

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

PENTECOST SUNDAY (YEAR B)

20 May 2018



Responsorial Psalm

Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

REFLECTION

One of the most fascinating characteristics of John's Gospel is how he presents the story of Jesus as a lawsuit between God and an unbelieving world. Witnesses are arranged on either side to argue the case. And the case at hand is this: is Jesus the Messiah and the Son of God? God's witnesses are Jesus' Word, the great prophet John the Baptist, the signs and mighty works of Jesus himself, and finally the Holy Spirit and the apostles. The opposition is represented by the unbelieving Jews, who bring their own testimony against the claim. When Jesus' trial gets underway, the accusers are invited to bear witness regarding the evil that Jesus is alleged to have committed. Jesus boldly challenges the officer in court: "If I have spoken wrongly, why do you strike me?" No one takes up the challenge. According to John's account Jesus wins the most important lawsuit in history. And because Pilate declares Jesus innocence three times, the judge is convicted of perverting justice when he hands Jesus over to be crucified. The trial of Jesus is seen to be a masquerade; the innocent one handed over to be executed. When Jesus dies, however, the lawsuit is not finished. His claim to be the Messiah and the Son of God is confirmed in his resurrection, when the Father raises the innocent one to glory. But there are still many who do not accept the evidence. The principal advocate for Jesus' claim is now the Holy Spirit. He is the one who advances the claims of Jesus before the court of the unbelieving world. And the Holy Spirit's principal witnesses are the apostles – those who have been with Jesus right from the beginning of his ministry.

What we celebrate at Pentecost is the coming of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, the one who enables the apostles to be witnesses to Jesus' claims in the world. Before the coming of the Holy Spirit, the apostles were incapable of acting as witnesses; they were frightened men who were too confused and hurt to act as effective witnesses on behalf of Jesus. With the help of the Spirit they are graced with a new courage. Their courtroom is the market-place of the world, and they are willing to testify to the truth of Jesus' claims to anyone who is willing to listen. As we know from experience the lawsuit still continues today. The case is not closed. There will always be opposition, there will always be people to persuade. The Spirit continues to be the Advocate, calling on generations of Christians to come forward as witnesses to the case. We are called to be witnesses today. To us it is given to continue the case on behalf of Jesus. The disbelieving world still looks to Jesus' witnesses to make their case – not so much by the quality of our information, but by the quality and courage of our lives. The world is not dying from a lack of information about Jesus. But the world needs witnesses who will declare their faith in Jesus. Saint John finishes his Gospel by saying that he writes "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing this you may have life in his name." And so the case continues.

**LEIGH
PASTORAL AREA**
www.leighdeanery.co.uk

**St. Edmund
Arrowsmith
Parish**

**St. Joseph,
Sacred Heart,
Twelve Apostles,
and
Our Lady of the
Rosary
churches**



be with you.
As the Father has
sent me,
so I send you."

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS ST JOSEPH'S

MASSES

Thomas Farrington, Peter Lancaster, David Nicholson, James Unsworth, Special Intention, Successful Operation & Recovery, Thanksgiving for Safe Delivery of Twins,

THANK YOU

Thank you to the family of Julia Peters for their kind donation in her memory. May she rest in peace.

COFFEE MORNING

Next Sunday, the 27th May, Coffee Morning will be in the Mather Room. Thank you.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

GARDENING

Many thanks to the small team of gardeners for all their hard work, we are getting it looking good. Special thanks to Paul for looking after the lawn. If you can spare an hour, please come along on Tuesdays at 10.00am.



May 17 - God loves us in a way that crushes all loneliness and isolation.

May 16 - I express my great sorrow over the dead and wounded in the Holy Land and the Middle East. Violence never leads to peace. Therefore, I call on all sides involved and the international community to renew efforts so that dialogue, justice and peace may prevail.

May 16 - There is no love without works of charity. Service towards our brothers and sisters springs from the heart that loves.

May 15 - The Family is the hope of the future. Let us pray especially for families facing serious difficulties: may Our Lord assist them.

May 14 - There is no freedom greater than letting yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit and allowing Him to lead you wherever he wishes.

May 13 - I invite communications professionals to promote a journalism of peace at the service of all people, especially those without a voice. #WorldCommunicationsDay

May 13 - Our Lady of Fatima, turn your gaze towards us, towards our families, our country, and the world.

May 12 - Your response to Jesus cannot be conditioned by momentary calculations and convenience. It must be a life-long "yes".

May 11 - We begin building peace in our homes, streets, and workplaces: wherever we craft communion and community.

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:

Today we recall that Jesus sent us his Holy Spirit to guide us on our life's journey as followers of Christ. We accepted this spirit into our lives when we were confirmed, but do we actually allow the Spirit to work in and through us?

Pray:

Whirlwind Spirit of God

Roar through our timidities and fears,
Shake the foundations of our ill-placed securities,
Sweep away the cobwebs of our apathy,
Blow down the wall that separates us, one from another.

Then into our empty spaces, breathe
Re-strengthened courage to challenge injustice,
Renewed belief in the urgency of our vocation,
Revitalized passion to change our lifestyles,
Re-dedication to speak only words that build and unite.

Let gentle breeze and still small voice
Become in us today
Mighty wind and loud proclamation.

Make us a Pentecost people!
Amen

Kathleen O'Brien in livesimply CAFOD

Act & Challenge

Dare to allow your life to be transformed through the action of the Holy Spirit.

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

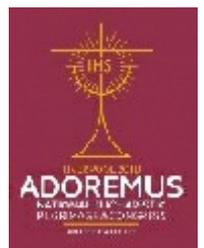
Come Holy Spirit,
fill our hearts with wisdom,
love and courage.
Make us more like Christ in our words
and actions.

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 £2,168.93

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

S.V.P SOCIETY

At all Masses on this 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

Kenneth James Thorn

Eternal rest grant unto him ...

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our community through Baptism to:

Ella Rose Priest,

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. 10.00am until 4.00pm. Please bring a packed lunch. Registration cost for the day is £5 Pre-booking essential. 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

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.

ROME PILGRIMAGE 18th JUNE

There will be a meeting on 29th May at 7.30pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall for all those booked. We will be distributing information and boarding passes and sharing information. Please come along!!

ORDINARY TIME SUMMER

In this season we are asked to pray for:
A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews
Human Life

especially on 3rd Sunday in June

Those who suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of
Human Rights

especially on the feast of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More (22 June)

Europe

especially on the Feast of St. Benedict (11 July)

also St. Bridget (23 July), St. Teresa Benedicta (9 August)

Seafarers

especially on Sea Sunday (2nd Sunday in July)

May Magnificat

MAY is Mary's month, and I
Muse at that and wonder why:

Her feasts follow reason,
Dated due to season—

Candlemas, Lady Day;
But the Lady Month, May,
Why fasten that upon her,
With a feasting in her honour?

Is it only its being brighter
Than the most are must delight her?
Is it opportunist
And flowers finds soonest?

Ask of her, the mighty mother:
Her reply puts this other
Question: What is Spring?—
Growth in every thing—

Flesh and fleece, fur and feather,
Grass and greenworld all together;
Star-eyed strawberry-breasted
Throstle above her nested

Cluster of bugle blue eggs thin
Forms and warms the life within;
And bird and blossom swell
In sod or sheath or shell.

All things rising, all things sizing
Mary sees, sympathising
With that world of good,
Nature's motherhood.

Their magnifying of each its kind
With delight calls to mind
How she did in her stored
Magnify the Lord.

Well but there was more than this:
Spring's universal bliss
Much, had much to say
To offering Mary May.

When drop-of-blood-and-foam-dapple
Bloom lights the orchard-apple
And thicket and thorp are merry
With silver-surfèd cherry

And azuring-over greybell makes
Wood banks and brakes wash wet like lakes
And magic cuckoo call
Caps, clears, and clinches all—

This ecstasy all through mothering earth
Tells Mary her mirth till Christ's birth
To remember and exultation
In God who was her salvation.

By Gerald Manley Hopkins S.J.

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

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

Sat 19 May

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Winifred Robinson

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.)

Mon 21 May

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year II, Week 7)

SH 12.00noon MASS Eileen Boardman L.D.

Tue 22 May

Weekday in Ordinary Time

SH 12.00noon MASS Edel Quinn (SHLoM)

Wed 23 May

Weekday in Ordinary Time

NO MASS

Thu 24 May

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 9.00am MASS Alan Ratcliffe (anniv.)

SH 12.00noon MASS Edel Quinn (StJLoM)

Fri 25 May

Memorial of Saint Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor

SH 10.00am MASS Paul Frederick Nuttall (anniv.)

StJ 12.00noon MASS Cherian Mani (anniv.)

Sat 26 May

Memorial of Saint Philip Neri, Priest

12A 11.00am Exposition and Reconciliation

12A 12.00noon MASS John Thompson

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Winifred Robinson

Sun 27 May

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

StJ 8.30am MASS Successful Operation & Recovery

SH 9.30am MASS Jim Mannion R.I.P.

StJ 10.30am MASS Carolyn Burke (anniv.)

OLR 11.00am MASS Ann Harman (anniv.)

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 069, N Flynn; £5, 194, C Baker; £3, 313, B Edwards; 458, K Jones.

Bonus Ball No. 5 F Rasburn



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

