

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A) 17 September 2017



Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

REFLECTION

In today's Gospel Matthew continues to deal with relations between Christians, focusing on the need for forgiveness between different members of the community. Peter asks Jesus how often should he forgive his brother, then answers his own question by answering "seven times". The Jewish tradition taught that God forgives three times and punishes on the fourth occasion; it was not believed that injured people could be more gracious than God, so forgiveness was limited to three times. According to this tradition, Peter's measure is generous. But according to Jesus it is insufficient. In his reply Jesus reverses the old law of vengeance: "If Cain is to be avenged seven-fold, truly Lamech is to be avenged seventy and seven fold." (Genesis 4:24) Just as in the old days there was no limit to hatred and vengeance, so among Christians there is to be no limit to mercy and forgiveness.

In the Gospel the parable of the unforgiving official is told in order to underline the need for forgiveness. When a king calls his court officials to audit the accounts, one shows a deficiency of ten thousand talents, a colossal sum of money. The sum is deliberately extravagant from the point of view of the story, running into millions of pounds, to heighten the contrast with the few pounds owed to the official. When the king orders the sale of the debtor and his family into slavery, the official pleads for time. The king feels sorry for him and decides to remit the whole of the vast debt. The official, however, learns nothing from his experience, for he refuses to forgive his colleague a much smaller debt. When his heartless behaviour is reported to the king, the grant of full forgiveness is retracted and the unforgiving official is thrown into prison.

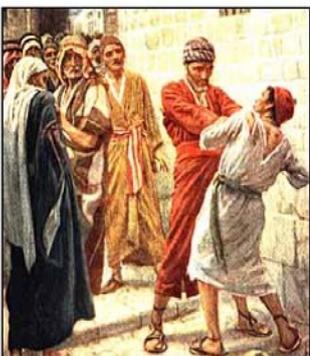
Apart from anything else, the unforgiving official is condemned for loss of memory. Forgetfulness of our own sins can lead to a lack of compassion for others. Remembering how our sins have gone unpunished by God should lead us to forgive others. Through forgetfulness of God's compassion, we can end up being cruel to each other instead of compassionate. That is why at the beginning of each Eucharist we are invited to pray the "Our Father", and ask for the strength to "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." The purpose of calling our sins to mind is not to paralyse us, or make us feel bad, but to remind us that we all live in the gracious forgiveness of God. Whoever we are, we remember our sins because we need to remember always to forgive.

**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

Stephen Aspden, Anne Dunn, John Hankinson, Anne Scully, Reginald Squires, Mary Taylor, John Topping, Eileen Turnbull.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL WELCOME MASS

Today, Sunday 17th September at the 10.30am Mass we will be welcoming the children in the Reception Class.

CRIB

We are in desperate need of a new crib. We have had this crib for many many years and over the last few years several repairs have taken place, The baby Jesus and Our Lady being the most damaged and now beyond repair. Unfortunately, new crib figures are expensive, so if any anyone has any good fundraising ideas, can you please let Fr Colin know

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Unclaimed Raffle Prizes No. 348 & 459

SACRED HEART & TWELVE APOSTLES

The 'With You Always' sacramental preparation programme for First Communion begins this month for baptised children in Year 4.

The first session 'Come to the Water' will take place at the following times:-

Wed. 20 th Sept. 4.30pm	12 Apostles church
Thur. 21 st Sept. 4.30pm	Sacred Heart church

If your child is in Year 4 and does not attend Twelve Apostles or Sacred Heart schools, has been baptised (proof needed) and wishes to make their first Confession and Holy Communion, or if your child has not been baptised please contact Fr Kieran on 01942 731679.

TWELVE APOSTLES SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

Twelve Apostles RCPS are looking for a Foundation Governor to start in September. This is a voluntary role and you don't need any qualifications or expertise, just a commitment to making a difference to our young children's future. If anyone is interested or would like to find out more about the role please contact Father Kieran or Mrs Newton the Headteacher on 01942 674312 for an informal chat.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of our Pastoral Area J & P group has been arranged for Wednesday 27th September, 7.30pm in Saint Richard's House.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

If you are interested, or know someone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please contact the parish office, or speak to one of the priests after Mass. Instruction meetings will be starting in September.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Sep 13 - War is the negation of all rights. Let us pray for those who have the responsibility to avoid war between peoples.

Sep 12 - I encourage world leaders to set aside partisan and ideological interests and seek together the common good of all humanity.

Sep 11 - Dear Colombian brothers and sisters, thank you! I have met so many people who have touched my heart. You have done me a world of good!

Sep 11 - To "take the first step" is, above all, to go out and meet others with Christ the Lord.

Sep 10 - Charity helps us to know the truth and truth calls for acts of kindness.

Sep 9 - Our contagious joy must be our first testimony to the closeness and love of God.

Sep 9 - Today there are many who hunger for God, who hunger for dignity. As Christians, we must help them to be satiated by God.

Sep 8 - Truth is an inseparable companion of justice and mercy.

Sep 8 - Reconciliation is consolidated by the contribution of all. It enables us to build the future and makes hope grow.

Sep 7 - Dear young people, do not be afraid of the future! Dare to dream big! Keep joy alive, a sign of a young heart that has encountered the Lord.

Sep 7 - I encourage you to entrust yourselves to the Lord, who is the only one who helps and inspires us to contribute to reconciliation and peace.



Reflect:

Do you remember the Make Poverty History campaign of 2005? The G8 summit at Gleneagles saw 225 000 people campaigning to have the debt of the world's poorest countries written off. Countries which received debt relief were then able to use funds to provide better educational, health care and housing services to their people.

Today's Gospel reminds us that the events of 2005 should not happen just once, but should be the daily choice of those who profess the Christian faith. We should always strive to defeat poverty in whatever shape or form it takes.

Pray:

Father, you are an ocean of peace and you grant us this gift through your Son Jesus Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit. You sow it in our hearts through conversion and reconciliation. You entrust us with peace, making it our responsibility, converting us into builders of peace, so that we build it with "passion, patience, experience and determination".

Walk with us as we act upon our responsibilities in our social, political, economic, cultural and church lives. Help us to spread respect for life, people and creation; may we live in solidarity, may we be brotherly and sisterly, and just, and may we work for the common good. Amen.

Adapted from Colombian Bishops' Conference prayer by CAFOD.

Act:

Make Poverty History is still active: www.makepovertyhistory.org find out more about their current programme of actions and try to take part in them.

Challenge:

In what way can you challenge poverty in your own life? Can you help to support those less fortunate than yourself? This does not have to be a monetary exercise, but could also be considered as supporting those who are 'time' poor or 'friend' poor. Support others in whatever way you can this week

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,551.81

Catholic Education Service £ not yet available
Many thanks for your continued generosity.

The retiring collection this weekend will be for the support of the Home Missions.

SICK

Colette Allerston, Eileen Boardman, Marie Fletcher, Sr. Teresa Frost, Sr. Megan Haisley, Mary Heneghan, Alan & Doreen Lowe, Arthur Lowe, Margaret Quinn.

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to:-
Rocco John Harry Keavney-Fletcher,

RECENTLY DECEASED

Cross & Passion Sister Baptista (Mary Baugh of 12 Apostles), Joyce Ogden. Arthur Lowe, Mary King, Edith Thorn.
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

CREATION TIME

1st September – 4th October 2017

Reflection sessions continue in the Green Room at Saint Joseph's, every Friday during September, beginning at 12.30pm after 12.00noon Mass.

Sessions are also being held at:-

Saint Ambrose Barlow's Hall, every Tuesday during September and the first Tuesday in October at 11.00am followed by a shared lunch.

St Richard's House every Wednesday during September and the first Wednesday in October at 10.00am, following Exposition.

Please come along to whichever of the above is most convenient for you. You will be most welcome.

A SEED OF LOVE

Sunday 1st October 2017, 3.00pm

The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ The King
A celebration Mass for people living with a disability
Principal Celebrant Archbishop Malcolm McMahon
All welcome

For more information contact Mary Beatham:
07341 864180 Mary.beatham@nugentcare.org



If you are struggling to find an imaginative present for someone who already has everything they need, then the World Gifts catalogue could be just what you need to solve your shopping dilemmas this Christmas. Plus you will be helping the poorest people in the world. Please take a catalogue and be inspired.



"FATIMA AT HOME" DAY.

A reminder that, after our recent pilgrimage to Fatima, we have decided to have a "Fatima At Home" Day in October, to celebrate the centenary of the last Apparition of Our Lady to the children.

- Friday October 13th – Holy Hour in St. Richard's church at 7.00pm.
- Saturday October 14th – Mass of Anointing in St. Richard's church at 12.00 noon.

We will have a planning meeting on Wednesday September 27th at 6.30pm in the Parish House at Saint Richard's, Atherton, to prepare for the occasion so please come along and join us. We need your help.

CHRISTMAS FAIR MEETING

A meeting to discuss the Christmas Fair will be held at St Joseph's on Wednesday 20th September at 7.00pm in the Green Room.

EMBRACE LIVERPOOL

Saturday 25th November 2017 9.30am - 6.00pm

Embrace is a one day, Catholic Youth Conference aimed at young people ages 14 - 25. It is a vibrant and exciting day of talks, workshops, praise and worship, times of prayer, Adoration and opportunity for reconciliation, with the day culminating with the celebration of Mass with Archbishop Malcolm, other bishops and priests.

For more information or to book a place, please visit www.embrace-liverpool.org.uk

SACRED SPACE WEBSITE

There is a website that is operated by the Irish Jesuits called "Sacred Space". It's a very good tool to use for prayer. There is a guided step-by-step and the focus is normally on the gospel of the day with a short reflection if needed. The website address: www.sacredspace.ie

MICHAEL JAMES USA

Saturday 23rd September at 7.30 at St Stephens Church, Manchester Road, Astley.

Due to popular demand Michael James returns to St Stephens in Astley for the 3rd time. He will be playing all your favourite Rock and Roll and Country songs with a little bit of Easy Listening thrown in for good measure. Tickets for the show are priced at £7.50 can be booked through Phil Dand on 01942 879608 or e-mail him on p.dand2011@btinternet.com. Booking in advance is advisable - but you can also pay on the door

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

Fully escorted 5 Night Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 15th October 2017. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 15kg checked in bag, all taxes, luxury transfers, 5 nights' in newly refurbished Knock House Hotel with full Irish Breakfast each morning and 4 Course Dinner each evening. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours included. We will also visit Ballintubber Abbey, Westport, Foxford Woollen Mills. Wheelchair accessible rooms in the hotel. Limited single rooms at supplement of £60. Groups and Individual bookings welcome. Contact Patricia anytime on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557. Email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

MASS INTENTIONS

Just a reminder that if you would like a loved one to be prayed on a particular date especially at one of the Sunday Masses, can you please try and give a couple of months notice rather than just a couple of weeks, this is to avoid disappointment on your behalf.

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 16 September

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Joan Ingham

Sun 17 September TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Home Mission Day

StJ 8.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area
SH 9.30am MASS Thom. Reaner L.D.
StJ 10.30am MASS Stephen Barlow (sick)
OLR 11.00am MASS Frances Ellis L.D.
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Mon 18 September *Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 25)*

StJ 9.00am MASS John Buckley (Anniv.)

Tue 19 September *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

SH 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Edith Thorne

Wed 20 September *Memorial of Saints Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest & Martyr and Companions Martyrs*

12A 9.00am 12 Apostles School Mass of Welcome (in church)
StJ 12.00noon MASS Joe Roberts (80th Birthday Memorial)

Thu 21 September **FEAST OF SAINT MATTHEW, APOSTLE**

SH 9.15am Sacred Heart School Mass of Welcome (in church)
StJ NO MASS
SH 12.00noon MASS Stanley Woods

Fri 22 September *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

OLR NO MASS
StJ 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Arthur Lowe

Sat 23 September *Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest*

11.00am NO Exposition & Reconciliation
12.00noon NO MASS
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY John Henry

Sun 24 September TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Day of Special Prayer in Thanksgiving for Harvest and/or fruits of Human Work

StJ 8.30am MASS Christine Newport R.I.P.
SH 9.30am MASS Joe O'Neil
StJ 10.30am MASS Kevin Quinn (Birthday Memorial)
OLR 11.00am MASS Aiden Newill L.D.
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Sacred Heart Lottery The numbers drawn on 8th September were 8,16,19. There was no winner of £178. Friday 15th September's jackpot was estimated to be £210.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 239 Jessica Flannery, £5 No. 170 M Roach, £3 No. 304 Jessica Flannery
£2 No. 422 M Moore

Bonus Ball No. 6 D Vint



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

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