

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 21 August 2016



Responsorial Psalm

**Go out to the whole world;
proclaim the Good News.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.
Alleluia!**

REFLECTION

At the time of Jesus there is evidence of various Jewish groups who claimed to be the true remnant of Israel, the few from among all those who called themselves Jewish who would be saved. Is this what Jesus came to establish – a small group of chosen people from among the mass of humanity who are to be saved? In today's Gospel this is what Jesus seems to be saying, "Many will try to enter and will not succeed". Later, however, he refers to the prophetic vision of Isaiah that people will come from "east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the Kingdom of God". It seems as though Jesus is saying that everyone is invited to be part of God's Kingdom. Yet, if this is the case, how are we to understand Jesus' teaching concerning the narrow door? Jesus talks about the door being the way to salvation. It can be a difficult one to get through. Because of our sins, we cannot do this on our own. We can only do it because of the grace and love of God. According to the Gospel this weekend, we have a choice. We can remain in our sin and go along the easy way. Or we can choose the way of Christ himself and choose the hard way, a way that leads to eternal life. Jesus chose the way to Calvary – for us. Yet this road, despite its obvious difficulty, led to glory in Heaven. Through Calvary Jesus rose to new life. Our salvation will bring us to the glory of the heavenly banquet. In the Cross the reality of this world is revealed, but this reality is not ultimately one of hopeless violence but of a transforming love, healing us and raising us to the new life.

So the Gospel really challenges our belief in the reality of God's love for us. God's love was so great that he allowed his only Son to suffer and die on the Cross to take away our sins. All of us find times in our lives when we need the help of others. It is no different with the life of faith, except that in every moment of that life we need the help of Jesus Christ. The narrow door of our salvation is the help that God sends to each one of us in the cross and resurrection of Jesus. The life of every Christian should be one that centres themselves on Jesus and the help he sends to us in faith. Through sharing in the life of the Church – that is, in coming together to celebrate our faith – we receive the help we need to find healing and begin our journey to the Kingdom of God. On this journey we can be transformed, so that we, as instruments of God's grace, can become the means through which Jesus' healing and transforming presence is given to others. This journey will not be easy, as we will need to face our own frailty and limitations. Yet we do not journey alone. We journey with each other and with Jesus too

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: kjmogradey@hotmail.com
Priest: Fr. Paul Grady
Tel: 0161 790 2390
Email: frpaulmgradey@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



**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

MASSES

Pat Darwell, Marie Fitzsimons, Dermot McGrath, Kathleen Moon, Vida Raines, Jacob Shepherd, Joseph Smith, Eddie Unsworth.

CLOSURE OF CHAPEL STREET

We received notice from Wigan Council during this week that Chapel St would be closed this Sunday, Sunday 4th and possibly Sunday 11th September. We are very sorry for the inconvenience. The only way to get access to St Joseph's church in a car is down Bonnywell Rd, Siddow Common and over Mather Lane Bridge. The car park to the Mather Room will be open but there will be no access to the church car park.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CAKE SALE

Many thanks to all who helped in any way with our cake sale and/or donated cakes. We raised £225 for parish funds.

CREATION TIME

Pope Francis has asked the whole world to pray and reflect on Creation during *Creation Time* which begins on September 1st and ends on October 4th, the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. Inspired by the Pope's letter "*Laudato Si': On Care of our Common Home*", the Justice & Peace Commission and CAFOD Liverpool have produced a booklet designed to bring people together in parishes during this period. We will be having *Creation Time* sessions in our Deanery at St Richard's, Atherton on Wednesdays September 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th and October 5th at approximately 10.00am, after Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Each of the five sessions includes prayers, the Sunday Gospel, illustrative local and international stories, excerpts from "*Laudato Si'*" and questions to guide our discussions. Please come along and join us. Each session should last approximately an hour.



Pope Francis @Pontifex Aug 15

I entrust you to the maternal care of our Mother who lives in the glory of God and is always by our side on our life's journey. Aug 14

We ask Mary, our Mother, to help us to pray with a humble heart.

Aug 13

May people see the Gospel in our lives: in our generous and faithful love for Christ and our brothers and sisters.

Aug 12

In Confession we encounter the merciful embrace of the Father. His love always forgives.

Aug 10

A society made up of different cultures must seek unity in respect.

ST JOSEPH'S PLAYERS

St Joseph's Players AGM will take place on Tuesday 23rd August at 7.30pm in the presbytery. Existing members and anyone interested in joining is more than welcome.

The next Production of St Joseph's Players is CHESHIRE CATS a comedy by Gail Young, Directed by Pauline Nevell, Tuesday 13th to Saturday 17th September. Curtain up 7.30pm Tickets adults £8 16 and under £4

Heartfelt thanks on behalf of the Afghan Mum & Baby for your most generous clothing & food gifts. May God bless you.

PARISH FEAST DAY MASS

Please try your very best to come along to the annual Feast Day Mass, to celebrate the lives of Saint Edmund Arrowsmith and Saint Margaret Clitherow. This year the Mass will take place in Holy Family church, Boothstown, on

Wednesday, September 7th at 7.00pm

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

It is now safe to use the parish email again. Thank you.

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

12A = Twelve Apostles, StJ = Saint Joseph, SH = Sacred Heart, OL = Our Lady of the Rosary, StR = St Richard

Sat 20 August

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Mary Langan & members of Langan family

Sun 21 August TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

StJ 8.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area
SH 9.30am MASS Anne Mateer R.I.P.
StJ 10.30am MASS Mary Ellen Winstanley (anniv.)
OL 11.00am MASS Joe Moore (birthday mem.) & Rita Vint (anniv.)

StR SUMMER SCHEDULE **NO** Sunday evening Mass.

Mon 22 August Memorial of the Queenship of Mary

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.00am MASS Shelagh Jenkinson

Tue 23 August Weekday in Ordinary Time (Y II, W 21)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
SH 12.00noon MASS Francis Tesmer (anniv.)

Wed 24 August FEAST OF SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL NO MASS
SH 11.00am FUNERAL SERVICE Eunice Gray
StJ 7.00pm MASS Joseph Smith (Anni)

Thu 25 August Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
StJ 9.00am MASS Julie Booth
SH 12.00noon MASS James Clegg LD

Fri 26 August Memorial of Blessed Dominic Barberi of the Mother of God

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer
OL 10.00am MASS Maureen Henrys
StJ 12.00noon MASS Tommy Parkes
SH 12.30pm Wedding service Katie Marsh & Jody Holt

Sat 27 August Memorial of Saint Monica

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
12A 12.00noon MASS Vinny Johnson LD
12A 5.30pm 1st MASS OF SUNDAY John Thompson LD

Sun 28 August TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

StJ 8.30am MASS Jacob Shepherd (4 years old sick)
SH 9.30am MASS deceased members O'Sullivan family
StJ 10.30am MASS Julie Gallagher (100th Birthday)
OL 11.00am MASS Paddy O'Brien LD
StR SUMMER SCHEDULE **NO** Sunday evening Mass.

Our Lady's 500 Club £10 No. 453 M Moore, £5 No. 313 B Ellis, £3 No. 253 N Flynn, £2 No. 275 D Quinn
Bonus Ball No. 38 C Ackers

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £ 1,734.35

The SVP will be holding its quarterly collection at all Masses this weekend, 20th/21st August. Please be as generous as you can afford. God bless.

SICK

Eileen Boardman, Carolyn Burke, Thomas Raffry

RECENTLY DECEASED

Eunice Gray