

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

1 October 2017



Responsorial Psalm

Remember your mercy, Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him.

Alleluia!

REFLECTION

There are two words which we use very frequently, often several times in the course of a day. They are two very small words, but an awful lot hangs on them. It is no exaggeration to say that our lives could be summed up in terms of these two words. The words are "Yes" and "No". In Jesus' story, when the father asks his sons to go and work in the vineyard, the first son said an immediate and definite "No, I will not go." We don't know why he said no; maybe he had other plans for the day or maybe he was just lazy. However, it was in the morning when he said "No". At some point during the day, the word "Yes" began to echo in his mind and he decided to do what his father had asked of him after all. The father would have been glad to see him change his mind. The second son gave an immediate "Yes" to his father, but did not go. Maybe he genuinely intended to go but forgot, or something else cropped up. Perhaps he thought that everyone would manage better without him. So as the day wore on, the "yes" he said in the morning became fainter and fainter. His father would have been counting on him, and would feel let down when he discovered that he didn't go.

There is a part of each of these two sons in all of us. Part of the second son because what we actually do doesn't always match our promises. We sometimes give our word but don't always keep it. And there is part of the first son too because we are capable of turning a "No" into a "Yes". It's easy to say "Yes" in the morning of life. We don't always know what is involved in the task to which we are committing ourselves. But as the light of day goes on – as our lives evolve – we begin to understand more and our "Yes" can become a "No". We may have second thoughts. We may begin to have doubts. Sometimes these doubts can be about God or even about each other. They can be about anything in life.

Many of the greatest saints in the history of the Church were sinners who initially said "No" to God, and who later changed their minds and said "Yes" instead. Saint Augustine is perhaps one of the greatest examples, along with Saint Paul of course, but there are many others. A person will be judged then not by one single act, but by their whole life. God has given us the freedom to say "Yes" or "No". Our "Yes" would have no value unless we were free to say "No". However we can often say "Yes" to God with words but "No" to God with the way we live our lives. We profess to believe, but fail sometimes to translate our belief into active obedience to God. Sometimes actually living out our faith can be the hardest part of being a follower of Christ.

As we think about today's Gospel, let us pray that we may be more like the first son, and let us take heart from the lives of the saints, who turned back to God when they needed to and who were aware of the love and forgiveness of God in their lives, especially when they said "No" to him.

**LEIGH
PASTORAL AREA**

www.leighdeanery.co.uk

**St. Edmund
Arrowsmith
Parish**

**St. Joseph,
Sacred Heart,
Twelve Apostles,
and
Our Lady of the
Rosary
churches**

It's Not
What
You Say... It's
What
You Do

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS ST JOSEPH'S

MASSES

Mandy Barwick, Len Burns, Thelma Burns, Oona Coyne, Ronald Gore, Lydia Kelley, Maria McCoy, Marlene O'Neill, Alan Ratcliffe, Michael Riley, Catherine Whiteside,

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

COFFEE MORNING

Tea & Coffee will be served after Mass on Sunday 7th October. Everyone welcome.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

The next meeting to organise the Christmas Faire will be held on Wednesday 4th October at 7.30pm In the Green Room at St Joseph's.

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 28 - Encountering Jesus can give a decisive direction to our life, filling it with meaning.

Sep 27 - Let us share without fear the journey of migrants and refugees. #ShareJourney

Sep 26 - Let us commit ourselves to a world without nuclear weapons by implementing the Non-Proliferation Treaty to abolish these weapons of death.

Sep 25 - Charity is more authentic and incisive when it is lived in communion.

Sep 24 - Joy multiplies when you share it!

Sep 23 - If we are faithful to Christ and do good works, we can spread the light of God's hope.

Sep 22 - The Gospel invites us first of all to answer to God, who loves us and saves us, and to recognize Him in our neighbour.

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 7th October 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 our Facebook page: Archdiocese of Liverpool Vocations.

Live simply

Reflect:

In today's Gospel reading we hear about the importance of doing what we say we will do. We are often full of good intentions and can find ourselves full of enthusiasm when we hear an inspiring person talk about ways in which we can improve the environment, for example. We are prepared to do so much in the heat of the moment, only to go away and then do nothing at all. Is this because we don't really believe that each individual can make a difference? Do we feel overwhelmed by the task before us? And yet if each person really committed themselves to doing one small thing regularly, then the collective result would be amazing!

Pray:

Triune Lord,
wondrous community of infinite love,
teach us to contemplate you in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of you.
Awaken our praise and thankfulness
for every being that you have made.
Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.
God of love,
show us our place in this world as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth,
for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
Enlighten those who possess power and money
that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good,
advance the weak,
and care for this world in which we live.
The poor and the earth are crying out.
O Lord,
seize us with your power and light,
help us to protect all life,
to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.
Praise be to you!
Amen
Laudato Si' 245

Act:

Reduce, reuse, recycle.

Challenge:

Write to Michael Gove to thank him for bringing forward legislation later this year to ban the use of microbeads and encourage him to continue and to your own MP to ask him/her to support the ban.

CREATION TIME

1st September – 4th October 2017

Reflection sessions in the Green Room at Saint Joseph's, every Friday during September, have now been completed. Final sessions are being held at:-
Saint Ambrose Barlow's Hall, on the first Tuesday in October at 11.00am followed by a shared lunch.
St Richard's House on the first Wednesday in October at 10.00am, following Exposition.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,870.09

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

SICK

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

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to:-
Aria Michelle Hodson.



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.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Friday 6 October 2017

This Harvest Fast Day, we are standing with Edelmira, a farmer in El Salvador, as she works to sustain her family with good crops and harvests. With your help, CAFOD is giving her fruit trees, training, and strong seeds.

Edelmira and Martir are farmers. They live on and depend on their land. The harvest they reap is used to put food on the table, and sold to buy essential items such as clothes and medicine.

Our partner, Soledad CVX, are working with farmers like Edelmira and Martir to provide training and reintroduce native seeds that were used generations ago. These seeds are strong and able to grow in the warm, rainy climate, ensuring that farmers are able to harvest crops, and with that, the surety that they will be able to provide for their families.

Blessed Oscar Romero regularly preached how "God wants a society where we share the good things that God has given for all of us". Archbishop Romero also pleaded for us "not to tire of preaching love; as love is the force that will overcome the world".

In our first reading today, we are called to turn away from our sins, - such as selfishness, or hard heartedness, or a lack of concern for others. Sin separates us from God and from one another. But Ezekiel says in turning from sin, we will find life. St Paul invites us to a life of love - opening our hearts to others, and showing compassion and tenderness. Love is to think of other people's interests before our own, just as Oscar Romero did, giving up his life for others. Let us open our hearts, to God, and to others.

Why is it so important to Gift Aid? When you donate to CAFOD and fill in a Gift Aid form, you can increase the value of your gift by 25p for every £1 you give – at no extra cost to you! This extra 25 percent makes a big difference and means that we are able to support our partners with additional funding. In the last year alone, we've raised over £2.6 million through Gift Aid donations from communities like yours. Just think of all the lives that money has changed. Please pick up a Fast Day envelope, fast this Friday and give what you can.



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

"FATIMA AT HOME" DAY

Unfortunately the Fatima at Home Day has had to be postponed. We are hoping to hold one in in the Spring next year. Fr Paul will have a Fatima Evening to commemorate the centenary later in October.
Thank you for your understanding.

FATIMA HOLY HOUR

Please try your best to come along to Holy Hour to celebrate the centenary of the apparitions in Fatima. This will take place on October 10th at 7.00pm in St Richard's church, Atherton.

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

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.

A poster for the play 'Teechers' by John Godber. The title 'Teechers' is written in a large, stylized, orange and black striped font. Above the title, it says 'St Joseph's Players' and 'St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St. Leigh WN7 2PR'. Below the title, it says 'By JOHN GODBER' and 'A classroom comedy Directed by Pauline Nevell'. The dates 'Tuesday 10th October to Saturday 14th October' are written in a blue font. Below the dates, it says 'Commences at 7-30pm'. At the bottom, it says 'Tickets from SPECTRUM BLINDS Chapel St. Leigh' and '£8 Adults, 16yrs & under £4 Bar, Raffle & Refreshments'. There are two handprints in the top right corner of the poster.

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 30 September

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Allen and Agnes Newton

Sun 1 October

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Rosary Sunday

StJ 8.30am

MASS Kathleen Heavey (L.D.)

SH 9.30am

MASS Eileen Gerard L.D.

StJ 10.30am

MASS Nithy Thomas (Anniv.)

OLR 11.00am

MASS People of the Pastoral Area

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Mon 2 October

Memorial of The Guardian Angels

StJ

NO MASS

Tue 3 October

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 26)

SH

NO MASS

Wed 4 October

Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi

StJ 12.00noon

MASS William Fairclough (Birthday memorial)

Thu 5 October

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 9.00am

MASS Thanksgiving for a safe delivery

Fri 6 October

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Reginald Squires (Birthday memorial)

Sat 7 October

Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

OLR 11.00am

Exposition & Reconciliation

OLR 12.00noon

MASS Special Intention SJS

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY John Henry

Sun 8 October

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Dependents - starts Prisons Week

StJ 8.30am

MASS David Brown L.D.

SH 9.30am

MASS Barry Scotson anniv.

StJ 10.30am

MASS Joe Roberts (Birthday memorial)

OLR 11.00am

MASS Maria Ashbrook R.I.P.

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £50 No. 218 M Collins, £10 No. 318 K Jones, £5 No. 107 A Sharkie, £3 No. 320 M & D Flannery, £2 No. 465 A Wilkinson

Bonus Ball No. 57 K Shacklock



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
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