

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 24 JANUARY 2016



Responsorial Psalm

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL REFLECTION

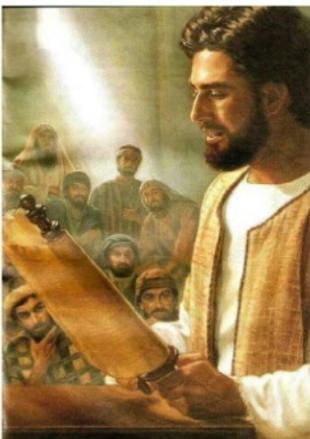
In today's Gospel Jesus returns to Nazareth where he had been brought up, the place which gave him his identity. We know that Jesus left home to go to see John the Baptist, and we know that his whole life-style changed after his time with John in the desert. Jesus didn't stay in the wilderness to live a hermit's life. He received a prophetic anointing in his baptism to announce the new age of the Kingdom of God. so he became a travelling preacher. By the time Jesus returns to his home town his reputation has arrived before him. When he makes his usual visit to the synagogue on the Sabbath he is invited to preach. He chooses a passage from Isaiah which gives a beautiful summary of the program of his new mission: to announce the Good News to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and new sight to the blind, to free the oppressed and to proclaim a year of favour – which was a time when all debts were cancelled and all property returned to the rightful owners. Jesus points to himself as the fulfilment of the ancient prophecy: today the text becomes true in the hearing of those he grew up with. At first their reaction is approval of his words, but then they remind themselves of his identity and say, "This is Joseph's son, surely." The neighbours don't allow Jesus' wisdom to interfere with their memories of him. When he presents himself to them for the first time as the prophetic preacher, they remind themselves of his address and pedigree. They won't allow Jesus to grow up, so they lock him into the past and into a former identity.

Today's Gospel reminds us that sometimes people do not want to hear the Word of God. Jesus reminds the people that no prophet is accepted in his homeland and, as if to prove him right, the local crowd become so enraged that they try to throw him off a cliff. But Jesus escapes, and it is no surprise that he never returns home again. We all need a place to belong to and people we can call our own. Usually we call that "home" where you are accepted completely as you are, but where you are also encouraged to be the person you could be. Perhaps the last people to accept our changes are those who live with us. They are so used to the old ways and find it hard to accept the way we may have changed. Jesus had to leave home to become the person his Father in Heaven wanted him to be. He couldn't rely on his old neighbours to foster his new life and mission. So he established a community, a body of people, who would recognize their need of each other. That's us, the Church today. We are home for each other, pledged to support the growing life of the Holy Spirit in each one of us. As we gather together to celebrate the life of God's love within us let us always welcome each other, for we are called to recognize in everyone Christ Jesus, the Word of God himself.

**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

Bill Burke, Carol Ann Driver, Thomas Kennedy, Bill Knight, William O'Houra, Marlene O'Neill, Kevin O'Rourke, James Parker, Rachel, Kathleen Sinclair, Andrea Southern, Anne Turner, Paul & Ann Unsworth Golden Wedding,

FLOWER TEAM

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

LITTLE CHURCH

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Little Church Copper Collection, £58 has been sent to CAFOD. Five *Food for a Family* gifts and fourteen *Meals for People in Poverty* have been bought with the money. CAFOD have said that the meals will go to the Syrian refugees.

SACRED HEART

This year, on Friday, 4th 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, 22nd and 29th February. The service has been written by Christian women from Cuba.

TWELVE APOSTLES ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

... will take place from Easter Monday, March 28th to Thursday March 31st. 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 rd Feb	St Joseph's Side Hall	3.45pm
Wed 10 th Feb	Twelve Apostles School Hall	4.30pm
Thu 11 th Feb	Sacred Heart Church Hall	4.30pm

Session 6 'Jesus brings us together'

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

Session 7 'Mary: the first Disciple'

Wed 6 th April	St Joseph's (Mather Room)	3.45pm
Wed 20 th April	Twelve Apostles School Hall	4.30pm
Thu 21 st April	Sacred Heart Church Hall	4.30pm

LIVERPOOL ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2016

By air from John Lennon Airport on Friday 22nd - Friday 29th July 2016. This year the pilgrimage is being lead by Archbishop Malcolm. Pilgrims who need help with mobility, nursing or medical care on the journey or in Lourdes should register as soon as possible with the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office: 0151 727 4000. Email lourdespilgrimage@rcaolp.co.uk The closing date for registration is 30th April 2016. For independent pilgrims please contact the Tour operator, Joe Walsh Tours, 143 Lower Baggot St Dubil 2, Ireland www.joewalshstours.co.uk There is a reduction for those who book on line. Tel: 0151 909 2871

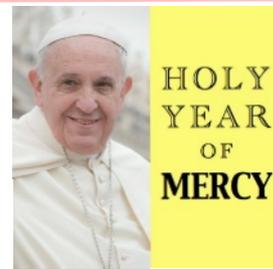
Can You Help? We urgently need Doctors, Nurses, Healthcare professionals

Adult helpers 18+ no experience required

Youth helpers 15+ Musicians & singers

Contact Adam Taylor 0151 727 4000

Animate Youth Office 01744 740462



Pope Francis @Pontifex Jan 19

The Gospel calls us to be close to the poor and forgotten, and to give them real hope.

Pope Francis @Pontifex Jan 15

Every Christian community should be an oasis of charity and warmth in the midst of a desert of solitude and indifference.

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.

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 6th 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, 17th 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 26th – 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	£1,040.57
Pax Christi	£ 132.65

Thank you for your generosity and continuing support.

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Eternal rest grant unto them.

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 MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Present

Oliver

9,10,11th February

Check web site or Tel. 01942 884144
Cheryl Grange for ticket availability

Tickets £5.00 with various options

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

Wednesday 20th January
to
Saturday 30th January 2016

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

Matinees: 23rd, 24th & 30th Jan
Starts: 2pm - £10 Adults, £4 16's & under
Wed 20th & Thurs 21st - 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 6th 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 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 30th 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.

BAD WEATHER PREPARATION

In the event of ice and snow please take greater care when coming into grounds of each of the churches. Wear suitable footwear. There may be limited access to each church with only some paths gritted. If the weather is very bad do not attempt to get to Mass.

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 January

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

Mon 25 January

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am MASS Marlene O'Neill RIP

Tue 26 January

Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon MASS John Heneghan

Wed 27 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time Year II, Week 3

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer Carolyn Burke (sick)

OL NO MASS

StJ 12.00noon MASS

Thu 28 January

Memorial of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ NO MASS

SH 12.00noon MASS David Wright

Fri 29 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH NO MASS

StJ 12.00noon MASS Burke Family

Sat 30 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

12A 12.00noon MASS Margaret Hogden LD

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Trevor Jones

Sun 31 January

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

StJ 8.30am MASS Olivia, Ken & Stephen Hartnell

SH 9.30am MASS Bridie Greenhalgh LD

StJ 10.30am MASS Carolyn Burke (sick)

OL 11.00am MASS Teresa and John Ryder (anniv.)

StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

Sacred Heart Lottery On 15th January the numbers drawn were 6, 10, 13. NO winner of £122. This week's estimated jackpot was £150.

Our Lady's 500 Club £ n/a

Bonus Ball No. 38 Mrs C Ackers

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

The next Twelve Apostles 200 club draw will be on Saturday 30th January after Mass.

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



Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady
Tel: 01942 673517
Email: kjmogrady@hotmail.com

Priest: Fr. Paul Grady
Tel: 0161 790 2390
Email: frpaulmgrady@hotmail.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