

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C) 19 June 2016



Responsorial Psalm

For you my soul is thirsting,
O God, my God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

REFLECTION

Throughout the Gospels the question "Who is he?" is whispered wherever Jesus goes. Everyone who meets Jesus seems to ask that question. He is obviously someone who makes an immediate impression on people.

In today's Gospel Jesus himself poses the question to his disciples. But first of all he asks his followers a safer question, "Who do the people say I am?" Various names are put forward in response. But then Jesus asks a more dangerous question, "Who do you say I am?" The disciples are put on the spot. Peter speaks up, "The Christ of God". It is a self-defining moment for Peter. Through the grace of God he has discovered himself in the presence of the One who discloses God and reveals the way of God, and it is the way of love and justice. He will spend the rest of his life being a faithful and courageous follower of Jesus. But then Jesus takes the conversation further. He says he will suffer horribly, he will be rejected by the political and religious leaders of his time, he will be killed, but he will be raised from the dead on the third day. From this moment onward in the Gospel story, Jesus is on his way to the Cross. Everything he says and does is another step towards crucifixion, where he will demonstrate perfect love and total self-giving.

Jesus' question is an invitation for us to answer for ourselves. "Who do you say I am?" Who is Jesus for us today? Is he simply a name or a person from history? Or is he someone who loves us and walks with us through life? Our answer to that question is shown in the way we live. Do we base our lives on the worldly values of money, possessions, prestige, status, privilege, power? If we make these our supreme values we will not truly be following in the way of Jesus Christ.

Being followers of Christ will transform our thoughts, our actions and our emotions. It is knowing who Christ really is that stirs in us the desire to do something great with our lives, to commit ourselves humbly to improving ourselves and the world around us. It is the Christ in us who rejects us becoming tools of violence and destruction and indifferent to the signs of our times. We are called to be people who defend peace and not resign ourselves to a world where other human beings die of hunger, who have no work, or who have to migrate from their homes in tens of thousands to flee war zones. As Christians we are called to defend life at every moment of its development and strive to make our earth a just and peaceful place for all people. May we be recognized as Christ's faithful followers, a people with the compassionate and loving Spirit of God alive in us.

We would like to wish all
fathers a very happy
Father's Day!



**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

Catherine Bellfield, Alf Case, Mary Fox, John Griffin, Christine Hession, Joseph Higgins, Vincent Johnson, Peter & Susan Jones, Elsie Kelleher, William Thomas Kelly, Annie Leather, Bill Marsh, John Murphy, Albert Joseph Sankey, Joe Shovelton, Mary Sheila Smith, Charlotte Whittaker, St Joseph's School Governing Body, Special Intention (MB), Special Intention.

WITH YOU ALWAYS 2017 (Reconciliation & First Communion)

If your child attends St Joseph's school or a non-Catholic school and will be going into Year 4 in September and you wish them to make their First Communion, please call at the presbytery any weekday between 9.00am and 4.00pm to collect an enrolment form. The form must be returned to the presbytery no later than Monday 11th July. Thank you.

GARDENING DAY

A very big thank you to all those who came to garden last Saturday, and braved the terrible rain. They kept going, and kept smiling, so thank you again, the grounds are looking lovely!

SUMMER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Very soon, just as in the last two years, we are going to have a Summer schedule of weekend Mass times. The reason for this is that it is proving more and more difficult to sort out supply priests for weekend Masses when any of the priests are away or on pilgrimage or retreat.

Therefore, **for the duration of July and August, there will be NO Sunday evening Masses.** The 6.30pm Mass will resume at Saint Richard's on Sunday 4th September.

WITH YOU ALWAYS SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2016-17

If your child will be in Year 4 next September (currently in Year 3) and will be receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion next year (2017) and your child attends either Twelve Apostles School or Sacred Heart School, a form will be given to them for you to sign and then be brought back to school. If your child attends another school, enrolment forms can be picked up from either one of the following churches: Sacred Heart, Our Lady of the Rosary or Twelve Apostles. If your child has not been baptised, please speak to Fr. Kieran.

LOURDES 5th-9th September

A small group of people are going on pilgrimage to Lourdes in September and anyone who wishes to join us is most welcome. Flying from Manchester and staying at the American Hotel on full board basis. £579.00 per person sharing a room. Single room supplement £120.00. Travel cost to Manchester will be calculated closer to departure. Travel insurance is not included in the price but can be arranged.

Please contact Lianne on 709040 (evenings) or text 07932 495139 (day).

CAFOD EMERGENCY APPEAL

There is currently a serious food crisis in Ethiopia that has left over ten million women, men and children facing severe food shortages. Although there is little about it in the British press at present, CAFOD, want to alert us to the severity of the situation - and to ask for your help, so that we can act together now.

We are seeing the El Niño effect worsening, and this has meant flash floods in Ethiopia, and also that now, the rains have failed twice. As a result, severe drought has left millions in need of emergency food aid, with some 400,000 children

suffering from malnutrition. We need to act now to prevent a far more terrible crisis. CAFOD has been working for some time now, with our local Ethiopian partner organisations, to help those worst hit by the crisis. However, the scale of the need is increasing dramatically, and weather forecasts predict that the El Niño effect will continue well into 2016.

Please give to the **collection on 25th/26th June** for CAFOD's emergency humanitarian response and if you can Gift Aid it, the government will add an extra 25% to whatever you donate. And importantly, please pray for those suffering in this crisis. The situation in Ethiopia has become severe, despite its people's long years of hard work and self-sufficiency. Without immediate action, we face a very real human tragedy; but with your support and prayers now, a more terrible crisis can be averted. Thank you all so much for your enduring support for CAFOD's work.

A prayer for Ethiopia

Father, into your loving hands we bring our brothers and sisters who are experiencing the drought in Ethiopia. May you fill them with strength and comfort, and help us always remember them in our prayers. Amen.



Pope Francis @Pontifex Jun 14

The future of society requires the fruitful encounter between young and old.

Jun 13

I invite all of the institutions of the world to give a voice to all of those who suffer silently from hunger. #ZeroHunger

Jun 12

Dear sick people, entrust yourselves to the Spirit who will not fail you with the consoling light of his presence.

Jun 11

Do not tire of asking in prayer for the Lord's help especially in difficulty.

Jun 10

The tenderness of God is present in the lives of all those who attend the sick and understand their needs, with eyes full of love.

Jun 9

We need to recognize the fundamental values of our common humanity, values in the name of which we can and must cooperate.

LOURDES AT HOME DAY

Friday 29th July 2016

Sacred Heart church, Leigh

7.30am

Mass (followed by breakfast)

9.15am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (until 11.15am)

12.00noon

Mass of Anointing of the Sick (followed by lunch)

Please add your name to the SIGN-UP list at the back of church for catering purposes.

We would be grateful if Eucharistic Ministers, SVP Visitors and others who visit those who are sick and housebound, could extend an invitation to those they visit and sign the sheet at the back of church on their behalf.

There will be a planning meeting on Tuesday 28th June at 7.00pm at Sacred Heart Presbytery to discuss the arrangements for the day.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,773.81

The retiring collections this weekend will be in support of the Day for Life. Next weekend there will be a CAFOD emergency appeal for Ethiopia.

DAY FOR LIFE

... is an annual celebration in the Catholic Church's year dedicated to upholding the dignity of all human life. The Church teaches that life should be protected and nurtured from conception to natural death. The proceeds of the *Day for Life* collection to be held in parishes in England and Wales assists the work of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and other life-related activities supported by the Church.

SICK

Please remember in your prayers all who are sick at this time, especially Margaret Beckett, Carolyn Burke, Sr. Teresa Frost, Philip Harte, Jordan, Brenda Lowe, Shannon Mackay, Kevin O'Rourke.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Mary Hollinshead, Anne Sharples, Margaret Bowers, John Litherland
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish by baptisms to
Riley James Horrocks, Lucas James McCann, Ariana Ada Young-Kelleher.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Rachel Louise Dale & Stephen Thomas Pytlasinski who were married at St Joseph's church last weekend.

ST PIO PRAYER GROUP

Meetings of the Saint Pio prayer group will continue throughout the summer on Tuesdays, 7.00pm at St Ambrose Barlow.

RETREATS 2016

at St Joseph's Prayer Centre, Blundell Avenue, Freshfield, Formby. L37 1PH. Contact: 01704 875850 or 07712 178670
E-mail: nora.coughlan@gmail.com
Individually Guided Retreats: Sr Margaret O'Shea SMG June 13-20; July 11-17; September 11-17.
Preached/Directed: July 24-30: Fr William Pearsall SJ, August 23-27: "Soul care" Fr Tony Slingo, September 27-30: Fr John Hemer MHM

COME CELEBRATE THE CHILD

**St Pascal Baylon Primary School, Chelworth Ave,
Liverpool, L16 2LN**

Sunday 3rd July, 2.00pm

Celebrant: Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP

**Activities to prepare for the Mass will begin at 1.00pm
Please bring a picnic to enjoy in the grounds
after Mass**

**For more information, contact The Safeguarding Office
at LACE on 0151 522 1043 or safeguarding@rcaol.co.uk**

"Let the children come to me!"



**EU
REFERENDUM
THIS
THURSDAY**



At a recent meeting of the Bishops of England and Wales, they released a statement concerning the upcoming EU Referendum. It will be a very historic vote, one that will have enormous implications for future generations. The outcome will have consequences for the future not only of the United Kingdom, but of Europe and the whole world. The Bishops suggest that three things are essential:-

- ***That we pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.***
- ***That we all inform ourselves of the arguments on both sides of the debate.***
- ***That we each exercise our vote with a view to the common good of all.***

The coming together of European countries in the aftermath of a catastrophic war was designed to bind together combatants and the contribution of the European project to peace in Western Europe should be recognized. Pope Francis reminds us, in his address to the European Parliament in Strasbourg on 25th November 2014, that the ideals which shaped this European project from the beginning were peace, subsidiarity and solidarity. In the Treaty of Rome, trade was harnessed to peace. The peace achieved in Western Europe shows indeed how "our problems can become powerful forces for unity". Our decision in the referendum should thus be taken in the context of how best we can promote justice and peace.

Our focus needs to be above all on the human person. We need to build a Europe "which revolves not around the economy but around the sacredness of the human person, around inalienable values." We all have a responsibility to keep the dignity of the human person at the forefront of the debate. We must ask ourselves, in the face of every issue, what will best serve the dignity of all people both within Europe and beyond. This referendum therefore is about much more than economics.

We must not forget the profoundly religious roots of European nations; that Europe has a 2,000 year old Christian culture that has shaped the continent and is a dynamic spiritual, moral and intellectual resource as we address the future. As Pope Francis reminds us, we need continually to ask ourselves: Who is my neighbour? In response to grave challenges, we are called to be generous and welcoming to all others, especially the most vulnerable.

Each person will have their own views about the best political framework in which to realise these ideals. We acknowledge the justifiable concerns that many people have in relation to the European Union, its institutions and the implications of increasing integration.

This referendum is an opportunity to reflect on those values we cherish as a nation and as Catholics. High among these values are mutual respect and civility, vital in this national conversation about the very nature of our nation within the world.

Before voting, ask yourself the following question:
How in the light of the Gospel can my vote best serve the common good?

As you vote, you may wish to use this prayer:
***"Lord, grant us wisdom that we may walk with integrity,
guarding the path of justice,
and knowing the protection of your loving care for all."***

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 18 June

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

Sun 19 June

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

Day for Life

StJ 8.30am MASS Charlesworth family
SH 9.30am MASS Doris Gaskell & Doris Stout
StJ 10.30am MASS Margaret Pemberton (anniv.)
OL 11.00am MASS Anne Harman (anniv.)
StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

Mon 20 June

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year II, Week 12)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.00am MASS Mary Sheila Smith

Tue 21 June

Memorial of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, S.J.

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 7.00pm MASS Christopher Yates (anniv.)

Wed 22 June

**FEAST OF SAINT JOHN FISHER, BISHOP & MARTYR
AND SAINT THOMAS MORE, MARTYR**

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
12A 10.00am MASS Mary Gredecki L.D.
StJ 12.00noon MASS Joe Shovelton (B'day Mem)

Thu 23 June

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 10.30am FUNERAL MASS Mary Hollinshead
SH 7.00pm MASS Ellen Tolitt (anniv.)

Fri 24 June

SOLEMNITY OF THE BIRTH OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 10.00am MASS Michael Cahill (sick)
StJ 10.00am FUNERAL SERVICE Anne Sharples
StJ 12.00noon MASS James Hurst (anniv.)

Sat 25 June

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
12A 12.00noon MASS John Thomson L.D.
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Greta Langan L.D.

Sun 26 June

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

StJ 8.30am MASS Cooper & Parry Families
SH 9.30am MASS Patricia Flanagan L.D.
StJ 10.30am MASS Charlotte Whittaker (exam success)
OL 11.00am MASS Austin Wood
StR 6.30pm MASS ON SUNDAY EVENING in our Pastoral Area

Sacred Heart Lottery On 10th June the numbers drawn were 1, 7, 11. There was no winner of £148. Last week's estimated jackpot was £200.

Our Lady's 500 Club £10, No. 389 J Causby, £5 212 D Davies, £3 No. 144 U Lightford, £2 No. 118 m Sanderson

Bonus Ball No. 3 J Flynn

We still have two numbers available on our Bonus Ball. See Margaret at Our Lady's church if you would like to join in.

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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