

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING 22 NOVEMBER 2015



Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is King, with majesty enrobed.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Alone and unarmed, Jesus stands before Pilate on trial for his life. He has been accused by the Jews of stirring up trouble among the people, and of telling them that it is wrong to pay taxes to Caesar. However, Pilate soon saw that Jesus was innocent of the charges. He even declared him innocent before the religious leaders. But the religious leaders begin to put political pressure on Pilate. They threaten to report him to Rome for letting someone they claimed was an enemy of Caesar, go free. So the focus shifts from Jesus to Pilate. Would he see that justice was done? Jesus made it easier for him by assuring him that his Kingdom was no threat to Caesar. But Pilate began to compromise. He tried to satisfy Jesus' accusers – first by having Jesus scourged, and then by releasing Barabbas. When this didn't satisfy them, he bowed to pressure and handed Jesus over to them. Pilate knew what he had done. He called for water and washed his hands in the vain hope of cleansing himself of the stain of innocent blood. In the end, he is the one who stands condemned. With a click of his fingers he could have set Jesus free. Yet out of fear for his own position, he allowed the most innocent person ever to walk this earth to go to his death.

Today political leaders are frequently subjected to similar pressures. Pressure groups get onto them, threatening to put them out of office unless they get their way. At one time or another, all of us come under pressure. All of us can sometimes feel like we are on trial. By the way we live, especially by our attitude to truth and justice, we declare whether we are on the side of Jesus and his Kingdom, or whether we sometimes choose the safe option like Pilate did in today's Gospel. Who judged Pilate? He basically judged himself. We too make judgements of ourselves and others every day. However we sometimes judge very harshly with little or no compassion. Let us never forget that God's judgment is entirely different. He judges with compassion and love for we are his children here on earth today. As we celebrate today's Feast of Christ the King let us never forget that the Father's love and mercy are at the heart of his Kingdom. Jesus didn't tell us to fear the last day – the day of judgement – he simply asked us to be ready for it. We are all called to belong to Christ and his Kingdom. So let us allow our lives to be ruled by his Spirit, and in our own small way to work for the spread of his Kingdom – a Kingdom of truth and life, holiness and grace, justice, love and peace.

**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 ST JOSEPH'S

MASS INTENTIONS

Ashton Family, John Brian Griffin, Alf Keavney, Louie Manfredi & Family, Moylan Family, Thanksgiving Our Lord, Our Lady & All Saint, Thanksgiving.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation for children from St Joseph's being Confirmed and making their First Communion next year, is on Wednesday 2nd December at 6.30pm in St Joseph's church.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Today after the 10.30am Mass. Please come along and support the Christmas Fair. There are lots of stalls:- Gift Tombola, Bottle Tombola, Cakes, Refreshments, Father Christmas, Games and Crafts, Christmas Cards. The Choir from St Joseph's School will be opening the Fair.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We will be having our Christmas raffle as usual and would be grateful for any prizes, food for hampers, bottles and gifts. Raffle Tickets will be on sale after Mass today. Donations for the Raffle and for the Christmas Fair would be much appreciated. Thank you.

BONUS BALL

We have ten spare numbers on the Bonus Ball. Anyone wishing to participate should please see Margaret at the back of church.

TWELVE APOSTLES

Christmas Cards are on sale at the back of church after Mass (limited supply). The next 200 club will be at the back of church after Mass today. We are desperately in need of Tombola prizes for the Christmas Fair, if anyone needs items to be collected please contact John and Therese Thompson (tel 01942 253507) and we will gladly collect them. Will those who have promised prizes for the Christmas Hampers please bring them in as soon as possible. Many thanks.

SACRED HEART

CHRISTMAS CARDS

A selection of Christmas cards and 2016 calendars are in stock in our little shop next to the confessional together with a range of gifts. Come and have a look after Mass!

CHRISTMAS CARDS TO THE HOLY LAND

Our Archdiocese (which has been supporting Christians in the Holy Land for several years) invites you to stand in solidarity with our Christian sisters and brothers of the Holy Land, by sending a Christmas Card. On 22nd and 29th November, there will be cards available for you at Sacred Heart and Our Lady's churches, but you may bring your own small or medium size religious Christmas card, with your greeting (English or Arabic) and your name (address optional) inside and leave in box at Sacred Heart church rear. No stamp required, but postal donations welcome (20 grams costs £1.33). Your envelope will be posted for you to one of the Holy Land churches.

JOINT CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year the Christmas Fair will be jointly run by the churches of Twelve Apostles, Sacred Heart and Our Lady of the Rosary. The fair will be held next Saturday, 28th November, in Sacred Heart School Hall and will start at 1.00pm. Gifts of bottles, chocolates, gifts will be gratefully accepted. These

are to be handed in to the different churches. Each church will raffle a Christmas hamper and tickets will be on sale after Mass for the last time today. Any help on the day will be greatly appreciated.

ADVENT

Walk with Me booklet

Walk with me booklets are available free of charge in all our churches today. Please take a copy, one per family.



Pope Francis @Pontifex Nov 19

All human persons – all of us – are important in God's eyes.

Pope Francis @Pontifex Nov 15

I am happy to pray today with the Lutheran community in Rome. May God bless all who work for dialogue and Christian unity.

Pope Francis @Pontifex Nov 14

I am deeply saddened by the terrorist attacks in Paris. Please join me in prayer for the victims and their families. #Prayers-ForParis

WITH YOU ALWAYS SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Session 4 'Holy Spirit: the helper'

Wed 6 th Jan	St Joseph's (Mather Room)	3.45pm
Wed 13 th Jan	Twelve Apostles School Hall	4.30pm
Thu 14 th Jan	Sacred Heart Church Hall	4.30pm

HELP NEEDED

Sister Megan is asking for help for someone in need. Furniture, white goods, bedding, pots, pans etc. If you can help please ring Sister Megan on 01942 683554

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

This group meets for an hour of prayer at St Ambrose Barlow church every Saturday at 10.00am.

ORDER OF DEACONS

Why we need more deacons

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will host an evening for men who may be wondering if they are called to serve as deacons and what the formation involves. Wives and priests are also welcome on Thursday, 10th December from 7.30-9.00pm, refreshments available from 7.00pm at St Joseph's Parish Rooms, Meeting Lane, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2BB.

PRAYER FOR SYRIA

God of compassion,
Hear the cries of the people of Syria.
Comfort those who suffer violence.
Console those who mourn the dead.
Give strength to Syria's neighbouring countries
to welcome refugees.
Convert the hearts of those who have taken up arms.
Protect those who are committed to peace.

God of Hope,
Inspire leaders to choose peace over violence and to seek reconciliation with their enemies.
Inflame the Universal Church with compassion for the people of Syria, and give us hope for a future built on justice for all.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace and Light of the world. Amen.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,879.71

Thank you for your generosity and continuing support.

The retiring collections this weekend (Youth Sunday) will be in support of Catholic Youth Services.

SICK

Please remember in your prayers all who are sick at this time, especially Margaret Beckett, Carolyn Burke, Sr. Teresa Frost, Philip Harte, Shannon Mackay, Jack Parr, Mary (Molly) Toher.

BAPTISM

Welcome into our community through baptism to:-
Eden Lily Mary Martin, Caleb Stewart Martin.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Thomas Collier, John Brian Griffin, Alf Leo Keavney, William O'Neill, Albert Purcell.
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

LUNCHTIME REFLECTIONS

... on some of the themes of Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Laudato Si'* (May you be praised), Care for our Common Home, using the CAFOD Guides. Venue: the Green Room, St Joseph's Presbytery, 12.30pm to 1.30pm (after the 12.00 noon Mass) on Fridays 13th, 20th, 27th November and 4th December. Please come: you will all be made most welcome. As "food for thought", a delicious cup of hot soup will be available to start.

WORLD GIFTS

World Gifts are a different way in which we can all help to fight poverty. The World Gift catalogues are available at the back of church. You will find a range of virtual gifts that make a real difference to communities around the world. The refugee crises in both Europe and the Middle East have prompted us to include two additional World Gifts. Food for a family and a Winter survival kit. Please take a catalogue and see if you can give a loved one a gift that will help the poorest people in the world.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR OLDER PEOPLE

We are looking to deliver gifts and spend time with people who may otherwise not see anyone else. Are you or someone you know going to be alone this festive period? Please get in touch via e-mail address rachel_prescott1990@hotmail.com or on 01942 875032 (Flower Shop). If you would like to donate gifts (of e.g. playing cards, crosswords, sweets, chocolate, books etc.) or of your own spare time, please call into the drop-off point 'Inspire Gift Shop' on Market St, Atherton (opposite the Post Office) or 'Flower Shop by Gill' on Smith St, Atherton. Any donation, no matter how small is greatly appreciated.

MUSIC MEETING

There will be a meeting of musicians and singers on Wednesday 2nd December at 7.00pm in St. Richard's, Atherton. This is open to anyone from the Deanery who would like to learn new material and simply join with other musicians and singers from the different churches in the area. During the meeting we will learn some new material from a recent music conference in Wales and also have the opportunity to share new music with each other. Please come along and join us in song!



Join the People's Climate March:

Sunday 29th November: London

As world leaders meet at the UN in Paris for global climate talks, join CAFOD and other Climate Coalition members at the London People's Climate March for a fun, family-friendly day, standing in solidarity with communities most affected by a changing climate.

Register & more details at:

<http://www.cafod.org.uk/climate-march> or contact us at liverpool@cafod.org.uk

Billions invested in dirty fossil fuels overseas

The UK government is spending billions of pounds investing in dirty fossil fuels overseas – more than double the amount it spends supporting renewable energy. To protect the planet and the poorest people from climate change, we urgently need to shift the balance.

Inspired by our faith and encouraged by the words of Pope Francis, we're asking **Climate and Energy Secretary Amber Rudd** to lead that shift, away from dirty fossil fuels towards clean, sustainable energy that meets the needs of the poorest people.

You can help by emailing the government. Visit cafod.org.uk for the details



NEW YEARS EVE PARTY



ST JOSEPH'S HALL, CHAPEL ST, LEIGH
THE FANTASTIC 50'S & 60'S SENSATION

EDDIE ROBBINS

and the

JETSONS

LICENSED BAR,

HOT POT SUPPER, FREE RAFFLE

Tickets £15

Available from Des Cooney 01942 674868

Parish Office 01942 673517

Entertainment starts at 8.00pm

Doors open at 7.00pm

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 21 November

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
12A 12.00noon MASS Toher & Lavery families
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY McArd & Murnan families

Sun 22 November SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING (YEAR B) *Youth Sunday*

StJ 8.30am MASS Adam Orchison (Anniv.)
SH 9.30am MASS Frank Crossley
StJ 10.30am MASS Vernon Byrne (Anniv.)
OL 11.00am MASS Keith Cooper
StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

Mon 23 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time, Week 34, Year I*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.00am MASS Steven Naylor

Tue 24 November *Memorial of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 12.00noon MASS Elizabeth O'Rourke LD

Wed 25 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 10.00am MASS
StJ 12.00noon MASS Cath Trungle

Thu 26 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 9.00am MASS deceased members Maguire family
StJ 9.00am MASS Agnes Coleman

Fri 27 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 10.00am MASS Cecilia & John Wilding RIP
StJ 12.00noon MASS The Byrne Family

Sat 28 November

OL 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
OL 12.00noon MASS
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Joan Ingham LD & decd. members of the Ingham families

Sun 29 November FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)

StJ 8.30am MASS Robert Woods (Anniv.)
SH 9.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area
StJ 10.30am MASS Mandy Barwick (Anniv.)
OL 11.00am MASS
StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

Sacred Heart Lottery On 13th November the numbers drawn were 6, 19, 20. NO winner of £150. This week's estimated jackpot was £200.

Our Lady's 500 Club £10

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 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 Paul Seddon or Fr Paul Grady who are based in St. Margaret Clitherow parish.

PASTORAL AREA TEAM



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