

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A) 15 October 2017



Responsorial Psalm

In the Lord's own House shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us;
to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God.
Alleluia!

REFLECTION

A royal wedding feast can be a wonderful occasion and to receive an invitation must be a great privilege. So, the question arises from today's Gospel, why would anyone refuse such an invitation? There can be many reasons. One day a man named Tom received an invitation to the royal banquet. He was delighted. As he continued farming his field he asked the King's messenger when it would take place. "Tonight, and I'll be back in an hour for your answer", replied the King's messenger. The banquet was to be held that very night. This changed things. Tom looked at the work he had been doing. It was going well and, as he pondered on what was left to be done, he thought he could finish it today for the weather was in his favour. He began to have doubts about attending the royal feast. At that moment he looked up and saw the messenger going into his neighbour's field to invite him too. Suppose they were sat next to each other? That would be awful. The feast began to lose its appeal. Then there was the tedious business of getting washed and changed. And what clothes would he wear? Even his best suit was not good enough for a royal banquet. Thus, one by one, the clouds of doubt began to gather and what only a short while ago looked wonderful now turned into something of a chore. "If only the banquet was tomorrow night instead", he began to think to himself. Alas, he decided to decline the invitation. He had a litany of excuses to give to the messenger but he didn't care to listen. He was away before Tom had finished his sentence.

Notice that the excuses that kept Tom from accepting the invitation were all perfectly good, apart from his dislike for his neighbour. And in Jesus' story in today's Gospel, the things which kept the invited guests from accepting the invitation were perhaps good things too. We can be so easily distracted by the mundane things in life and miss out on something very special, which Tom did in this story.

So what is the banquet? The banquet represents, amongst other things, the fullness of life to which God is calling us. It is a call to intimacy with God, and to a deeper and authentic personal relationship with him. But it is also a call to be part of a community with others. The invitation challenges us to abandon our isolationism, our exclusivism, our self-sufficiency, and to be willing to share with others, to associate with others, and to collaborate with others. And, of course, in the final analysis, it is a call to eternal life, to accept God's promise of Heaven. Just as good parents want what is best for their children, so God wants the best for us who are his children. And only God knows what is truly best for us.

**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

Boon & Campbell Families, Vincent Cassidy, David Davies Teresa Eckersly, Maurice Gallagher, Norman Hewitt, Kath Trundle, Thanksgiving for Successful Operation,

THE HOLY ROSARY

October is the Month of Our Lady and the Rosary will be said on Wednesdays and Fridays, **before** the 12 noon Mass and Mondays and Thursdays **after** the 9.00am Mass.

ST JOSEPH'S CRIB UPDATE

Many thanks to those who have made donations to cover the cost of our new crib, as always your support and generosity is greatly appreciated. The crib has now been ordered and is being shipped over from America. We hope that it will be with us in the next couple of weeks. Once again a Big Thank you.

MISSION BOXES XII APOSTLES & ST JOSEPH'S

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to St Joseph's Presbytery on Monday 30th October. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards will be sold before and after both Masses at St Joseph's, beginning on Sunday 15th October.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards will be on sale shortly. Also available Baptism Gifts and cards.

SACRED HEART

THE HOLY ROSARY

The Rosary will be prayed before Mass at Sacred Heart church on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the month of October.

WITH YOU ALWAYS

Session 2 Thursday 19th October Sacred Heart Hall at 4.30pm.

Christmas cards are now available in the shop and on the display table at the back of church.

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 soon.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Oct 11 - Like Saint John XXIII, whom we remember today, let us witness to God's goodness and mercy before the Church and the world.

Oct 10 - God does not disappoint! He has placed hope in our hearts so that it can blossom and bear fruit.

Oct 9 - The search for peace is an open-ended task, a responsibility that never ends and that demands the commitment of everyone.

Oct 8 - When you experience bitterness, put your faith in all those who still work for good: in their humility lies the seed of a new world.

Oct 7 - The Rosary is a synthesis of the mysteries of Christ: we contemplate them with Mary, who allows us to see with her eyes of faith and love.

Oct 6 - Let us ensure that the Internet is a safe and richly human place for children: a network that does not entrap them but helps them to grow.

PARISH SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

The next meeting for the Christmas Fair will be held on Tuesday 17th October, 7.30pm at St Joseph's Presbytery.



Reflect:

Did you ever plan a party and nobody came? Or people came and stayed just a short time and you know they have something better to be doing? Or you plan a party for your child and you see his or her disappointment when people don't come. It's something like that in the gospel story today. What does God do? God really goes out to make sure each of us is welcomed to his feast. God wants us all there and wants a full table. The table of God is for everyone. He goes right into the middle of each person's life to call them to his feast - not just one type of person, but all sorts of people. If we respond to God's call and say yes, then we take on a Christ-like way of life. That's the garment. There are people who say yes but the way they live their lives says no. If we go to God's banquet, to the Eucharist, it means a change in our lives. There's the call to live like Jesus. God's call is loving and also demanding. It seems less of a burden when we remember that it's the call of a loving God who always gives another chance.

Pray:

Lord, open our hearts and minds to your call.

Guide us along your way.

May we be sensitive to the needs of those we meet on our path through life

Sharing your abundant love with all we meet

Act:

The Church calls for a more equitable distribution of wealth and natural resources between people, and between rich and poor nations. What steps can you personally take to facilitate this target?

Challenge:

God calls us all with his love. His chosen are those of us who freely say "yes" to his call of love.

Have you ever stopped to realize you were God's beloved?

Have you ever reflected on the dignity of others as God's beloved?

How does that fact change your outlook on the world?

(word-sunday.com)

M.P. CORRESPONDENTS WANTED

Will you connect the poor with the powerful? CAFOD is looking for Catholics to share their faith with their MP. The task is to write three or four times a year on a topical issue to support those living in poverty around the world. No experience is needed as information will be provided. Contact Justine on 01942 518933.

"Love is civic and political, and it makes itself felt in every action that seeks to build a better world." – Pope Francis

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

Every Saturday the Padre Pio Prayer Group meet to pray together on Saturday morning in St Ambrose Barlow church at 10.00am. Please come along and join them in prayer.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL	1 October	£1,532.07
	8 October	£1,730.89

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

If you have not already done so, please return your CAFOD Harvest Fast Day envelopes as soon as possible.

The retiring collection next weekend is in support of APF World Missions.

SICK

Colette Allerston, David Belshaw, 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:-
Eliza Jane Lowe, Dominic Whittle

DECEASED

Teresa Eckersly, Anthony Freeman, Norman Hewitt (formerly of XII Apostles Parish)
Eternal rest give unto them ...

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.

Mozart's Requiem: Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, 7pm, 15th November 2017.

Concluding the Metropolitan Cathedral's jubilee celebrations the choirs of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral and Westminster Cathedral will join together to sing Mozart's Requiem. The choirs will be joined by the Liverpool Mozart Orchestra and local soloists. The joint choirs and orchestra singing the Requiem will be conducted by the Cathedral's Director of Music, Christopher McElroy. Tickets for the concert (available on a first come, first served basis) are £20 for premium seats/£15 for standard seats and are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/lpoolmetmusic or the Cathedral Shop on 0151 707 3525.

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

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Saint Mary's High School in Astley are holding a Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday November 9th between 5.30-8.00pm. Subject staff will be available to discuss and promote the courses. For further information please call 01942-884144 or email sixthformenquiries@smchs.org.uk

Abbey Funerals Leigh

are hosting a

BINGO

Coffee Morning

St Joseph's Hall
Mather Lane

Tuesday 31st October

10am – 12pm



THREE TOWNS IN CONCERT

Friday 17th and Saturday 18th November 7.30pm
St. Joseph's Hall, Chapel Street, Leigh WN7 2PR

Taking you on a trip to Broadway and the West End with a variety of Songs from the Shows, Popular and Classical Music in a relaxed cabaret setting

Tickets £10 Contact 01942 605369 or 676594
Also available at The Baby Centre, 15 Queen Street, Leigh WN7 4NQ 01942 665615
www.thethreetowns.net

Quarant'Ore

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ... will take place at Holy Family church from Friday 20th October to Sunday 22nd October

Lists will be available at the back of Holy Family to sign up for time slots to be with the Lord in prayer. Please come along to pray for our area and communities.

Friday 20th October

10.00am Morning Prayer and Mass (Opening of Exposition)
6.00pm Evening Prayer
7.00pm Praying with Pope Francis (Prayer and Reflection)
8.45pm Night Prayer and Benediction (and close of Exposition)

Saturday 21st October

10.00am Morning Prayer and Mass (start of Exposition)
10.30am Confessions (until 11.00am)
5.00pm Evening Prayer
8.00pm Taizé Prayer (Prayerful Music)
8.45pm Night Prayer and Benediction (and close of Exposition)

Sunday 22nd October

8.00am Morning Prayer (start of Exposition)
9.00am Mass
11.00am Mass
3.00pm Evening Prayer and Solemn Benediction (to conclude Exposition)

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool

Parish Administrator St John the Evangelist Parish, Burscough Permanent, 8 hours per week Wednesday and Thursday, 9.00am-1.00pm 5 weeks holiday plus bank holiday and pension scheme.

To apply for this post, please contact Human Resources on 0151 522 1073

Alternatively, please download a full application pack from our website at; www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/jobs

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 14 October

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Vinnie Johnson

Sun 15 October

StJ 8.30am **TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**
 SH 9.30am MASS Kieran Moss R.I.P.
 StJ 10.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area
 OLR 11.00am MASS Betty Kennedy (anniv.)
 StR 6.30pm MASS Joe Devlin L.D.
 SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Mon 16 October

StJ 9.00am **Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 28)**
 SH 2.00pm MASS Joan Ganley R.I.P.
 FUNERAL MASS Anthony Michael Freeman

Tue 17 October

SH 10.00am **Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr**

Wed 18 October

StJ 12.00noon **FEAST OF SAINT LUKE, EVANGELIST**

Thu 19 October

StJ 9.00am **Weekday in Ordinary Time**

Fri 20 October

StJ 12.00noon **Weekday in Ordinary Time**

Sat 21 October

12A 11.00am **Weekday in Ordinary Time**
 Exposition & Reconciliation
 12A 12.00noon MASS Brian Keavney (Birthday Anniversary)
 12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

Sun 22 October

StJ 8.30am **TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**
 SH 9.30am MASS Vincent Ganley (Anniv.)
 StJ 10.30am MASS Elizabeth & Kevin O'Rourke (anniv.)
 OLR 11.00am MASS Patrick Costello (anniv.)
 StR 6.30pm MASS Joe Moore (anniv.)
 SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 434 B Woods, £5 No. 475 J Causby, £3 No. 229 J Evans, £2 No. 196 C Ellis

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
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Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson, Dennis Vint

Priest Fr. Colin Fealey
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Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
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