

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B)

18 March 2018



Responsorial Psalm

A pure heart create for me, O God.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me;
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

REFLECTION

One of the most moving religious films of all time is called "Of Gods And Men". The film, based on the true story of a Cistercian monastery set in the Atlas mountains in Algeria, describes how the monks lived and worked with the local Arab population, helping them with both medical aid and education, and entering into fraternal dialogue with Muslim leaders and scholars. Then came the threat from terrorism and the decision as to whether to stay or return to Europe. The decision is taken through the practice of daily worship and reflection. Perhaps the most powerful part of the film is the self-examination done by the monks, with the support of prayer and the sacraments. The decision is not taken lightly, and all their fears and anxieties are given voice to and dealt with respectfully. In the end they decided to stay, knowing full well that they were choosing the path to martyrdom. Some of the terrorists, who have already pressurized them for medical assistance, return to kidnap seven of them and lead them off, eventually, for execution. As Father Christian de Chergé wrote in his testament, sent sealed up to his mother two years earlier, their lives in such circumstances would be given, not taken. They would be given to God, Algeria and its people. They saw their choice as one of continued dedication to the people they had chosen to live with out of love.

In the Gospels Jesus faces his death with the agony in the garden, where he is described as struggling with what is being asked of him by God the Father. Today's Gospel sees Jesus troubled in a similar manner. He sees himself as the grain of wheat that falls on the ground and dies. It is only by falling and dying that the wheat grain can yield a rich harvest. In a similar way we are asked to follow Jesus as the one who dies on our behalf and in so dying draws all people to himself. The experience of the monks in Algeria is a vivid example of how we are called to give of ourselves to God and to others, if we are truly to follow the example of Jesus. How do we respond with the same generosity that we see in Jesus and his followers? The monks found the way forward through the structure of their lives, their monastic prayer life and reflection, and the celebration of the sacraments together. We find Jesus in dialogue with others and with himself. He always retired to pray by himself, especially before making major decisions. It is through prayer, open discussions and the sacraments that we prepare ourselves constantly for whatever decisions we have to face, especially the decisions that will demand generosity and self-sacrifice on our part. As we continue our journey towards Easter let us devote ourselves more and more to following in the footsteps of Christ no matter what the cost may be.

**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

Deceased members of the Gainer Family, Maureen Gallagher, Margaret Muir, Marion McBride, The O'Rourke Family,

Please note, if you hand a Mass in to be said at St Joseph's and you request a certain date, we will do our best to accommodate your request, however all Masses that are handed in at St Joseph's cannot be said here. We receive too many requests throughout the year, last year we received 564 Mass offerings, unfortunately some of those Masses have to be sent away. Thank you for your understanding

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.

EASTER CARDS

Easter cards are now on sale.

CHURCH CLEANING

Thank you to all who came to clean the church, special thanks to Tom.

EASTER RAFFLE

The Easter Raffle will be drawn after Mass today.

SACRED HEART

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

WITH YOU ALWAYS

Twelve Apostles	Wednesday 21 st March	4.30pm
Sacred Heart	Thursday 22 nd March	4.30pm

HCPT GOLF DAY

HCPT are running their annual Golf Day on Thursday May 24th at Westhoughton Golf Club. Fr Paul has been asked to get together a couple of teams for the "shotgun start" golf day, which begins at 1.00pm. If you would like to please contact Fr Paul as soon as possible – strictly on a first come, first served basis. There are two places left. Price is £30 per person including competition prizes and hot food.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Mar 14 - If we encounter Jesus and our brothers and sisters every day, our hearts will not dwell in the past or the future. They will live in God's present moment, in peace with everyone.

Mar 13 - When we allow Jesus to enter our lives we discover the secret to keeping alive the flame of our spiritual life.

Mar 12 - Living the encounter with Jesus means allowing yourself to be turned inside out by Grace every day.

Mar 11 - What would happen to us if God did not always give us the chance to start over again?

Mar 10 - If we dedicate more time to prayer, our hearts will reveal the lies with which we deceive ourselves, and we will find true consolation in God.

Mar 9 - In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we find our way back to the Lord, and rediscover the meaning of life.

Mar 9 - With so much to do, we often neglect what is really important: our spiritual lives, and our relationship with God. So let's stop and take time to pray!

LENTEN ALMS

At the Archbishop's request this year's Lenten Alms are being donated to Asylum Link, which is an organisation dedicated to assisting Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Liverpool and to raising public awareness around refugee issues. It is a welcoming and safe place for people from all countries to meet, relax and find out about the city they have arrived in. Asylum Link provides friendship, help and advice and encourages the participation of asylum seekers and refugees in the service. Most services are provided on a drop-in basis, with appointments available for specialist activities. Every day, tea, coffee and biscuits are available during opening hours and lunch is served most days to everyone. The day to day running of the centre is managed by four full time and three part time staff, and over 100 volunteers.

Our Lenten Alms box is situated in the main porch. Please give generously.

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

Stations of the Cross

St Joseph's church Wednesdays in Lent 7.00pm

Sacred Heart church Thursdays in Lent following a noon Mass

EASTER TRIDUUM

Mass on Easter Sunday morning is the most joyful celebration in the Church's year as we rejoice in the fact that Jesus Christ has risen from the dead. The Church does not insist that we attend all the services in Holy Week but there can be great personal and shared spiritual reward in taking part in as many of them as we are able to. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday and is the last week in Lent. It ends with the three day tridium of Holy Thursday when we specially celebrate the Last Supper during evening Mass, Good Friday when, in the afternoon, we solemnly commemorate the Crucifixion of Christ and Holy Saturday when the Easter Vigil Mass begins as daylight fades.

This year, in our parish, the tridium will be celebrated at Saint Joseph's church on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. In addition there will be parallel services at Sacred Heart church on Thursday and Friday and at Twelve Apostles on Holy Saturday.

Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper

Sacred Heart 7.30pm Watching till 10.00pm

St Joseph's 7.30pm Watching till 10.00pm

Good Friday

St Joseph's Morning Prayer 9.00am

Stations of the Cross 10.00am

Walk of Witness 11.00am

Sacred Heart The Lord's Passion 3.00pm

St Joseph's The Lord's Passion 3.00pm

St Joseph's Meditation at the Cross 7.00pm

Holy Saturday

Twelve Apostles Easter Vigil 7.30pm

St Joseph's Easter Vigil 7.30pm

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,796.63

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

SICK

Winifred Beattie, David Belshaw, Marie Fletcher, Kitty Jones,
Alan & Doreen Lowe, Mary Marsh.

DECEASED

Elizabeth Reeder
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to:-
Albert Fox Hopwood, Nancy Bluebell Taylor.

Live simply

Reflect:

In today's Gospel Jesus shows his acceptance of his Father's will, which will lead to his crucifixion, rather than asking God to save him from his death.

Life is often a balancing act in which we prioritize a number of competing needs. It's easy to put our own needs first, but as Christians, we strive to put the needs of others before our own.

Pray:

Prayer for Generosity
Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God
Teach me true generosity.
Teach me to serve you as you deserve.
To give without counting the cost,
To fight heedless of wounds,
To Labour without seeking rest,
To sacrifice myself without thought of any reward
Save the knowledge that I have done your will.
Amen.
St Ignatius Loyola

Act:

How do we respond to others in our family? Do we moan when we are asked to do something or do we willingly help out in whatever way we can? This week try to respond generously when a family member asks for help.

Challenge:

We are all members of God's family too. Can we be equally generous to those of other nations or beliefs? Make a point of doing something to support those in need throughout the world through prayer or by giving to charity.

CHRISM MASS

The annual Chrism Mass in the Metropolitan Cathedral will be celebrated on Wednesday 29th March. Our coach will be leaving St Joseph's at 5.00pm, and then will pick up at Boothstown, Holy Family church at 5.20pm. If you would like to go to the Chrism Mass, please put your name on the list in the church porch. Thank you.

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



MOODS OF EASTER

St Joseph's School will be presenting their Easter production on Wednesday 21st March at 6.00pm in church, followed by Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm. All welcome.

THE PASTORAL CARE PROJECT

Dementia Prayer Week, 12th – 19th March 2018

Our Mission

"raising awareness of the spiritual needs of the frail elderly - enabling carers to support them in their journey to the fullness of life."

We are inspired by the Gospel of Luke 4.18-19

The spirit of the Lord is upon me
because he has anointed me;
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to proclaim release for prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind;
to free the broken-hearted
and to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

History

The Pastoral Care Project is a Christian organisation which pioneered pastoral care and ministry in care settings and in the community since 1994 and in 2002 achieved charitable status.

Working with many Christian ecumenical partners since 1994 we have raised awareness and produced resources to help alleviate the isolation felt by those suffering with dementia, as well as providing information and support enabling their carers to support them in the last part of their journey to the fullness of life.

If you would like more information about the work of the Pastoral care Project, please visit:
www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk



MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

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

Sat 17 March

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

Sun 18 March

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

StJ 8.30am

MASS John & Agnes Coan

SH 9.30am

MASS Kathleen Hall (anniv.)

StJ 10.30am

MASS Sylvia Withington

OLR 11.00am

MASS Peter & Agnes Wilkinson

Mon 19 March

SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Mary Sutton (R.I.P.)

Tue 20 March

Weekday of Lent

SH

NO MASS

Wed 21 March

Weekday of Lent

StJ 8.45am

MASS The O'Rourke Family

StJ 7.00pm

Stations of the Cross

Thu 22 March

Weekday of Lent

StJ 9.00am

MASS Alice Milward (Birthday Memorial)

SH 12.00noon

MASS Michael Mullahy L.D.

followed by Stations of the Cross

Fri 23 March

Weekday of Lent

SH 10.00am

MASS with Year 4 from school, all welcome.

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Kevin Quinn (Anniv.)

Sat 24 March

Weekday of Lent

12A 11.00am

Exposition & Reconciliation *

12A 12.00noon

MASS Winifred Robinson

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

Sun 25 March

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

StJ 8.30am

MASS Marie Fitzsimons (Birthday memorial)

SH 9.30am

MASS Beatrice Miller R.I.P.

StJ 10.30am

MASS Deceased members of the Toher & Costello Families

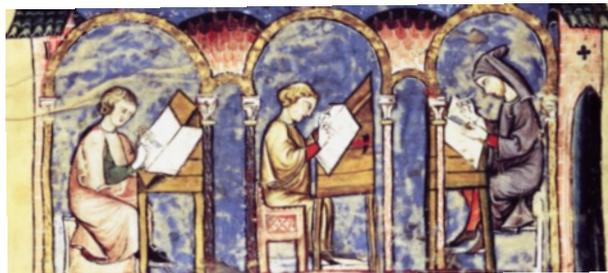
OLR 11.00am

MASS Keith Wall L.D.

*Please note, confessions finish at 11.45am

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club 4/3/18 £10 No. 167 B Ryan, £5 No. 414 C Ellis, £3 No. 397 B Jones, No. 193 J Causby **11/3/18** £10 No. 435 B Woods, £5 No. 209 J Causby, £3 No. 183 J Newill, £2 No. 122 C Baker

Bonus Ball No. 36 Fr K O'Grady 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

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