

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B) 25 February 2018



Responsorial Psalm

I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!"
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

REFLECTION

Today's Gospel presents us with the story of Jesus' transfiguration. The voice of God takes centre stage at this event affirming a truth that, up to this point, Mark's Gospel God had revealed only to Jesus himself, his true identity. This took place at his baptism when God identified Jesus as his own beloved Son. This statement literally makes Jesus glow at the transfiguration. His disciples have at least come to the point where they are ready to hear the truth about Jesus. But their listening is only partial. As Jesus descends the mountain, he begins to help his disciples to understand the meaning of his Sonship, that he will be faithful and obedient to God the Father, even to the point of having to give up his own life. Jesus trusts God's faithfulness and ability to raise him from the dead. Yet the transfiguration occurs shortly after Peter has protested at Jesus' talk of crucifixion and resurrection. He hasn't really been listening. All Peter hears is suffering and death. And it is only after the resurrection that the disciples begin to really hear and appreciate what Jesus has been telling them.

As Christians, we believe that the transfiguration is not merely a past event but an ongoing reality. God's voice is creative – God spoke and creation came into being. God's voice is transformative. Jesus literally glowed as God affirmed him as his Son. God's voice continues to be at work in our world today, and in our lives. But, like Abraham in today's First Reading, and the disciples in the Gospel, we need to learn how to listen and perceive God's Word in our lives each day. This takes time and practice and commitment. It took both Abraham and the disciples a long time to do this. So much in our modern world goes against doing just this. So we must be patient with ourselves. It can take a lifetime but the important thing is to listen to God's Word and think of what it means in our lives each day. Through prayer God will help us. We are not alone in this task.

When we do listen in prayer – when we are able to step outside our own expectations and preconceptions and focus, like Abraham and the disciples eventually did, on the voice of God – we will find that God's voice continues to be creative and transformative. By making time each day quietly to open ourselves to the presence of God, we make room for God to affirm our dignity as God's beloved daughters and sons. And, as this reality gradually deepens in our lives, we increasingly learn how to live out of this sacred space – to live as daughters and sons of God not as a moral imperative or to obey the commandments, but because that is who we know we really are at the core of our being. Being children of the loving Father is something that can shine a great deal of light from our lives – because we have learnt to listen to his voice.

**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

Elizabeth Cleworth, Mary Frain, Vinnie, Edith & Joseph Johnson, Annie Lenoard, Thomas McCulloch, Kath Trundle.

SACRED HEART MESSENGER

There are some past copies at the back of church. If you would like to subscribe to this interesting family magazine, please telephone Anne on 01942 517811 for more details.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

EASTER RAFFLE

We are having our usual Easter Raffle. Donations of Easter eggs, chocolates and gifts will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

EASTER LILIES

Our Altar will be decorated with lilies at Easter in memory of our loved ones. If you would like a lily, they are £1.50 each. Please put your donation and the names of your loved ones in the envelopes provided and put them in the box at the back of Church. Thank you.

TEA & COFFEE

Tea and coffee will be served after Mass next Sunday, 4th March.

EASTER CARDS

Easter Cards are now on sale.

SACRED HEART

Easter cards are now available in the little shop and on the table at the back of church.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE MASS WITH ARCHBISHOP M^CMAHON

... On Sunday 11th March at 11.00am in the Metropolitan Cathedral. *Would you like to be involved in the Mass? Do you have a significant anniversary to celebrate?* Please contact Maureen Knight 0151 522 1046 or m.knight@rcaol.co.uk

THE PRIESTS LIVE IN CONCERT

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall Friday 1st June
Tickets from £16 available from Liverpool Philharmonic Hall Box Office 0151 709 3789
The proceeds of the concert will be split between Nugent Care and Friends of the Metropolitan Cathedral Liverpool

LIVERPOOL SYNOD 2020

Following on from the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter before Christmas, Liverpool Archdiocese are embarking on a three year project aimed towards a General Synod in 2020. As part of the preparations we will be holding a number of Holy Hours very soon as we focus on prayer for the first year. The Archbishop will be leading some of these Holy Hours in the different area of the Archdiocese. So an early notice that Archbishop Malcolm will be leading a Holy Hour in St. Joseph's church, Leigh, on Wednesday May 30th at 7.30pm. All welcome. More details nearer the time.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS LIVERPOOL

Many of you may be aware that Liverpool Archdiocese are hosting the National Eucharistic Congress in September this year. Since this is a national event tickets for the Congress are strictly limited. The Congress takes place between September 7th-9th in different venues in Liverpool city centre. Anyone who wishes to go does not have to attend the whole weekend. In fact, this would be rather difficult due to ticket availability. Each Deanery has been allocated just five tickets

for the Friday event. We have been allocated 36 tickets for the Saturday – this includes tickets for priests and deacons. Sunday is a celebration of two Masses at the Cathedral (see below) so this is a little more flexible, although you will still need tickets for this event too. Venues and approximate times are as follows:-

Friday September 7th – ACC Convention Centre, Liverpool between 10am-5.45pm.

Saturday September 8th – ACC Echo Arena, Liverpool between 9.30am-5pm.

Sunday September 9th – Mass in Liverpool Cathedral at 9.30am & 11.30am.

Outdoor Eucharistic Procession at 1.00pm.

If you would like to volunteer to represent the Deanery at the National Eucharistic Congress then please contact Fr Paul (the Elder) as soon as possible. You will be provided with a booking form which you will need to fill in as part of your booking. First come, first served.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Feb 18 - I wish you all a fruitful Lenten journey, and I ask you to pray for me and my collaborators as we begin our week of Spiritual Exercises.

Feb 17 - Only those able to acknowledge their mistakes and ask pardon receive understanding and forgiveness from others.

Feb 16 - The message of Jesus is troubling and disturbs us because it challenges worldly religious power and stirs consciences.

LENT

During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions:-

Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

Candidates for the Sacraments especially on Sundays

Lent Fast Day Friday 23 February

Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 2 March

Stations of the Cross

St Joseph's church Wednesdays in Lent 7.00pm

Sacred Heart church Thursdays in Lent following a noon Mass



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World day of prayer unity service for all our Leigh area, the gift to our world of Suriname (on N. Coast of S. America), Friday, 2nd March, 7.30pm, Bedford Methodist church, Breaston Avenue (off Warrington Road), Leigh, WN7 3DJ. Warm, comfortable church, good parking. Refreshments afterwards. The theme is "All God's creation is very good"; three years of preparation for 170 countries. This service echoes Pope Francis's encyclical "Care for our Common Home". Singers (any ages, male, female) practice Monday, 26th Feb, 7.30 to 8.30pm, Bedford Methodist church. All most welcome.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,730.00

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

SICK

Winifred Beattie, David Belshaw, Eileen Boardman, Marie Fletcher, Sr. Teresa Frost, Sr. Megan Haisley, Kitty Jones, Alan & Doreen Lowe, Mary Marsh, Doug Wakefield

DECEASED

Brian Fahy

Eternal rest grant unto them

FAMILY FAST DAY

Friday 23rd February

The retiring collection today is on behalf of CAFOD. Please be as generous as you can this Lent. Your donation will make double the difference, for every pound you donate to CAFOD, the UK Government will also donate a pound, up to a total of £5 million, meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed. The collection will remain open throughout Lent.

In light of recent news reports you may wish to know CAFOD Has a statement about Safeguarding vulnerable communities on cafod.org.uk [and a copy is on our parish noticeboard].



LOURDES

A Place for All

ONE ARCHDIOCESE

ONE PILGRIMAGE

Friday 20th - 27th July 2018

Each year our dedicated team of healthcare professionals and Hospitalité team of volunteers help people to realise their hope of time spent at Our Lady's Shrine.

If you are interested in travelling to Lourdes contact us in total confidence via our website Liverpool-lourdes.org.uk or call 07484 911 623



Reflect:

The Transfiguration is always an inspiring read. The impact of the experience on Peter, James and John is difficult to comprehend, but they were clearly amazed by what they saw. Have there been times in our own lives when we have had such an experience? If so, recall how you felt and the impact it had on you, was your attitude to life changed? Do you still manage to recall the sense of wonder and awe you experienced?

If you have never had such an experience, take the time to sit quietly with the Lord and allow him to speak within you heart.

Pray:

Creator of the stars, of light and darkness, out of the darkness of injustice, bring new hope to birth;

Out of the labouring and longing of all creation, teach us to fashion the wholeness and integrity that is your dream for creation.

Mary Grey

Act:

Now is a good time to make plans for the future! Have you got a spare patch in you garden where you could grow your own veg this year? If not, try planting up some pots. Beans are

always an easy option and courgettes are relatively straightforward too.

Challenge:

There are several websites and apps offering support in your prayer life. Find one to accompany you on your Lenten journey. Some examples are:

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/home/>

<https://www.sacredspace.ie/>

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Lent-Calendar>

<https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/daily-disconnect-a-daily-carmelite-prayer-podcast>

NUGENT

We have received a letter of thanks from Nugent for the donation of £287.16, which was raised from Crib offerings. There will also be an appeal on behalf of Nugent on the 10th/11th March..

"Our appeal this year "In Your Name" focuses on our core Caritas projects serving children and adults with learning disabilities and children who can no longer live at home and are in our care. These services receive little or no statutory funding and are entirely reliant on the good will and generosity of our supporters.

As well as your generosity your prayful support this Nugent Sunday is of tremendous value to our staff, volunteers and the people we serve.

The origins of Nugent Care date back to Victorian Liverpool and the pioneering work of Father James Nugent (1822-1905) in relation to child welfare, relief from poverty and social reform. Through his ministry, Father Nugent witnessed first-hand the suffering caused by poverty and appalling conditions and took action to remedy the situation.

By the time of his death, Father Nugent had given homes and valuable skills to thousands of children, and laid the foundations for the work currently undertaken by Nugent Care.

Allied to the Archdiocese of Liverpool, Nugent Care has provided care and support for those in need for over one hundred and thirty years. While our values have remained constant, our services have adapted to meet the changing needs of today's society.

Wigan & Leigh Pensioners Link

30 year Anniversary

Ashton-on-Mersey Showband

Saturday 17th March

Curtain up 7.30pm

St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St, Leigh

Tickets £8 including buffet

Available from Pensioners Link Office

or Spectrum Blinds, Chapel St Leigh

Email : polly.link1@gmail.com



MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

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

Sat 24 February

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Mary Tyrer

Sun 25 February

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

StJ 8.30am MASS Teresa Atherton R.I.P.
SH 9.30am MASS Philomena Gaughan (birthday anniv.)
StJ 10.30am MASS Ellen Mullany (Anniv.)
OLR 11.00am MASS People of the Pastoral Area

Mon 26 February

Weekday of Lent

StJ 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Brian Fahy
SH 12.00noon MASS Eileen West L.D.

Tue 27 February

Weekday of Lent

SH 12.00noon MASS Nora Baron R.I.P.

Wed 28 February

Weekday of Lent

StJ 12.00noon MASS Kath Trundle R.I.P.
StJ 7.00pm Stations of the Cross

Thu 1 March

FEAST OF SAINT DAVID, PATRON OF WALES

StJ 9.00am MASS Mary Green (Anniv.)
SH NO MASS

Fri 2 March

Weekday of Lent

Women's World Day of Prayer

(OLR) 10.00am MASS at MOSS BANK COURT Roy Ellis L.D.
StJ 12.00noon MASS Kevin & Margaret Fleming (Birthday memorials)

Sat 3 March

Weekday of Lent

SH 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation *
SH 12.00noon MASS Catherine Morgan L.D.
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Winifred Robinson

Sun 4 March

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

StJ 8.30am MASS Phillip John Aldred (Anniv.)
SH 9.30am MASS Catherine Hoy L.D.
StJ 10.30am MASS Kitty Clarke (Anniv.)
OLR 11.00am MASS Joe Devlin R.I.P.

*Please note, confessions finish at 11.45am

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 356 m Houghton, £5 No. 205 F Rasburn, £3 No. 156 J Evans, £2 No. 170 M Roach

Bonus Ball No. 56 D Quinn



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

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