

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING (Year A) 26 November 2017



Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

REFLECTION

In today's Gospel Matthew gives us a wonderful vision of the last judgement, when all the nations – without distinction between Jew and Gentile, without discrimination between priest and people – are assembled before the king. It would be a pity to limit the value of the passage to a last judgement scene, because what it offers is a picture of the kind of community where Jesus sees himself to be recognized, the kind of community where Jesus sees himself to be at home. The presence of Jesus is hidden among the poor and the vulnerable: where their needs are recognized, Jesus is acknowledged. When the hungry are fed, when those who thirst are offered drink, when strangers are offered hospitality, when the naked are covered with dignity, when the sick are attended to, when prisoners are visited, Jesus himself is touched by mercy and love. Their vulnerability is HIS vulnerability. Jesus is present where and when human need is at its greatest. According to this vision of God's Kingdom, in Matthew's Gospel, if an alien came from outer space and asked us where Jesus lived, we might have to take him to strange sanctuaries: refugee camps, back alleys, hospitals, prisons, and tell them that Jesus is to be found somewhere in these places, probably in the faces of the most vulnerable and needy. And tell them too that those blessed by God are to be found there, feeding, welcoming, clothing, visiting, listening, loving and caring.

In Matthew's vision of God's Kingdom we have a list of human needs and appropriate responses by a caring community. None of the needs are specifically religious. They are human needs as wide as the human heart. To those ordinary human needs there is a response from those who are eager to dwell in the Kingdom of God. They are given a new title: "blessed of my Father". The blessed are praised for the simplest actions – and they are actions not attitudes – to those who experience simple human needs. Those who are blessed are not conscious of having done any special service to Jesus: "When did we see you ... " They have simply responded in mercy to those in need, without any great thought beyond that response. In Matthew Chapter Ten Jesus declares that any kind of service done to his apostles would be rewarded as if it were done to Jesus himself. In today's Gospel this thought is extended to embrace "one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine." The Gospel today challenges us to see the broken Body of Christ in the brokenness and wounded-ness of those we see around us. Christ still suffers in the hungry today, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned, the refugee. To pay attention to them is to concern ourselves with the broken Body of Christ.

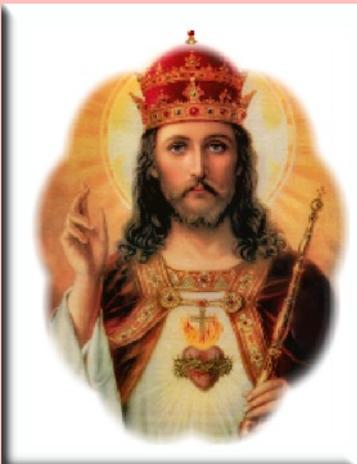
As we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King this weekend, the Gospel issues us with the great challenge of recognizing the face of Christ in each and every person we meet. It won't always be very easy but if we think of all the Gospel stories we listen to can we think of one in which Jesus doesn't put others first, even at the risk of his own life at times? His love for others ultimately cost him his life. Jesus gave us the supreme example of what it really means to love. If we acclaim him as our King then surely we must try our very best to follow his example. As we receive the Body of Christ at Mass we become his Body in the world each day. Let us pray that our actions may illustrate this in the way we live out our faith together.

**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

Phillip John Aldred, Ashton & Moylan Families, Pat Briggs, John Davey, Margaret Farrell, Chrissie Ruane, Stan Walmesley, Special Intention.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL - CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to all the staff and pupils at St Joseph's school, who have just been awarded Outstanding in their recent R.E. Inspection.

LITTLE CHURCH

Once again this year we will be having our copper collection for CAFOD, to stand in solidarity with children from poor communities across the world.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to St Joseph's Players, for their donation of £2,000 towards the upkeep of St Joseph's Hall. Please support them in their next production, *Cinderella*, in January.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS ROTA

The rota is now available from the Sacristy.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards are now on sale at the back of church. Also available Baptism gifts and cards.

CHRISTMAS DRAW

Many thanks to all those who have donated to the Christmas Raffle, tickets are now on sale.

CHURCH CLEANING

We will be cleaning our church on Thursday, 30th November. If you can spare an hour, please come along at 10.00am. Many hands make light work. Thank you.

SACRED HEART

CHRISTMAS CARDS

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

CHRISTMAS DRAW

Raffle tickets will be on sale after Mass. Please support.

TODAY, the Solemnity of Christ the King, we welcome Year 5 and Year 1 children and their families to our 9.30am Mass.

PARISH MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

This year's Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart church **this week** on Wednesday 29th November at 7.00pm. In this Mass we remember all our departed loved ones, especially those who have died in the last twelve months.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Many people like to plan ahead so here are the Mass times for St Margaret Clitherow & St Edmund Arrowsmith parishes.

Christmas Eve

XII Apostles at **5.30pm**

St Joseph's **Carol Service 5.30pm**, Mass **6.00pm**

Holy Family & St Richard's at **6.00pm**

St Ambrose Barlow at **8.00pm**

Sacred Heart & Holy Family at **11.30pm**

Christmas Day

St Joseph's at **8.30am**

Holy Family at **9.00am**

Sacred Heart & St Richard's at **9.30am**

St Joseph's at **10.30am**

Holy Family & St Ambrose Barlow at **11.00am**

Our Lady of the Rosary at **11.15am**

There will also be a special Mass to celebrate the arrival of 2018 in Our Lady of the Rosary church. This will take place at 12.00noon on New Year's Day. All welcome.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Nov 23 - At the end of time, when the Lord comes to meet us, our joy will be immense. We live in anticipation of this encounter!

Nov 22 - When we encounter others, do we bring them the warmth of charity or do we stay closed up and warm only ourselves before our fireplace?

Nov 21 - May Mary's pure and simple smile be a source of joy for each one of us as we face life's difficulties.

Nov 20 - Let us work together to ensure that children continue to smile: their faces serene, filled with joy and hope.

#WorldChildrensDay

Nov 19 - On this day, I invite the entire Church to keep its gaze fixed on those who hold out their hands asking for our solidarity.

Nov 18 - Without the support of the prayers of the faithful, the Successor of Peter cannot fulfill his mission in the world. I am counting on you too!

Nov 17 - We need to encounter the poor and learn how to share so that it becomes a way of life.

ADVENT IS COMING ...

There's adverts with promises of suites and carpets to be delivered by Christmas, the tubs of Roses chocolates are in the shops, the wrapping paper and cards are being stacked high ... But what about our spiritual preparation? Be truly Christmas-ready by taking part in our Advent Reflections, 3.00pm in the Green Room at St Joseph's.

Sunday 3rd December - We Just Don't Know

Sunday 10th December - Are We There Yet?

Sunday 17th December - Happy Days

CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year's Christmas Fair will be held today, Sunday, 26th November in St Joseph's Parish Hall. Cakes can be brought on the day.

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 2nd December 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.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,768.60
CAFOD Harvest £ 693.37

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

The retiring collection at all Masses this weekend will be in support of *Animate Youth*.

The retiring collection next weekend will be on behalf of HCPT

SICK

David Belshaw, Eileen Boardman, Marie Fletcher, Sr. Teresa Frost, Sr. Megan Haisley, Alan & Doreen Lowe, Margaret Quinn.

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to:-
Brayan Ahmad, Evelyn April Lally.

DECEASED

Lynn Margaret Mountford

Eternal rest grant unto her ...



Reflect:

This Sunday, we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. Jesus tells us the story of the final judgment to show us what kind of a king he is. He is not a king interested in power and glory but in serving the needs of others. Since Jesus is our king and we are his loyal subjects, we strive to imitate him and to live according to his will.

Jesus identifies with the least ones; thus we serve Jesus whenever we serve one of the least ones. The Church calls the actions that Jesus described in today's Gospel the Corporal Works of Mercy. These works are to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to bury the dead, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick and imprisoned, and to give alms to the poor. In performing these actions we show God's compassion and mercy to those in need.

Pray:

Lord,
Give us eyes to see the needs of those around us and us the ability to respond to those needs with courage, joy and love.

Through Christ Our Lord and King, Amen

Act:

Recall the list of the Corporal Works of Mercy. Think about some concrete examples of how you might do these actions in the community and take action

Challenge:

Each year wasted food and drink costs the UK £17 billion per household. Take steps to address this by only buying what you need for this week's meals.

SONGS WE REMEMBER

Come and join our sing-a-long
Are you living with dementia or caring for someone who is?
Do you like singing?
Would you like to make new friends?

All are welcome!

St Thomas of Canterbury Parish Hall, Great Georges Rd
Waterloo, L22 1RD

2.00 - 3.30pm 15th & 29th November & 13th December
Followed by afternoon tea and biscuits.

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS

Walk With Me booklets for Advent are now available from the church porch, please feel free to take one.

CAFOD POWER TO BE CAMPAIGN

Every child has the power in them to achieve great things. But with one in six people still living without electricity, the hopes of millions of the world's children are all too often a distant dream. Safe, reliable, affordable and renewable energy is a major factor in more children living to their fifth birthday, more children completing primary school, increased literacy of 15 to 24 year olds. Please take a leaflet and prayer card from the porch, to see how you can help poor communities to access electricity.



NUGENT CARE CRIB APPEAL

"God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If He gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it" Pope Francis.

As Advent approaches our thoughts turn to those who are vulnerable, isolated and living in poverty. Nugent works at the heart of some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, supporting children, adults and families. The birth of our Saviour brings Hope and the dawn of a new beginning. Please support the Nugent Crib Appeal when you visit our crib over the Christmas period. You will be making a difference to so many people living in poverty across the Archdiocese. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME

Back by popular Demand

SILHOUETTE

St Joseph's Parish Hall

Chapel St, Leigh

8th December 2017 12.00 noon

Tickets £8 available from Spectrum Blinds
(inside Stones Carpets) or Pensioners Link
All proceeds to Leigh & Wigan Pensioners Link.

Grand Raffle & Bar

St Mary's Christmas Party

Tuesday 12th December 12.00 noon - 2.00pm

St Mary's 6th Form would like to invite senior members of the parish to their annual Christmas Party.

Refreshments and entertainment
raffle and bingo

Please sign up at the back of church if
you would like to go

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 25 November

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Roy Ellis L.D.

Sun 26 November SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING

Youth Sunday

StJ 8.30am MASS Thanksgiving Successful Operation
SH 9.30am MASS Thomas Reape L.D.
StJ 10.30am MASS Mandy Barwick (anniv.)
OLR 11.00am MASS William & Catherine Flynn (anniv.)
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Mon 27 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 34)*

StJ 9.00am MASS Pious List

Tue 28 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

SH 12.00noon MASS Caitlin Bradbury L.D.

Wed 29 November *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

StJ 12.00noon MASS Frank Duff & Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary
12A 10.00am FUNERAL SERVICE Lynn Margaret Mountford
SH 7.00pm PARISH MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Thu 30 November FEAST OF SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE

StJ 9.00am MASS Family & Friends of Edith Nuttall
SH 12.00noon MASS Teresa Eckersley L.D.

Fri 1 December *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

(OLR) 10.00am MASS at Moss Bank Court Roy Ellis L.D.
StJ 12.00noon MASS Ann Fealey (anniv.)

Sat 2 December *Weekday in Ordinary Time*

SH 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
SH 12.00noon MASS John Heneghan
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Nora & John Devaney

Sun 3 December FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Day of special prayer for Migrants

StJ 8.30am MASS Gerrald Warren (90th Birthday Celebration)
SH 9.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area
StJ 10.30am MASS Alan Mee (anniv.)
OLR 11.00am MASS Teresa & John Ryder
StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 237, D Quinn; £5, 196, C Ellis; £3, 449, C Ellis; £2, 033 Mrs Gibbon.

Bonus Ball No. 11 A Farrell



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

