

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (YEAR C) 10 JANUARY 2016



## Responsorial Psalm

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded:  
"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him."  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Once when Mother Teresa was selecting children for an orphanage she was trying to establish in Ethiopia, a journalist challenged her about the children who were not taken. "What are you going to do with them?" he asked. Without hesitation, Mother Teresa stared straight at him and replied, "What are you going to do?" The journalist returned home, gave up his job and started to raise funds to build another orphanage. His meeting with Mother Teresa had been a life-changing experience.

The baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan was a life-changing experience for him. After the story of the Nativity, from the years following his experience of being lost in the Temple, we hear nothing more about Jesus' life except that he increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and with people. For many years – many suggest 18 years – he had been pondering on what "being busy with his Father's affairs" was to mean for him. Now, while he was at prayer after being baptized, the Holy Spirit came down on him in the form of a dove and a voice from Heaven declared, "You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you." From this moment Jesus, filled with the Spirit, set out to fulfil his mission as the anointed servant of the Lord.

There were thousands of people who had come for baptism by John in the River Jordan. They were expecting something to happen and wondered if John himself might be the Christ. John, however, pointed them away from himself. He baptized only in water, but he was to be followed by someone who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire. If they had experienced something powerful in John, how much more could they expect from the Christ?

It took Jesus thirty years to grow in wisdom, in stature and in favour with God and with people before the events of his baptism changed his life. He recognized that he was being anointed with the power of the Holy Spirit. He was truly the Christ. The voice from Heaven affirmed that he was truly the beloved Son of God. He knew that he had been sent to bring Good News to everyone. Jesus needed his baptism as a springboard or a new beginning. What does our baptism mean to us? Is it a life-changing experience, one that calls us from our darkness to spreading the light of God's love?

As we recall Jesus' baptism this weekend, let us pray that we too may live out our baptism calling to the full. And perhaps we should accept the challenge of Mother Teresa when she met the journalist and answer the same question: so now what are you going to do?

**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

### ST JOSEPH'S

<http://yearofmercy.liverpool.org.uk/>

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Brian Ashton, John & Agnes Coan, Louisa Farrington, Dorothy Grundy, Vincent Keavney, Margaret Newby, Molly Toher, Anne Turner & James Unsworth, Ward Family.

#### RED MISSION BOXES

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring their contents to the Presbytery on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

#### FLOWER MEMORIAL

Thank you to all who sent in names & donations for the Christmas memorial. The remaining money will be used for flowers throughout the year.

#### SACRED HEART

In March this year our church will be hosting the Women's World Day of Prayer service for all churches in Leigh. Details to follow.

#### OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

#### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

There are four unclaimed prizes from our Christmas Raffle. 714 Pink, 57 Pink, 613 Blue & 200 Blue.

#### TWELVE APOSTLES

#### ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

... will take place from Easter Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> to Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup>. The cost is £175, names and a deposit of £30 are required ASAP. Please see Margaret Hawkins or Therese Thompson.

#### WITH YOU ALWAYS SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

##### Session 4 'Holy Spirit: the helper'

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Jan Twelve Apostles School Hall 4.30pm  
Thu 14<sup>th</sup> Jan Sacred Heart Church Hall 4.30pm

##### Session 5 'Teach us to Pray'

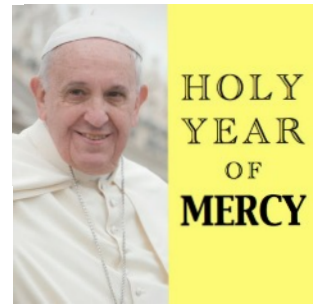
Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb St Joseph's 3.45pm  
Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Feb Twelve Apostles School Hall 4.30pm  
Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Feb Sacred Heart Church Hall 4.30pm

#### 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.

#### JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

The next meeting takes place at Holy Family on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm, please come. Louise Zarré, Director of Jesuit Refugee Service, will reflect on Pope Francis' message for Peace Sunday at LACE, Croxteth Drive, L17 1AA, 2 to 4pm next Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> January. All welcome. For more information ring 0151 522 1080 or e-mail [s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk](mailto:s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk).



Pope Francis @Pontifex 5 Jan 2016

In Jesus of Nazareth, mercy has appeared and lives.

Pope Francis @Pontifex 31 Dec 2015

Let us thank God who is merciful and ever at our side.

Pope Francis @Pontifex 30 Dec 2015

No one can put limits on God's love, for he is always ready to forgive.

Pope Francis @Pontifex 29 Dec 2015

The mercy of God will always be greater than any sin.

#### ORDINARY TIME (WINTER)

During this time, i.e. up to Lent, we are asked to pray for the following intentions.

Peace on Earth, Christian Unity, Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it, The Sick and Those who Care for Them, The Unemployed.

Sunday, 17 January is Peace Day

18 - 25 January is the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

Sunday, 24 January is Racial Justice Day

Sunday, 7 February is Day of the Unemployed

Monday, 8 February is Day for Victims of Trafficking

*(Ash Wednesday is on 10 February 2016)*

Thursday, 11 February is World Day for the Sick

#### RESPONDING TO THE CALL VOCATION DISCERNMENT GROUP

To support those exploring Vocations to the Priesthood in our diocese, a monthly day of recollection has been organised for the first Saturday of each month. These days will help men who feel called to ordained ministry to discover more about diocesan priesthood and meet others discerning a call to priesthood. There will be an opportunity to talk with and hear from priests who minister in the diocese, and also a time for prayer and discussion.

The next day of recollection will take place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February at St. Charles' Presbytery, 224 Aigburth Road, Liverpool.

For further information, please contact Fr James Preston, Vocations Director for the Archdiocese of Liverpool, at [frjamespreston@gmail.com](mailto:frjamespreston@gmail.com) or telephone: 0151 727 2493. Regular updates will be posted on Facebook page: Archdiocese of Liverpool Vocations

#### CHORISTERS WANTED



Metropolitan Cathedral Choir is now recruiting boys and girls for a September 2016 start.

<http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music/joining-the-choirs/>



## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**PARISH TOTAL** £1,536.84

Thank you for your generosity and continuing support.

### PAX CHRISTI

"The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice."

**Peace Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

Next Sunday the retiring Collection will be on behalf of Pax Christi.

### 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.

### BAPTISM

Welcome into our community through baptism to:-  
Rosemary Ellen Sullivan.

### MARRIAGE

Congratulations to Christopher Joseph Law & Frances Rachel Peers, who were married at St Joseph's last Saturday.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Mary (Molly) Toher, Ruth Kane

Eternal rest grant unto them ...

### TOYS & HEATERS

Clean, whole, toys for children under five years would be gratefully received by the volunteers who run the Leigh Asylum Seekers and Refugees Support, for use at the drop-in on Tuesdays from 12 noon to 2.45pm at Kingsleigh Methodist Youth Centre, opposite Leigh Bus Station. Stand-alone heaters are requested by two of our refugees. Queries to (01942) 676962.

### PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

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

### PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,  
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us  
your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:  
let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace

from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Amen.



### BURNS' NIGHT

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January at St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall at 7.45pm, **TICKETS SOLD OUT!**

### FAITH AND MERCY: CYMFED ADULT LEADERS' CONGRESS 2016

The 2016 Congress takes place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at the Friend's Meeting House, Euston Rd, London. Doors open at 10am, ending at 4pm. Book tickets for less than 10 (£11.49 per ticket) at <https://t.co/mgtlfbDy0W> or for groups of 10 go to <http://cymfed.org.uk/congress2016/>

This event is for anyone who does anything to work with young people in any setting in the Church. The more the merrier, all are welcome. Our keynote speaker for the event will be Fr Andrew Small. Fr Andrew is the man behind [jokewiththepope.org](http://jokewiththepope.org) and the brand new *missio* app available on the android and app store. He is an excellent practitioner of the new evangelisation and through his work as Director of the Pontifical Mission Society in America he helps people to actually put their faith into action and see measurable results. Born in Liverpool, Fr Andrew is making a special trip back to the UK to be with us for our congress. As well as Fr Andrew Small, we will be joined by RISE Theatre, One Hope Project, will be launching the Faith in Action Awards and will have further information on the next Flame!

## 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 9 January

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

### Sun 10 January

#### FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Year C

StJ 8.30am MASS Eileen Kelly RIP  
SH 9.30am MASS Philomena Gaughan  
StJ 10.30am MASS Ernest Clarke  
OL 11.00am MASS Kath Sales (LD)  
StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

### Mon 11 January

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II, Week 1

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 9.00am MASS Special Intention New Baby

### Tue 12 January

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
SH 10.00am MASS Martina Loftus

### Wed 13 January

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
OL 10.00am MASS Maureen Beirne  
StJ 12.00noon MASS Anne Turner & James Unsworth (Anniv, B'day memorial)

### Thu 14 January

#### Memorial of Saint Kentigern, Bishop

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 9.00am MASS James Owen McDermott  
SH 12.00noon MASS Mary & John Corner

### Fri 15 January

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
12A 11.00am FUNERAL MASS Mary (Molly) Toher  
StJ 12.00noon MASS George Milward

### Sat 16 January

#### Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation  
StJ 12.00noon MASS Albert Hollinshead  
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Joseph and Edith Johnson

### Sun 17 January

#### SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

##### Peace Day

StJ 8.30am MASS James Frost  
SH 9.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area  
StJ 10.30am MASS Michael Monaghan  
OL 11.00am MASS Anne Devlin  
StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 18<sup>th</sup> December the numbers drawn were 2, 7, 23. ONE lucky winner of £438.

On 31<sup>st</sup> December the numbers drawn were 9, 20, 30. NO winner of £44. This week's estimated jackpot was £90.

**Our Lady's 500 Club** £10 No. 368 N Green, £5 No. 049 D Hindley, £3 No. 439 J Riley, £2 No. 418 N Jones

**Bonus Ball** No. 52 J Atherton

There are still two numbers on our Bonus Ball available, once these numbers are sold we can increase our prize money to £30. Please see Margaret at the back of church.

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

### PASTORAL AREA TEAM



Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady  
Tel: 01942 673517  
Email: [kjkrady@hotmail.com](mailto:kjkrady@hotmail.com)

Priest: Fr. Paul Grady  
Tel: 0161 790 2390  
Email: [frpaulmgrady@hotmail.com](mailto:frpaulmgrady@hotmail.com)  
Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson

Priest Fr. Colin Fealey  
Tel: 01942 673517/ 01942 731280  
Email: [stjosephs@live.com](mailto:stjosephs@live.com)  
Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon  
Tel: 01942 883395  
Email: [paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk)