

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

EASTER SUNDAY

16 April 2017



Responsorial Psalm

**This Day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.**

Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord
Alleluia**

REFLECTION

The mystery of Jesus' empty tomb has continued to fascinate people throughout the centuries. Mary Magdalene is the first to discover that the tomb is empty. She naturally assumes that someone must have removed his body – this is what she tells Peter and the “other disciple”, whom tradition names as John. When they get to the tomb, John hesitates. He stands on the threshold of the tomb. He sees the evidence but, almost like a good archaeologist, he is reluctant to enter and disturb the scene. Peter typically goes straight in and also sees the evidence, though we are not told what he makes of it. However, when John symbolically crosses the threshold of the tomb, something happens within him. Even without seeing the Risen Jesus, it suddenly makes sense for him. He sees and he believes. It isn't the Risen Lord that he sees, just the clues surrounding the resurrection. Mary had seen those same clues and naturally assumed that the body had been taken away. It's only when she actually meets the Risen Jesus that she comes to believe. But John believes in this awesome truth simply from seeing the empty tomb and the fragments of Jesus' burial cloths. Jesus' previous teaching about the resurrection suddenly makes sense.

“They have taken my lord and I don't know where they have put him.” Mary is every woman and every man. There are inevitably times in our lives when we feel the desolation of loss – loss of loved ones, loss of hope, even loss of faith, when the Lord himself does indeed seem to have been taken away from us. But these early stories of the resurrection speak to us of the dynamics of how we come to faith. Peter sees the empty tomb, but says nothing. He needs more time to think. He needs more experience so that he can come to full faith in the Risen Jesus. He does not dare believe in the resurrection just yet, but he remains open to the possibility. John is able to cross the threshold of faith by holding his sense of loss and his experience of the emptiness of the tomb on the one hand, and bringing it into connection with the memory of the Lord on the other.

This is surely what happens to us in prayer, especially during times of pain and grief. Our experience of loss coupled with our “memory” of Jesus' words can lead us to a deeper faith in him. John sees nothing but signs and symbols, but this is enough to lead him to believe. Mary sees the emptiness of the tomb and continues searching. It is only when Jesus speaks her name that she believes that he is truly risen from the dead. An empty tomb is not proof of resurrection. The resurrection – our encounter with the Risen Lord – can actually happen in our hearts and in our lives when we come to him in prayer. This is where we meet him today – in our searching, in our prayer, in our pain and in our persevering love for God and for each other. As we celebrate the resurrection on this Easter Day, let us share the Good News that Jesus is risen and that he is alive in us today.

**LEIGH
PASTORAL AREA**

www.leighdeanery.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

Terence & John Donohue, Terry Fallen, James Flanagan, Elizabeth Frost, Holly & Fred Griffiths, Christine Hession, May Malley, Kieran Moss, Kathleen McHugh, Frances Shortis, Eddie Trumble, Agnes Wilkinson,

WELCOME

We offer our prayers, congratulations and a warm welcome to Janice Andrew, Catherine Burgess and Connor Bates who were received into the Catholic Church at the Celebration of the Easter Vigil Mass at St Joseph's.

THANK YOU

Thank you to one of our parishioners, Jed Maloney, for the wonderful works of art he produces for St Joseph's church to help us with our meditation throughout Holy Week and Easter.

RED MISSION BOXES

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the presbytery on Monday 24th April. Thank you.

TWELVE APOSTLES

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

If anyone would like to have petitions taken to Our Lady's Shrine, please pass them to Twelve Apostles. All parishioners will be remembered in our Masses and prayers. The departure Mass will be at Twelve Apostles on Easter Monday at 9.00am. All welcome.

XII Apostles Easter Egg Raffle winning tickets:

Pink 251-255
Yellow 71-75
Yellow 6-10
Yellow 126-130
Pink 266-270
Yellow 176-180
Yellow 61-65
Pink 321-325

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

EASTER RAFFLE

There is a list of winning numbers at the back of church, please check.

CHURCH CLEANING

A big thank you to all who came to help with the cleaning of our church.

SACRED HEART

REPOSITORY

Easter cards are still available in the shop and at the back of church.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

The Hour of Grace devotions will take place in Holy Family church on Sunday 23rd April beginning with Exposition and the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Reconciliation will be available during the hour which will conclude with sung Benediction at 4.00pm.

A season of transformation

To everyone who has given up cakes, cookies or cars - whether you held soup lunches, sponsored silences, made a splash, lived in a tent or cut their hair - you've been amazing!

Lent is nearly over, and as we look forward to the resurrection and the promise of new life, please know that your efforts this Lent really have transformed lives around the world. You have brought comfort and hope to people in poverty. You

have provided food for people who are hungry; water to those who thirst, and light to people facing a dark future. Because of your donations, we are building wells in Kenya; supporting small businesses in Zambia; training people in Niger on drought resistant crops to keep the Harvest bountiful, amongst many other life-changing projects you are making possible. Thank you.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Apr 12 - While the mystery of evil is profound, the reality of God's Love poured out through Jesus is infinite and victorious.

Apr 11 - Jesus comes to save us; we are called to choose his way: the way of service, of giving, of forgetfulness of ourselves.

Apr 10 - During this Holy Week let us focus our gaze on Jesus and ask for the grace to better understand the mystery of his sacrifice for our sake.

Apr 9 - O Cross of Christ, inspire in us a desire for God, for goodness and for light.

Apr 8 - Dear young friends, don't be afraid to say "yes" to Jesus with all your heart, to respond generously and to follow him!

Apr 7 - Lent is a period of repentance aimed at enabling ourselves to rise with Christ, to renew our baptismal identity.

ST GEORGES DAY PARADE

Sunday 23rd April at 2.00pm.

We welcome the Uniformed Groups who will be holding their annual service at St Joseph's. All welcome.

Or lives simply

Reflect:

We have come to the end of our Lenten Journey and our search to grow closer to God through the sacrifices, reflections and efforts to liveSimply that we have undertaken over the last weeks. Consider the ways in which we have tried to change the way we live over this time. Have we enabled others to improve their lives through our efforts? Can we continue to do this in the long term?

Pray:

God, whom we meet in bread and wine,
in body broken and blood outpoured,
fill us with your compassion,
that we may hear the cries of the hungry
and reach out to those in need.

Engender in us a thirst for justice,
that the hungry will be satisfied
and the rich sent empty away.

Roll away our apathy
that, with arms outstretched,
we may offer life in place of death
and hope in the face of despair.

Amen.

Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD

Act/Challenge:

Take up the liveSimply challenge in your own church community as we jointly make efforts to become a liveSimply deanery. For more information or to become involved visit the deanery website and type livesimply in the search box for ways in which you can become involved

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,822.93

Thank you for your generosity.

SICK

Colette Allerston, Eileen Boardman, Carolyn Burke, Sr. Teresa Frost, Joan Ganley, Mary Heneghan, Kitty Jones, Arthur Lowe, Mary Sutton, Pat Windyk

RECENTLY DECEASED

Winifred Williams, Roy Gibson, Graham Anthony Hardy, James Flanagan (Canada), Kieran Moss, Margaret Celia Monaghan, Frances Shortis, Agnes Wilkinson
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

LEGION OF MARY

Frank Duff founded the L.O.M. on 7th September 1921 and he died on 7th November 1980. The cause for his beatification is underway and there are prayer leaflets at the back of all churches. We invite you to take a leaflet and pray for this cause. Should you be granted any favours through his intercession, please let the legion of Mary (Lynne Burgess) 01942 607868 or the parish office know and we can pass this on. The Legion of Mary visit the bereaved, sick and housebound to have a chat and pray with the person they are visiting. Please let us know if you would like a visit or if you know someone who would. Thank you.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

St Mary's are looking for a head of department for Religious Studies required for September 2017. The closing date is noon, Friday 21st April. Full details of the post are available to download from the school's web site

www.st-maryshigh.wigan.sch.uk

Please contact Miss T Foster, Human Resources Manager if you require more information or would like to visit the school 01942 884357

ARC Renewal Conference/Gathering

5th –12th August 2017

Bewerley Park, North Yorkshire HG3 5JB

"I realise now how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right"

Acts 10:34-35

A relaxed conference catering for all
Established for 34 years, we offer; daily talks, children's groups, Youth groups, Mass, worship and many opportunities to share in community life.

Excellent facilities on site - low cost camping and residential (some en suite) disabled (en suite) places available.

Contact Caroline Shevelan or Chris Rolfe-Moore
07769680259 crofemoore@hotmail.co

NORTHERN SAINTS PILGRIMAGE

Visiting Lindisfarne, Seahouses and Durham, Monday 18th to Thursday 21st September 2017, led by Fr Ron Johnson. £295 per person. Please call 0151 733 5492 for further information.

Lourdes - A Place for All

If you are interested in travelling to Lourdes contact us (the Liverpool Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Association) in total confidence via our website or by calling 07484 911 623.

To volunteer for any of our support teams please visit our website at: Liverpool-lourdes.org.uk

The Three Towns Operatic Society

proudly present

H.M.S. Pinafore

and

Trial by Jury

by Gilbert & Sullivan

Tuesday 16th – Saturday 20th May 2017 at 7.30pm

St. Joseph's Hall, Chapel Street, Leigh. WN7 2PR

Two shows for the price of one! Tickets: £11 & £13

Concessions available.

Contact 01942 676594, 01942 605369

The Baby Centre, 15 Queen Street, Leigh 01942 665615

ST JOSEPH'S PLAYERS

Present

Agatha Christie's

GO BACK FOR MURDER

Produced by Donna Wood

St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St, Leigh, WN7 2PR

Tuesday 25th April to Saturday 29th April

Curtain up 7.30pm

Tickets adults £8 16yrs and under £4

Box Office Spectrum Blinds (Stones Carpets) Chapel St.

Bar Raffle & Refreshments

April 29th - Fête du Vin

St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall

At 7.30pm £10.00 per person

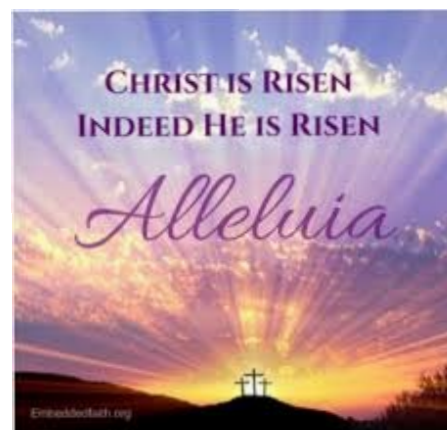
Come along to an evening of wine tasting
Bread and cheese included to help soak it up

Spare bottles of wine will be auctioned

Sponsored by the Catenian Association

Please contact Des (07973 114365)

or Eamonn (01942 892967) for tickets



Wishing you a Happy & Holy Easter

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

12A = Twelve Apostles, StJ = Saint Joseph, SH = Sacred Heart, OLR = Our Lady of the Rosary, StR = St Richard, Atherton

Sat 15 April

StJ 7.30pm
12A 8.00pm

Sun 16 April

StJ 8.30am
SH 9.30am
StJ 10.30am
OLR 11.15am
StR

Mon 17 April

StJ 8.30am
StJ 9.00am
12A 9.00am

Tue 18 April

StJ 8.30am
SH 12.00noon

Wed 19 April

StJ 8.30am
OLR 10.00am
SH 11.30am
StJ 12.00noon

Thu 20 April

StJ 8.30am
StJ 9.00am
SH 12.00noon

Fri 21 April

StJ 8.30am
StJ 12.00noon

Sat 22 April

12A 11.00am
12A 12.00noon
12A 5.30pm

Sun 23 April

StJ 8.30am
SH 9.30am
StJ 10.30am
OLR 11.00am
StR

HOLY SATURDAY

EASTER VIGIL MASS Tom Slater R.I.P.

EASTER VIGIL MASS Vinnie Johnson

EASTER DAY

MASS Cooper & Parry Families

MASS Frances Shortis L.D.

MASS Kathleen & Philip McLoughlin, Gordon, Mary & Keith Turner R.I.P.

MASS Austin Woods

NO Sunday evening Masses in our Pastoral Area today or next Sunday

Monday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer

MASS Helen Beryl Jones

MASS of departure, Walsingham Pilgrimage. John Thompson *All welcome*

Tuesday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer

MASS Mr P.T. Simon (Puthenpurackal) anniv.

Wednesday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer

MASS Tom Rasburn (birthday anniversary)

FUNERAL SERVICE Graham Anthony Hardy

MASS Elizabeth Watson S.I.

Thursday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer

MASS Louisa Farrington Anni

FUNERAL MASS Winifred Williams

Friday of Easter Octave

Morning Prayer

Mass Thanksgiving St Jude

Saturday of Easter Octave

Exposition & Reconciliation

MASS John Robinson

MASS Joan Glover

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER DAY OF DIVINE MERCY

MASS People of the Pastoral Area

MASS Caitlin Bradbury (get well)

MASS Jack Parr Anni

MASS Anne Devlin anniv.

NO Sunday evening Masses in our Pastoral Area today

Sacred Heart Lottery The numbers drawn on 31st March were 4, 7, 27. There was no winner of £78. The jackpot for 21st April (after school holidays) was estimated at £100. Tickets are now on sale again.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club 2nd April £10 No. 218 M Collins, £5 No. 367 m Roach, £3 No. 330 M 7 D Flannery, £2 No. 496 B Ryan **Bonus Ball** No. 14 C Ellis

9th April £10 No. 297 J Evans, £5 No. 349 M Roach, £3 No. 123 C Ackers, £2 No. C Baker Bonus Ball No. 21 K Jones

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 673517/01942 731679
Email: kjmogrady@hotmail.com
Priest: Fr. Paul Grady
Tel: 0161 790 2390
Email: frpaulmgrady@hotmail.com
Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson, Dennis Vint

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