

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A) 22 October 2017



Responsorial Psalm

Give the Lord glory and power.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

REFLECTION

In today's Gospel two groups come together to confront Jesus with the question of paying taxes to Caesar. The groups were members of the Pharisees and the Herodians. The Pharisees resented paying taxes to a foreign king and saw it as an infringement of the divine right of God. The Herodians, on the other hand, were supporters of Herod the Great and his family, so they were in favour of paying taxes to Caesar. These two groups were unnatural associates. They are united in their desire to eliminate Jesus. In his Gospel Matthew has already developed the story of conflict between Jesus and the religious authorities, who now appear committed to bring about the downfall of the prophet from Nazareth. Fearing for their own reputation, which had already suffered in open debate with Jesus, they now attempt to trap him. Jesus has already proved that he is not intimidated by the religious authorities. They now test him to see if Caesar's imposed rule has intimidated him into agreeing to pay the annual tax.

The delegation tries to lay the ground for the charge of treason. If Jesus denies the need to pay tax to Caesar, he could be charged with treason before the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. Failing that, if Jesus agrees to this then he will alienate most of his fellow countrymen and women. Either way, it appears that Jesus has to lose. The tax they refer to is the annual poll tax of one denarius, which was payable to the imperial exchequer by everyone in the land, until the age of 65. When the tax was first introduced it caused riots and bloodshed. As an annual reminder of Israel's commitment to Rome, it still caused grievance among the people. Matthew mentions, in the Gospel, that he is aware of the questioner's malice. He asks to be shown the money for the tax. They hand him a denarius, the coin which bore the image and the inscription of the emperor Tiberius. The fact that Jesus' questioners can produce the Roman coin might suggest that they recognize the rule of Caesar.

In his reply Jesus does not answer the original question, but makes an announcement which seems vague: "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." However, Jesus does not specify the things that belong to Caesar, for Caesar does not possess anything independently of God. Jesus does not need to specify the things that belong to God since everything does. Since God has dominion over the whole of creation, Caesar's relative power is subservient to the ultimate power of God. All authority and power have to be evaluated in the light of God's plan. It reminds us to give thanks for everything God gives to us in our lives today. Life itself is a gift from God. It isn't something we have a right to. God is the giver of all life, human and divine. As Jesus confronted his opposition in today's Gospel, he knew that his life on earth may soon be over. He gave his life so that we may have life to the full, life with God in Heaven. Let us pray that we may live our lives to the full each day and give back to God whatever gifts we can by sharing our gifts, talents and skills with those around 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

Teresa Atherton, Teresa Eckersley, John Featherstone, Millie Gallagher, Tom Gibbon, Joseph Green, Norman Hewitt, Jimmy Maxwell, Dcn. Alan Mee, George Milward, Kieran Moss, Ron Mugford, Pauline Reynolds, Rodel Yebra, Special Intention.

THE HOLY ROSARY

October is the Month of Our Lady and the Rosary is being 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.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

CHRISTMAS CARDS

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

CHRISTMAS DRAW

Donations needed please for our Christmas draw. Gifts, bottles, chocolates and groceries would be appreciated. Thank you.

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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

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.

PIOUS LISTS

The November Pious Lists are available at the back of each church for you to place the name of your relatives and friends who have died. Please put your list, along with your contribution in the envelope provided. The names of everyone on the lists will be placed on the altar at all Masses during November and they will be remembered during the Masses. Envelopes can be given in at the offertory or put into a box (if provided) in the church.

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.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Oct 19 - Let yourself be guided by the tenderness of God so that you may transform the world with your faith.

Oct 18 - May artists spread the beauty of the faith and proclaim the grandeur of God's creation and His boundless love for all.

Oct 17 - It is the duty of the human family to help free every single person from poverty and hunger.

Oct 16 - Sharing requires conversion, and this is a challenge. #ZeroHunger

Oct 16 - Ensuring everyone's right to food and nourishment is an imperative we cannot ignore. It is a right to which there are no exceptions!

Oct 15 - Along with the Saints, let the joy and beauty of living the Gospel shine through the witness of our lives.

Oct 14 - We are called to defend and safeguard human life, especially in the mother's womb, in infancy, old age and physical or mental disability.

Oct 13 - In this centenary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, we thank God for the countless blessings we have received under her protection.

Oct 13 - The statue of Our Lady of Aparecida was found by poor workers. May Mary bless all of us, but especially those seeking employment.



Reflect:

Today's Gospel poses something of a dilemma as it seems to imply a conflict of interest between the state and God. But it is important for each of us to support the state in its attempts to support the whole of society, particularly the poor, the sick, the downtrodden. We all have different gifts which enable us to do this in different ways. Some may be able to offer their services to society through their vocation as a nurse, teacher, doctor, politician and so on. Others may be able to share their material wealth with society through donations to charity. Others may have particular skills which can be used to the benefit of others, such as caring, counselling, advising and so on. What ever we do to help to support our society, we are not only 'giving to Caesar what belongs to Caesar' but also 'giving to God what belongs to God' by giving the gift of our self to the betterment of others.

Pray:

Lord open our eyes and hearts to the needs of those we meet each day.

May we respond generously to their call, living each day in the joyful love of God, cheerfully sharing His gifts with others, and in doing so may we grow your kingdom.

Act:

Consider what gifts you have to share with others and make efforts to do so each day this week.

Challenge:

Can you sacrifice some of your 'wants' so that others can have their basic 'needs'?

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 2018

Staying in the Anglican Shrine due to renovations. Easter Monday 2nd-Thursday 5th April. Adults £220. £40 deposit needed as soon as possible to secure a place. Please see Margaret Hawkins or Therese Thompson.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,514.76

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

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

World Mission Sunday is your chance to support missionaries and the Church in proclaiming the Gospel of peace to those who suffer around the world. By supporting Missio, the Pope's official charity for overseas mission, you will be sharing the peace and love of Christ with all people by helping everyone in need, regardless of background or belief. Today, your prayers and donations will help a spirit of peace spread across South Sudan and around the world. Please give what you can, and if possible, please use the Gift Aid envelopes if you are a taxpayer. Thank you.

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:-
Bradley Les Alexander Sullivan, George Oliver Hall

DECEASED

Teresa Atherton, Steven Michael Berry, Roy Ellis.

Eternal rest grant 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.

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

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

CHRISTMAS FAIR

The next meeting to organise the Christmas Fair will be held on Tuesday 31st October, 7.30pm at St Joseph's church. Donations for the Tombola, Fancy Goods, Chocolates and Bottles are needed. Please take to your own churches.

FACING DEPRESSION TOGETHER

A peer support group has started in Warrington for people living with depression and related mental health conditions. The group will meet every Monday evening from Monday 16th October at The Gateway, 89 Sankey St Warrington, WA1 1SR 7.00-8.00pm. For more information please visit www.peertalk.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

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

Closing Date: 5pm on Wednesday 25th October 2017

SAY NO TO DOORSTEP CRIME

There are many forms of Doorstep Crime/Scams and the Trading Standards Office want to make everyone aware so that they don't fall victim to them. There are leaflets at the back of church with information about Doorstep Crime and help in finding a Trader you can trust through Wigan Council's Good Trader Scheme. Please take a leaflet and a sticker for your window and take one for anyone you know who might be vulnerable and easy prey for con men.

DON'T BE EARLY NEXT SUNDAY!

Remember that clocks fall back during Saturday night. Enjoy an extra hour in bed!

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 21 October

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

Sun 22 October

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

World Mission Day

StJ 8.30am

MASS Vincent Ganley (anniv.)

SH 9.30am

MASS Elizabeth & Kevin O'Rourke (anniv.)

StJ 10.30am

MASS Patrick Costello (anniv.)

OLR 11.00am

MASS Joe Moore (anniv.)

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Mon 23 October

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 29)

StJ 9.00am

MASS Michael Reilley (anniv.)

SH 12.00noon

MASS Bernadette Higgins

Tue 24 October

Weekday in Ordinary Time

OLR 1.00pm

FUNERAL MASS Roy Ellis

Wed 25 October

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Catherine Whiteside (anniv.)

12A 10.00am

MASS Maria McCoy L.D.

Thu 26 October

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 9.00am

MASS Ken Sroka (anniv.)

SH 12.00noon

MASS A lately deceased relative of the McDonnell family

Fri 27 October

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 12.00noon

FUNERAL MASS Teresa Atherton

Sat 28 October

FEAST OF SAINTS SIMON & JUDE, APOSTLES

11.00am

NO Exposition & Reconciliation

12.00noon

NO MASS

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY John Henry L.D.

Sun 29 October

THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

StJ 8.30am

MASS Joan Ganley R.I.P.

SH 9.30am

MASS Agnes Coleman anniv.

StJ 10.30am

MASS John Topping (Birthday memorial)

OLR 11.00am

MASS Ian Scholes L.D.

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 360 M & D Flannery, £5 No. 177 A Sharkie, £3 No. 466 A Wilkinson, £2 No. 500 M & D Flannery

Bonus Ball No. N/A



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

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

Priest Fr. Colin Fealey

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