

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B)

13 May 2018



Responsorial Psalm

The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!

REFLECTION

At the beginning of the Church's life Peter stood up before an assembled crowd of one hundred and twenty people, a number symbolic of the whole house of Israel and by extension the whole human race. He stood up to address the human family. His first task was to heal and restore the "twelve apostles", those foundation stones of the Church's existence. The Twelve were specially chosen by the Lord to be the foundation of his Church, his family of followers. As parents are to their children, so the apostles became like parents to the rest of Christ's faithful. This new Israel, the new people of God, is founded on the twelve apostles, who were the Lord's companions from the beginning right up until the day he was taken from their sight. They had eaten and drank with him – such powerful human experiences – before and after his resurrection from the dead. Now they would be his witnesses to the whole world and to every generation that came after. The faith that is preached is founded on this rock-solid base of people who were there and who knew him so well. If we are to preach the love of God in this world, it is well to have a firm foundation for such a story. The world is not impressed by idle dreams or fantasies. So the triumph of good over evil, the story of the death and resurrection of the Lord, needs the firm foundation of the witness of those who were there, who saw it for their own eyes, and in turn share the story today through the Gospel.

So it was that Jesus, at the Last Supper with his disciples, prayed for them and also for us and asked his Father to keep them "true to your name". It is this quality and this witness of life that will be the moving factor in causing God's love to grow in human lives. People who are true to God's name witness to goodness in a world surrounded by evil. They witness to kindness in a cruel world. They witness to hope in a world sunk in despair. Judas, who became disillusioned with Jesus, lived to regret his actions in betraying him but he did not live long enough to be rescued from despair. In collaborating in the death of Jesus he felt that he had burnt all his bridges. There was nothing left to live for. But hope does spring eternal and the Lord IS risen from the dead. In our world today, in our life now, the Lord offers us his grace, the grace to be true to his name in our own place and in our own circumstances. Our own life is our challenge. We are not going to be removed from the world but we can, with God's grace, be protected from the evil one. Our witness of life is to be in touch with one another, to help restore one another, and to help in gathering into unity the scattered children of God.

**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

Molly Conway, Monica Davies, Mary Gibbon, Celia Grogan, John Lee, Alan & Doreen Lowe, Eva McHugh, David Nicholson, Special Intention,

FIRST COMMUNION

Please keep our Year 4 children and their families in your prayers. They celebrated their First Holy Communion yesterday, Saturday 12th May.

MAY PROCESSION

Today, 13th May at 11.30am we will be holding our May Procession in honour of our Lady. Please come along and support the Year 4 children who will be leading the procession.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to the Astley Beavers, who came to tidy up the grounds of St Joseph's church last week. They have done a wonderful job.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

FIRST COMMUNION GIFTS

First Holy Communion gifts are on sale at the back of church.

GARDENING

We have started our gardening again, if you can spare an hour, please come along on Tuesdays at 10.00am.

SACRED HEART

We extend a welcome to the final, third group of children who will be making their First Holy Communion today, Sunday. Please show their families how welcoming a community we are.



May 10 - The Ascension of the Risen Jesus contains the promise that we too will participate in the fullness of life with God.

May 9 - We are Christians to the extent that we allow Jesus Christ to live in us.

May 8 - Our Lady Queen of the Rosary, pray that Jesus may have mercy on us sinners.

May 7 - Convert our hearts, Lord, so that love may spread here on earth.

May 6 - How wonderful to be "envoys of hope", simple and joyful messengers of the Easter acclamation.

May 5 - Every insult, injury or act of violence inflicted upon our neighbour, offends God our Father and Creator.

May 4 - Joyfully performing works of charity for those who are suffering in mind and body, is the most authentic way to live the Gospel.

LIVERPOOL SYNOD 2020

Following on from the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter before Christmas, Liverpool Archdiocese is 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 areas of the Archdiocese. So, please note that

Archbishop Malcolm will soon be leading a Holy Hour in Saint Joseph's church, Leigh, on **Wednesday May 30th** at 7.30pm. All welcome. Additional Holy Hours in our Pastoral Area will take place on **Wednesday June 27th** at 7.30pm in St. Ambrose Barlow church, Astley and on **Wednesday July 18th** at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart church, Leigh.



Reflect:

In John's Gospel we hear Jesus praying to the Father for his followers. He prays that God will keep his disciples united as Jesus and the Father are united as one; that God will protect them from the evil one; that God will keep them in the truth. When Jesus prayed for his disciples, he was praying for us as well. Jesus wants us to be united with one another and with God. He knew that we would need God's protection, and he knew that we would also need God's guidance. We know that God heard Jesus' prayer. He hears our prayers too. When we present our needs to God, we follow Jesus' example of prayer.

Pray:

Jesus taught us to pray - Our Father ...

Act:

Jesus wants us to share fully in his joy. It is in this spirit of Easter joy that we are sent out into the world to draw all people into that relationship of love of which each and every one is invited to be a part. Make efforts this week to live out the joy of the Gospel of love in every part of the life we live.

Challenge:

Jesus seems to pray for things just once, and then leave them to his Father to remember the request and deal with it. Do I need more of that confidence when I pray? Take time this week to place yourself in the hands of the Father, letting him work through you in whatever way he chooses.

Novena of Prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress 2018 and Synod 2020

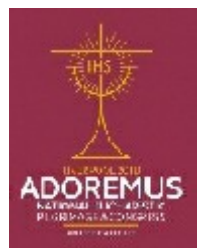
Come Holy Spirit,
fill our hearts with wisdom,
love and courage.
Make us more like Christ in our words
and actions.

Bless the work of your Church.
Renew us all in the desire
to make Christ known and loved
In the world today.

Bless the work of our parish.
Guide all that we do
so that our church is a place of mercy
and service for all who are seeking you.

Deepen our love for the presence of
Christ in the Eucharist
and guide us in prayer and action
as we journey towards Synod 2020
to become the Church
you are calling us to be.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,855.01
Priests Training Fund £2,465.67
Many thanks for your continued generosity.

The retiring collection at all our churches this weekend will be in support of the Catholic Communications Network of the bishops' conference.

S.V.P SOCIETY

At all Masses on the weekend 19th/20th May, the S.V.P. will be having a collection. The monies we collect will be used to support parishioners of all ages. Our last collection raised over £500. Please continue to be generous, as any little helps us to continue our work in our parish community. Thank you, the S.V.P.

SICK

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

DECEASED

David Nicholson, Mary Elliott
Eternal rest grant unto them ...

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our community through Baptism to:
Issac Edward Regan.

NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST PIO

The Franciscan Friary, Pantasaph, Holywell
Flintshire, CH8 8PE

You are invited to join us at St Pio Prayer Days with Mass, Rosary, Talk, Stations of the Cross and an opportunity to be blessed with the St Pio Relic. Confessions will be available. Day starts at 10.00am until 4.00pm. Please bring a packed lunch, donations for tea and coffee are accepted. Registration cost for the day is £5 (payable on the day) Pre-booking essential. Places available for Sunday 10th June, Sunday 12th August and Sunday 23rd September. For further details, please contact Br. Michael Hargan O.F.M. CAP
Tel No. 01352 711053 email: pantasaph@gmail.com

ADOREMUS YOUTH CONGRESS

Adoremus Youth Congress: Saturday 8th Sept, Echo Arena Auditorium. Join 1,000 young people aged 13-20 in a unique experience of being the young Church. Contributions by Katie Prejean, Jo Boyce, Rise Theatre, CAFOD, Animate, Salesians, One Hope, Joel's Bar, Cardinal Nichols, Archbishop McMahon and many more ... Cost only £10. Booking forms available at www.adoremusyouth.co.uk

BOOKMARK PRAYER CARDS

This is the second prayer card to help us in preparation for Adoremus: National Eucharistic Pilgrimage & Congress as well as for Synod 2020 in our own Archdiocese. Archbishop Malcolm requests that all parishes pray this prayer at each Mass between Ascension and Pentecost (Thursday 10th May - Sunday 20th May). This period is the origin of the novena prayer, so it is important that the whole Archdiocese is united in one great act of prayer at this time. Please take a prayer card from the back of church. Thank you.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY MASS

Pentecost Sunday, 20th May 2018, 3.00pm
Holy Rosary Parish Church, Altway, Aintree, L10 2LG
Everyone is invited to celebrate Dementia Action Week 21st - 27th May, especially those people living with dementia, their carers, family, friends and parishioners from all churches. Mass will be followed by refreshments in the parish hall. Everyone is most welcome to attend.



LIVERPOOL
LOURDES
PILGRIMAGE

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 911623.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary, based at Sacred Heart Hindley Green, is planning a series of five CaFE courses on Our Lady, called *Let it be done unto me according to Your Word*. These will start on Saturday 26th May and run until 23rd June inclusive at Sacred Heart Club, Swan Lane, Hindley Green, 2.00 - 3.30pm. Refreshments provided. We would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone who might like to join us. Each participant will receive a book so we would like to sign up for the course so we know how many to order. Please put your name on the list at the back of church if you would like to attend.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Sunday 13th May 2018

In his message for World Communications Day 2018, Pope Francis speaks of journalists as "the protectors of news". Their task is "not just a job; it is a mission". He reminds us that persons are at the heart of information, that informing others means forming others; "That is why ensuring the accuracy of sources and promoting communication are real means of promoting goodness, generating trust and opening the way to communion and peace." On this World Communication Day, we pray for those who work in the media and also for the valuable work carried out on our behalf by the Communications Office of the Bishops' Conference. Working with journalists across both national and international media outlets, it provides a professional news service to the Church and to the world.

The Three Towns Operatic Society
proudly present

Orpheus in the Underworld

Music by Offenbach

Tuesday 15th – Saturday 19th May 2018 at 7.30pm
St. Joseph's Hall, Chapel Street, Leigh. WN7 2PR
Tickets: £11 & £13 Concessions available.
Contact 01942 676594, 01942 605369
or call in at The Baby Centre, 15 Queen Street, Leigh
01942 665615

Also available online at www.thethreetowns.net

A comic, adventurous helter-skelter journey from Greece, up to Mount Olympus and down to the Underworld.
Enjoy the famous Can-Can and other lively, foot-tapping melodies.

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

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

Sat 12 May

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY John Robinson

Sun 13 May

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year B)

World Communications Day

StJ 8.30am

MASS Terry & John Donohue (anniv.)

SH 9.30am

MASS Philomena Gaughan

StJ 10.30am

MASS Tom & Betty Kennedy Birthday Memorials

OLR 11.15am

MASS Joe Devlin R.I.P.

Mon 14 May

FEAST OF SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

StJ 9.00am

MASS Geoff R.I.P.

StJ 10.30am

FUNERAL SERVICE David Nicholson

Tue 15 May

Weekday of Easter

SH 12.00noon

MASS Holy Trinity & Mary (S.I.)

Wed 16 May

Weekday of Easter

12A 10.00am

MASS Eileen Boardman L.D.

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Joyce Tuttle (anniv.)

Thu 17 May

Weekday of Easter

SH 12.00noon

MASS Alice Sutton

Fri 18 May

Weekday of Easter

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Reginald Squires (anniv.)

Sat 19 May

Weekday of Easter

OLR 11.00am

Exposition and Reconciliation

OLR 12.00noon

MASS Caroline Hodson (sick)

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Sun 20 May

PENTECOST SUNDAY (Year B)

StJ 8.30am

MASS People of the Pastoral Area

SH 9.30am

MASS For exam success (Jewel Jacob)

StJ 10.30am

MASS Kath Parr Birthday

OLR 11.00am

MASS Eileen Massey (anniv.)

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 214 b Edwards, £5 No. 187 j Newill, £3 No. 487 Jessica Flannery, £2 No. 153 U Lightford

Bonus Ball No. 41 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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