

# St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 17 JANUARY 2016



## Responsorial Psalm

Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life:  
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

If we take the miracle of Cana too literally we can reduce it to a one-off event and limit its meaning. It's not just about the power to change water into wine. The miracle has a deeper and broader meaning, and one that is valid for all time. In attempting to describe the relationship between God and his people, the Bible often uses the image of a bridegroom and his bride. And in describing the joy God finds among his people, it uses the image of a wedding feast. Today's First Reading contains a message of hope for God's people at one of the lowest moments in their history. Jerusalem lay in ruins and many of the people were exiled in Babylon. Israel, once God's bride, is now like a widow bereft of children. However, God has not forgotten his people. There will be a new wedding feast. This promise was fulfilled in the return from exile, but more especially in the coming of Jesus. It's no surprise then to discover that Jesus begins his public ministry at a wedding feast. At that wedding the wine ran out. The old religion, the old ways of worship, had been found wanting. The time has come for God's promises to be fulfilled. The time has come for a new law and a new spirit. The prophets had foretold of an abundance of wine when the Messiah arrives. At Cana Jesus provided just that. And all those who tasted the new wine agreed that it was better than the old.

What Jesus did at Cana was not a one-off thing. It pointed to what would happen throughout his ministry. The miracle of changing water into wine was so generous, and illustrates the generosity and love of God. The six jars that Jesus filled were capable of holding somewhere between 20 and 30 gallons each. We see not only Jesus' power but his generous spirit. We get a glimpse of the warmth of his heart. The new order begins with an act of great compassion. The changing of water into wine is a symbol for what Jesus represented.

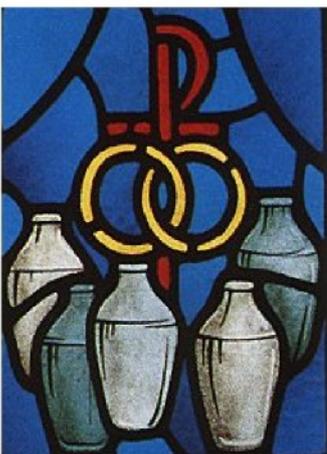
Everywhere he went the old was made new. For the widow at Nain, he changed her tears to joy as he raised her only son back to life. For Zacchaeus the rich tax collector, he changed selfishness into love. For the thief who hung beside him at Calvary he changed despair into hope. And on Easter morning he changed death to life. His presence could change the lives of all those he came into contact with. And he continues to do this today to all those who encounter him and open their hearts to him. Notice also that Jesus asked the servants to draw the water in today's Gospel. Jesus often used others to share the generous blessings of God. He calls us to do the same today, to share the new wine of God's love with everyone we meet. The new wine is not just meant for married couples but for everyone. The new wine cannot be put into old wine skins. This means that WE have to change.

Let us pray that we may open ourselves up to all God's blessings and gifts. Let us pray that Jesus will touch our hearts and allow us to love unselfishly. For those who seek his help, the miracle of Cana still happens – the water of selfishness is changed into the new wine of true love. And, wonderful as the old wine was, the new wine is still better.

**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

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Alf Case, Margaret Fleming, Margaret Keavney, Julie Lock, John Lucas, Michael Mallowney, Hannah O'Hora, Daniel & Catherine Porter, Albert Purcell, Mary Toher,

#### FLOWER TEAM

Due to unforeseen circumstances we are in great need of a new Flower Team. Anyone interested, please contact the office.

#### 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.

#### MOTHERS' PRAYERS

Mothers' Prayers will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January at St Joseph's. All mothers and grandmothers welcome.

#### SACRED HEART

This year, on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm, our church will be hosting the **Women's World Day of Prayer** service for all churches in Leigh. Both sexes and all ages are invited. Practices for singers, 7.30pm for one hour, are on Mondays, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> February. The service has been written by Christian women from Cuba. If you have or know of any Cuban items or memorabilia suitable for careful display and available for short loan, please contact Julia on 01942 676962.

#### 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 5 'Teach us to Pray'

Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	St Joseph's Side Hall	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

##### Session 6 'Jesus brings us together'

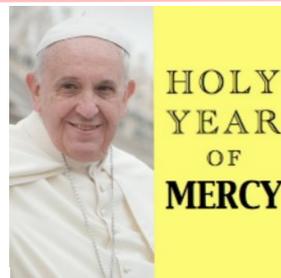
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	St Joseph's (Mather Room)	3.45pm
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Twelve Apostles School Hall	4.30pm
Thu 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Sacred Heart Church Hall	4.30pm

##### Session 7 'Mary: the first Disciple'

Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> April	St Joseph's (Mather Room)	3.45pm
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Twelve Apostles School Hall	4.30pm
Thu 21 <sup>st</sup> April	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.



Pope Francis @Pontifex Jan 12

When we entrust ourselves to the Lord, we can overcome all obstacles that we encounter on the way.

Pope Francis @Pontifex Jan 8

When the world slumbers in comfort and selfishness, our Christian mission is to help it rouse from sleep.

#### 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 or telephone: 0151 727 2493. Regular updates will be posted on Facebook page: Archdiocese of Liverpool Vocations

#### '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.

**7.30pm - 9.00pm on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016**  
**(Refreshments available from 7.00pm)**

Christ the King Parish Room, 78 Queens Drive, Wavertree  
Liverpool, L15 6YQ

#### RCIA PROGRAMME

Do you know anyone who would like to be a Catholic? Perhaps you yourself have been coming to Church for a while and thinking about becoming a Catholic too?

Very soon, we are going to have a gathering of people who are thinking about becoming new members of the Church. This would usually take place at one of the Easter Vigils – this year celebrated on March 26<sup>th</sup> – when people entering the Church would celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist as well as being Baptised if they have not been baptised before. If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or know someone who is, please contact the parish office.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

**PARISH TOTAL** £1,858.82

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**

Today, 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, Baby Grace Burgess, Carolyn Burke, Sr. Teresa Frost, Philip Harte, Shannon Mackay, Jack Parr.

### BAPTISM

Welcome into our community through baptism to:-  
Benjamin Jacob Price

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Ruth Kane

Eternal rest grant unto her ...

### 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.

St Joseph's Players 2016 Pantomime  
St Joseph's Hall, Chapel Street,  
Leigh WN7 2PR

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January  
to  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Starts: 7.15pm - Tickets: £8 Adults, £4 16's & under

Matinees: 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Starts: 2pm - £10 Adults, £4 16's & under  
Wed 20<sup>th</sup> & Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> - All Tickets £4

**SLEEPING BEAUTY**

Box Office  
Ratcliffe's Cycles  
Bradshawgate, Leigh

Refreshments and raffle available

### 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

### OLD GREEN RIVER BAND

St Stephen's church, Astley present an evening of traditional jazz with Martin Bennett's "Old Green River Band" at 7.00 (for 7.30) on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January in St Stephen's church. Tickets are £10 per adult (children FREE) and includes Pie and Pea supper. A bar is provided. For tickets please ring 01942 879608 - or you can just come along and pay on the door.

## 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 16 January

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

### Mon 18 January

#### *Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II, Week 2*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 9.00am MASS John Griffin RIP

### Tue 19 January

#### *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
SH 12.00noon MASS Terence Quinn

### Wed 20 January

#### *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
OL 10.00am MASS Maureen Beirne  
StJ 12.00noon MASS Margaret McCarthy (anniv.)

### Thu 21 January

#### *Memorial of Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
StJ 9.00am MASS Elizabeth O'Rourke RIP  
SH 12.00noon MASS Martina Loftus

### Fri 22 January

#### *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer  
SH 10.00am MASS Edith & Joseph Smith  
StJ 12.00noon MASS Douglas Wakefield (SI)  
12A 12.00noon FUNERAL SERVICE Ruth Kane  
12A 3.00pm FUNERAL SERVICE Kathleen Sanby

### Sat 23 January

#### *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation  
12A 12.00noon MASS Jean Cooney LD  
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

### Sun 24 January

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

##### *Racial Justice Day*

StJ 8.30am MASS Special Intention Our Lord & Our Lady  
SH 9.30am MASS Sheila Smith, Eddie Trumble  
StJ 10.30am MASS Rev. Deacon Alan Mee (anniv.)  
OL 11.00am MASS Anne Devlin  
StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

**Sacred Heart Lottery** On 8<sup>th</sup> January the numbers drawn were 6, 9, 28. NO winner of £92. This week's estimated jackpot was £140.

**Our Lady's 500 Club** £10 No. 446 B Ryan, £5 No. 171 M Roach, £3 No. 334 Michael, £2 No. 395 T Ellis

**Bonus Ball** No. 48 Trevor Jones

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: [kjmogrady@hotmail.com](mailto:kjmogrady@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  
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