

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year B) 14 January 2018



Responsorial Psalm

Hear I am, Lord!
I come to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Speak Lord, your servant is listening:
You have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

REFLECTION

Today's readings give us two vocation stories. The first concerns a young boy called Samuel, who lived in the ancient Hebrew temple at Shiloh. One night he heard a voice calling his name. Assuming it was the old priest Eli, he went to him, only to be told to go back to bed because Eli certainly hadn't called him. The same thing happened on two more occasions, and Eli realized it must be God who was doing the calling. He advised young Samuel that if he heard the voice again he should respond, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." Samuel did as he was told, and the outcome was that he "grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground." It seems that Samuel continued listening for God's Word and was always ready to follow the Lord. He became a great leader of God's people.

The second vocation story is in today's Gospel, and concerns two of John the Baptist's disciples. One day, as Jesus passes by, John says, "Look, there is the Lamb of God." The disciples begin following Jesus instead. He turns and asks, "What do you want?" Perhaps taken by surprise, they answer rather vaguely, "Rabbi, where do you live?" But in John's Gospel words like "live" or "stay" or "dwell" often have a deeper meaning. They are really asking, where do we meet you? Where do we encounter you? How do we get to know you? Jesus' answer is simple, "Come and see." They respond to his invitation. They stay with him all that day and they become his friends for life.

God has a call for everyone. It's a call to holiness, to intimate friendship with God and this vocation is fulfilled principally in the living out of our daily life and the various vocations it involves. Like young Samuel, who prayed, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening," we are called to have a listening ear or, better, a listening and loving heart, a heart open enough and alert enough to hear God's Word and respond to it. We listen to God's Word not only at Mass, or when we read the scriptures, but also when God wants to speak to us, softly and gently, through the people we meet, in the events that make up our lives, and in the inspirations that come to our hearts and minds.

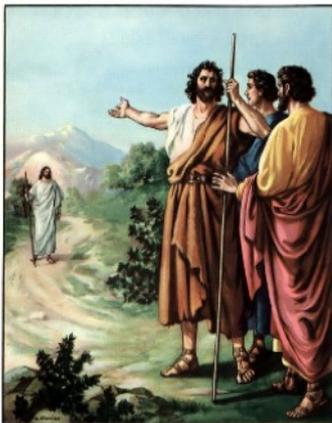
There is sound advice for us behind the question Jesus puts to the two disciples in the Gospel. "What do you want?" he asks them. It's a question he always puts to those who want to be his followers. The answer he's looking for is not some smart flippant reply, but a very serious one, an answer on which we pin our lives. And the answer is not for God's benefit but for ours. It shows where our priorities lie in relation to God, to other people and to the world around us. Perhaps in a moment of silence in this Mass, we might hear the Lord asking us, "What do you want above all else?" If, in our stumbling way, we can reply, "I want you, I want to be your friend and your disciple. Where do you live?" Then he will answer, as he answered those first disciples, "Come and see." Come and you will see for yourself that you have answered the most wonderful calling of all.

**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

Tony Broster, Vernon Byrne, Noel Clancy, Jack & Elizabeth Cleworth, Declan Finn, Janet Heart, Alan & Eileen Hogan, Joni Horton, Thomas Kennedy, Julie Locke, James & Ann Marsh, Brian Ogden, St Jude.

RED BOXES

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the presbytery on Monday 22nd January. Thank you.

LITTLE CHURCH

This year's copper collection for CAFOD raised £50. Thank you for your generosity.

SACRED HEART

COFFEE MORNING

The second Sunday of the month is our regular time for tea and coffee after Mass. Please stay today and greet friends old and new.

CHRISTMAS DRAW

Please check your tickets bought at church. Two prizes remain unclaimed - Green 331-335 & Pink 956-960.

TWELVE APOSTLES

RED BOXES

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to St Joseph's presbytery on Monday 22nd January. Thank you.



Reflect:

Today's Gospel is about the call of the disciples. Try to put yourself into the shoes of one of the two disciples. Just picture yourself standing in familiar surroundings as Jesus walks by. Can you get a sense of what that would be like? How do you feel to be in the presence of the Lamb of God? What would your initial reaction be? In reality, each of us is called by name to be followers of Jesus. How do we respond to that call?

Pray:

Lord, You call
But we do not answer.
You give
But we do not accept your gifts.
You love
But our hearts are closed to your love.
You reveal yourself to us
But we fail to see you.
Open our eyes, our ears, our hearts, our minds to you
So that you become a reality in our lives
And so through us, others may encounter you.
Amen

Act:

'So how do we live simply? Perhaps by small steps rather than grand gestures. We can think, for example, about the petrol we put in our cars and try to use less of it. We can think, too, about the food and drink we consume and the clothes we wear. If we want to live simply, we have to be prepared to pay a little more. St Ambrose was way ahead when he said, 'You are not making a gift of what is yours to the poor, but you are giving back what is theirs.....The earth belongs to everyone, not to the rich.'

Peter Stanford – first published in 'Lent Extra 2007':
Redemptorist Publications

Challenge:

It's the start of a new year – can you challenge yourself to livesimply throughout 2018.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Jan 11 - If we fail to suffer with those who suffer, even those of different religions, languages or cultures, we need to question our own humanity.

Jan 10 - The more we are rooted in Christ, the more we re-discover interior peace, even in the midst of daily challenges.

Jan 9 - A joyful soul is like healthy soil in which life can thrive and produce good fruit.

Jan 8 - Joy, prayer and gratitude are three ways that help us live authentically.

Jan 7 - Let us share the joy of our Christian brothers and sisters of the East who are celebrating Christmas today.

Jan 7 - Baptism is also called 'illumination', because faith illuminates the heart and allows us to see things in a different light.

Jan 6 - Like the Magi, believers are led by faith to seek God in the most hidden places, knowing that the Lord waits for them there.

Jan 5 - God walks along the dusty paths of our lives and responds to our longing for love and happiness by calling us to joy.

RCIA

RCIA Classes will be starting early in January, for anyone wanting to be received into the Catholic Church at Easter. Please speak to Fr Colin as soon as possible if you are interested. Please keep all the Candidates in your prayers.

CAFOD

CAFOD greatly thanks all who had a part in the £210 sent from our Pastoral Area as a result of the 27th December Fun Run/Walk, to help the most needy of our world family.

BURNS NIGHT 2018

Friday 19th January at St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall at 7.45pm. Including "HAGGIS" supper and a "wee" dram or soft drink – £7.00. As this is a popular night please contact Des 07973 114365 for reservations.

ORDINARY TIME WINTER

Until Lent begins we are asked to pray for these intentions:-
Peace on Earth, Christian Unity, Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; The Sick and Those who Care for Them; The Unemployed.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Peace Day | 14 January |
| Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity | 18-25 January |
| Racial Justice Day | 28 January |
| Day for Victims of Trafficking | 8 February |
| World Day for the Sick | 11 February |
| Day of the Unemployed | 11 February |
| (Ash Wednesday is on | 14 February 2018) |

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,714.57

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

This week's special collection is on behalf of S.P.U.C.'s White Flower Appeal. Please be as generous as you can.

SICK

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

DECEASED

Thomas Grainey, Joni Horton, Margaret Moran

Eternal rest grant unto them ...

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

Defending human life with love from conception to natural death

Love demands action - it demands that we act to protect life and to counter the forces which promote abortion, euthanasia and other threats to life.

We are the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC), the oldest pro-life campaigning and educational organisation in the world.

Our Society was founded in January 1967 to oppose the abortion bill being debated in Parliament at the time. That bill would go on to become the 1967 Abortion Act, while we became the UK's first and largest pro-life group.

Tragically, more than 8.4 million unborn children have lost their lives in Britain to this Abortion Act - Abortion is the biggest killer of children in the world today. We work to protect human lives at the national and local level, and to build a society free from abortion.

As well as fighting abortion, we also campaign against other direct threats to the lives of vulnerable individuals, such as euthanasia and embryo abuse. We recognise the need to have a consistent life ethic - to value the lives of all human beings equally - and the foundation of this must always be recognising the humanity of the child in the womb.

Our principles

We base all our work on these principles of natural justice:
it is wrong to kill innocent human beings
everyone should be treated equally
all human beings are people with rights
children deserve special protection and care
the weakest in society must be protected by the law

Our issues

SPUC helps people address issues like:
When does a new life begin? Is this a question of opinion or a question of fact?
How does abortion affect women's health and welfare?
Why are there so many abortions when contraceptives are readily available?
Why does the NHS fund abortions, which provide no health benefits but actually harm women?

The Abortion Recovery Care & Helpline (ARCH)

SPUC's sister organisation, offering help for women, men and families to restore their lives and relationships after an abortion experience.

ARCH exists because the truth is that every abortion represents a tragedy. Women deserve better than abortion.

ARCH Services and Support

Support to those struggling in the aftermath of a personal abortion experience

Free, confidential, one-to-one counselling, telephone counselling

Where possible support group counselling
Working with and referring clients to other professionals when appropriate.

For further information, please visit www.spuc.org.uk



PADRE PIO

Rosary and prayers at St Ambrose Barlow church on Saturday at 10.00am. Please support our Archbishop's Year of Prayer.

ST JOSEPH'S PLAYERS REFRESHMENT STAFF

We are looking for volunteers to help serve refreshments during our pantomime, which runs from 24th January - 3rd February. We would be more than happy to hear from anyone who is willing to come along and help out. For further details, please contact Maureen on 01942 396485. Thank you.

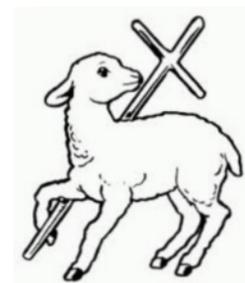
St Joseph's Players
Present Their 2018 Pantomime

Cinderella

Directed by Doreen Johnson & Pauline Nevell

Wednesday 24th January to 3rd February

Tickets £5 on the 24th, 25th & 31st January
Matinees & evening performances £10 adults £5
under 16 years. Box Office Spectrum Blinds
(inside Stones Carpets) Chapel St, Leigh



"Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

12A = Twelve Apostles, StJ = Saint Joseph, SH = Sacred Heart, OLR = Our Lady of the Rosary

Sat 13 January

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Allen & Agnes Newton

Sun 14 January

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year B)

Day of Prayer for Peace

StJ 8.30am

MASS Ellen Heaton L.D.

SH 9.30am

MASS Philomena Gaughan L.D.

StJ 10.30am

MASS Carolyn Andrea Burke R.I.P.

OLR 11.00am

MASS Susan Twist L.D.

Mon 15 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year II, Week 2)

StJ 9.00am

MASS Joe Fox (anniv.)

Tue 16 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

SH 12.00noon

MASS Julia Gallagher

Wed 17 January

Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbott

12A 10.00am

MASS (with new class from school) John Thompson

StJ 12.00noon

FUNERAL MASS Thomas Graine

Thu 18 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am

MASS Winifred Ellis (Birthday memorial)

Fri 19 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

OLR

NO MASS

StJ 12.00noon

FUNERAL MASS Joni Horton

Sat 20 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 11.00am

Exposition & Reconciliation

StJ 12.00noon

MASS David Patrick Groves R.I.P.

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY McArt family

Sun 21 January

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year B)

StJ 8.30am

MASS Tommy Parkes (anniv.)

SH 9.30am

MASS People of the Pastoral Area

StJ 10.30am

MASS Kitty & Ernest Clarke

OLR 11.00am

MASS Eileen West L.D.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 311 M Roach, £5 No. 295 J Waterfield, £3 No. 345 M Moore, £2 No. 347 M Moore

Bonus Ball No. 50 M Flannery



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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Priest: Fr. Paul Grady

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

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Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon

Tel: 01942 883395

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