

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (YEAR C) 20 MARCH 2016



Responsorial Psalm

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.
But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

REFLECTION

Every year on Palm Sunday we listen to an account of the Passion of Jesus. This is why it is sometimes known as Passion Sunday. As we listen to this very familiar story we are reminded of the cowardice of his followers who abandoned him in his hour of greatest need, the wickedness of the religious leaders who plotted his death, and the cruelty of the soldiers who carried out his execution. Yet the emphasis of the story is not necessarily on these people. The most important part of the story is Jesus himself. Against the darkness of Calvary his goodness shines all the more brightly. The day of his death is not called "bad" Friday but "Good Friday". What makes it good is the supreme love of Jesus himself - "Greater love has no one but to lay down their life for their friends." It is this love that we remember this week. The early Christians saw in the passion and death of Jesus the triumph of failure. With the help of the Scriptures, they came to understand that this was precisely how Jesus triumphed and entered into his glory. It was not a defeat. It was a victory. It was the triumph of good over evil, of love over hate, of light over darkness, and of life over death.

The Passion Story shows how Jesus responded to what was done to him. He absorbed all the violence, transformed it, and returned it as love and forgiveness. This was the victory of love over all the powers of destruction. There was nothing but love in him. Even when they nailed his hands and feet, he was loving to the end and forgave his executioners. It helps to think about that when we are going through hard times. It is a consolation to know that Jesus suffered. Yet his suffering would have been wasted if he had not endured it with love. It was not Jesus' suffering that saved the world but his love. Suffering is something most of us would do anything to avoid. But our love gives meaning to our suffering. Jesus was the Good Shepherd dying because he loved his sheep. Suffering that is merely endured does nothing for our hearts, except perhaps to harden them. It is the spirit in which we bear our burden that matters. As we listen to the Passion Story this weekend let us remember that, although he was Son of God, Jesus was also human like ourselves. He bore the sufferings of this world to show us that love could triumph and that, if we follow him in this life, we can follow him to the Kingdom of Heaven, as he promised to the repentant thief.

May those words of Jesus on the Cross echo in our lives today, "Truly you will be with me in Paradise".

**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

MASSES

Dominic Ainscough, John Burke, Alf Case, Jimmy Chandler, Agnes Collier, Terry & John Donohue, Margaret Featherstone, Maureen Gallagher, Mike Green, Lucy Jones & Family, Winifred Langford & Family, Teresa & John Ryder, Edith Smith, Ellen Squires, Thomas Taylor, Bernard & Joyce Worden (Golden Wedding), Robert Zimmeran, Special Intention.

FLOWER TEAM

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

COFFEE MORNING

Coffee Morning is held in the Side Hall after 10.30am Mass every week. Everyone is welcome, come along and have a chat.

TWELVE APOSTLES

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Can everyone who is going on the pilgrimage please pay any outstanding balance by Monday 21st March to Margaret Hawkins or Therese Thompson. The pilgrimage leaving Mass will take place at XII Apostles on Easter Monday, 28th March at 9.00am.

THANK YOU

Therese Thompson and family would like to thank all clergy and members of the parish community who attended John's funeral. A special thank you to the choir who were close to John for playing and singing. They would also like to thank everyone who has sent cards, Mass cards and donations following the loss of John. Your continued support is extremely comforting at this sad time.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

EASTER RAFFLE

Our Easter draw will be taken after Mass today

EASTER LILIES

If you wish to donate a lily in memory of a loved one, they are £1.50 each and will be put on the Altar at Easter. There is a box at the back of church for donations. Today is the last day to buy a lily.

BONUS BALL

There are two numbers free on our Bonus Ball. Anyone interested, please see Margaret at the back of church.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped to clean the church. A special thanks to Tom our brass cleaner.

WITH YOU ALWAYS SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Session 7 'Mary: the first Disciple'

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



Pope Francis @Pontifex Mar 17

No one can be excluded from the mercy of God. The Church is the house where everyone is welcomed and no one is rejected.

Mar 16

As we exit the confessional, we will feel his strength which gives new life and restores ardor to the faith. After confession we are reborn.

Mar 15

God is truly "rich in mercy" and extends it abundantly upon those who appeal to Him with a sincere heart.

Mar 14

The Sacrament of Reconciliation allows us to draw near to the Father with trust to have the certainty of his forgiveness.

Mar 13

Pray for me.

Mar 12

... That families in need may receive the necessary support and that children may grow up in healthy and peaceful environments..

HELP NEEDED

Sr Megan is asking for a single bed for a young boy. If you are able to help please contact her on 01942 683554.

CHRISM MASS

The coach for the Chrism Mass is now booked, there are no more seats available. It will pick up at St Joseph's at 5.00pm, XII Apostles at 5.10pm and St Ambrose Barlow at 5.25pm.

Triduum



This year, as last year, we will have two Triduums, one at St Joseph's and one in the other three churches.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maunder Thursday

Our Lady's	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm
	Watching till 10.00pm	
St Joseph's	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7.30pm
	Watching in the Green Room	
	Night Prayer of the Church	9.45pm

Good Friday

Sacred Heart	Stations of the Cross	10.15am
	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
St Joseph's	Morning Prayer of the Church	9.00am
	Stations of the Cross	10.00am
	Walk of Witness	11.00am
	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
	Meditations at the Cross	7.00pm

Holy Saturday

XII Apostles	Easter Vigil	7.30pm
St Joseph's	Morning Prayer of the Church	9.00am
	Easter Vigil	7.00pm

WALK OF WITNESS

The Good Friday morning ecumenical walk of witness through Leigh leaves St Joseph's at 11.00am, proceeds down Bradshawgate and ends with a short service at the Library steps. Afterwards, a light lunch will be available in Leigh Parish church vestry.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,888.36

The collection on Good Friday will go to support the Holy Places.

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, Claire Slater, Kevin O'Rourke, Margaret Case.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Denise Bernadette McCallum, Richard Hillton
Eternal rest grant unto them.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY DOOR

As we celebrate the Year Of Mercy we are invited to go through the Holy Door at the Cathedral in Liverpool as part of our Pilgrimage of Mercy. We have been invited to take part on Saturday April 9th – along with the Pastoral Areas of Ashton and Wigan. The visit will consist of our arriving at the Cathedral at 10.00am.

- After going through the Holy Door we will be invited to pray the Stations of Mercy.
- After a short Service of Reconciliation we will be welcome to visit the Crypt.
- Then, together with one of the bishops or the Dean of the Cathedral, Fr Tony O'Brien, we will celebrate Mass at midday.
- After this we may well have an hour or two at the Albert Dock where we can have our packed lunch and enjoy some time shopping or sight-seeing.

There is a list in the porch, please sign up as soon as possible if you would like to go so that we can book coaches.

GIVE UP CLOTHES FOR GOOD

TK Maxx is the UK's largest corporate funder of research into children's cancer. With your help we can find cures and kinder treatments for children with cancer. Cancer Research UK Kids & Teens' scientists are working hard to develop better and kinder treatments to avoid problems for children in later life.

To get involved just fill up a bag with unwanted clothes, shoes, DVDs, books or accessories and take it to TK Maxx. Bags are available in the porch.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

St Joseph's school are collecting Sainsbury's vouchers. Please would you post your vouchers in the collection box at the entrance to church. We use the vouchers in exchange for footballs/tennis balls etc. Thank you so much for your support.

St Joseph's Players Present

The Late Edwina Black

A Thriller set in Victorian England
By William Dinner & William Moran
Directed by Pauline Nevil

Tuesday 12th April to Saturday 16th April
Curtain 7.30pm

Tickets Adults £8, 16 years & under £4
Available from Ratcliffe's Bike Shop, Bradshawgate or pay on the door.

DIVINE MERCY

The Hour of Great Mercy

Just as the Image can serve as a reminder of the ocean of Divine Mercy, as well as its price, so can the daily remembrance of the Divine Mercy at the hour of Christ's death. Jesus asked Saint Faustina, and through her us, to celebrate this Hour of Great Mercy, promising tremendous graces to those who would, both for themselves and on behalf of others.

At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy ... In this hour I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion. (*Diary 1320*).

As often as you hear the clock strike the third hour immerse yourself completely in My mercy, adoring and glorifying it, invoke it's omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners, for at that moment mercy was opened wide for every soul. In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking; it was the hour of grace for the whole world - mercy triumphed over justice.

Try your best to make the Stations of the Cross in this hour, provided that your duties permit it; and if you are not able to make the Stations of the Cross, then at least step into the chapel for a moment and adore, in the Most Blessed Sacrament. My Heart, which is full of mercy: and should you be unable to step into chapel. immerse yourself in prayer there where you happen to be, if only for a very brief instant. (*Diary 1572*)

The Novena to the Divine Mercy begins on Good Friday. There are copies of the Novena and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at the back of church.

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.



Don't Be Late for Easter Sunday 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 19 March

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Mary Tyrer

Sun 20 March

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

StJ 8.30am MASS John & Agnes Coan (anniv.)
SH 9.30am MASS Albert Finney (anniv.)
StJ 10.30am MASS Sylvia Withington (anniv.)
OL 11.00am MASS Joyce Worthington L.D.
StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

Mon 21 March

Monday in Holy Week

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.00am MASS Winifred Langford (anniv.)

Tue 22 March

Tuesday in Holy Week

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
12A 9.00am School MASS (in church)
SH 12.00noon MASS Molly Togher
StJ 2.15pm FUNERAL SERVICE Denise Bernadette McCallum

Wed 23 March

Wednesday in Holy Week

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 10.00am MASS John Burke L.D.
StJ 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Richard Hilton

Thu 24 March

HOLY THURSDAY

OL 7.30pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper John Terrence Knowles L.D.
OL Watching until 10.00pm
StJ 7.30pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Joan Horton
StJ Watching in the Green Room
StJ 9.45pm Night Prayer of the Church

Fri 25 March

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

StJ 9.00am Morning Prayer
StJ 10.00am Stations of the Cross
SH 10.15am Stations of the Cross
StJ 11.00am Walk of Witness
StJ 3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
SH 3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
StJ 7.00pm Meditation at the Cross

Sat 26 March

HOLY SATURDAY

StJ 9.00am Morning Prayer of the Church
StJ 7.00pm EASTER VIGIL Monica Davies (RIP)
12A 7.30pm EASTER VIGIL Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Sun 27 March

EASTER DAY

StJ 8.30am MASS People of the Pastoral area
SH 9.30am MASS Doris Gaskell & Doris Stout
StJ 10.30am MASS Molly Toher (RIP)
OL 11.00am MASS Austin Wood

NO SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Sacred Heart Lottery On 11th March the numbers drawn were 2, 12, 18. There were no winners of £326. Last week's estimated jackpot was £370.

Our Lady's 500 Club £10 No. 165 A Sharkie, £5 No. 020 J Evans, £3 No. 486 K Jones, £2 No. 362 M Roach

Bonus Ball No 1 Mr T Ellis

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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