary Green (SI)

Thu 28 May

Weekday in Ordinary Time, week 8, year I

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.30am MASS Special Intention for a parishioner
SH 12.00noon MASS Special intention (Betty)

Fri 29 May

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 10.00am MASS May Eileen Gibson
StJ 12.00noon MASS Margaret Hayder RIP

Sat 30 May

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
StJ 12.00noon MASS Special Intention
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Larry Bourke (LD)

Sun 31 May

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

StJ 8.30am MASS Bill Fairclough (RIP)
SH 9.30am MASS Alojzy & Anna Tesmer
StJ 10.30am MASS Francis & James Clare (Anniv)
OL 11.00am MASS May Ann Harman (Anniv)
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS FOR THE PASTORAL AREA

Sacred Heart Lottery On 15th May the numbers drawn were 4, 9, 13. NO winner of £454. This week's estimated jackpot was £520.

Our Lady's 500 Club £10

Bonus Ball No.

Twelve Apostles 200 Club £40 no 110 Marie Frain, £15 no 195 M Thompson, £5 no 43 A Newton, £5 no 215 A Newton.

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: kjmogrady@hotmail.com
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/ 01942 731280
Email: stjosephs@live.com
Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
Tel: 01942 883395
Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk