

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) 15 January 2017



Responsorial Psalm

Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia!

REFLECTION

The Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, which we listen to in today's Gospel, was a moment when the world was changed forever. Jesus was revealed as the second person of the Holy Trinity – the Son of God – as the Spirit descended upon him and the voice of God called from the heavens. At the same time, Jesus was revealed as the suffering servant of Isaiah, whom we heard about in the First Reading – God's instrument for establishing a new world of justice and peace. In other parts of the Gospel story John the Baptist didn't think it was necessary, or even appropriate, for him to baptize Jesus, perhaps because he saw Jesus as being much more powerful than himself. John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. It required the forgiveness of sins and Jesus was without sin. Yet Jesus insisted. Jesus was baptized in solidarity with the people around him, taking on the life of the people for the purpose of redemption. John tells us that the Spirit not only descended on Jesus but rested with him. For John the Baptist, this was the sign that Jesus was "the Chosen One of God". Jesus was the beloved Son of God and he would be faithful to his Father, no matter what, for the rest of his life. We too have his lasting presence through the Holy Spirit. God, our Creator, continues creating through us and with us to bring about the fulfilment of God's Kingdom.

As followers of Jesus today, we share in the Baptism of Christ, the ministry of Christ, the death of Christ and the resurrection of Christ. This means that, just as God said to Jesus, "You are my Beloved," God says to each one of us too, "You are my beloved." God loves and affirms us through Jesus. God has chosen each one of us too. So what does this mean for the world? It means that God loves each one of us personally, individually and globally with an unconditional love. So if each one of us is a beloved daughter or son of God, like Jesus, that means each one of us is the beloved sister and brother of all God's children. This means that every human being on the planet are our sisters and brothers – whether it be a child playing with friends in China, or a woman making breakfast in Brazil, or a goat herder in the Sudan, or a family in the Philippines, or children playing in Iraq.

Everyone is our sister and brother so, not only should we never hurt anyone, we should do our best to help them in whatever way we can because they are our brothers and sisters. Our calling as baptized followers of Jesus is to leave to one side the violence of the world, and love everyone the way God loves us. We are God's beloved so, like Jesus, we are called to treat one another as God's beloved. Life is good and precious and wonderful, so why waste it on being negative, resentful and hateful towards others? Instead, let us live out our baptismal promises and share God's peace and love with everyone wherever we can and in whatever way we can. We may not be able to make a difference to the world in which we live today, but we can make the world a better place for those around us.

**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

Margaret Brown (Nee Davies), Alf Case, Louisa Farrington, Jessie Flanagan, Arthur Hilton, Julie Locke.

RED MISSION BOXES

Will collectors please empty the Red Mission Boxes and bring the contents to the Presbytery on Monday 23rd January. Thank you.

LITTLE CHURCH PENNY COLLECTION

The Little Church Penny Collection during Advent, raised a fantastic £95. The money will be sent to CAFOD for the Emergency Yemen Appeal. Thank you to all who contributed.

COFFEE MORNING

This week Coffee Morning will be held in the Side Hall as usual.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

BONUS BALL

There are numbers on our Bonus Ball. If anyone would like to join, please see Margaret at the back of Our Lady's church.

SACRED HEART

REPOSITORY

Our "little shop" is open all year round, not just for Christmas. Please come and look, and be surprised at all we have!

FROM REFORMATION TO REVOLUTION

Steve Atherton (archdiocesan Justice & Peace fieldworker) recommends the Annual Memorial Lecture **today**. "I met Raj Patta in the summer and was struck by his intelligence, his holiness and his presence. He is not the famous name that many of our speakers have been but I am certain that his perspective will be a gift to us in this 500th anniversary of the Reformation as we seek to heal the divisions that separate us from our Christian brethren." Transport to LACE is available for three people, leaving at 12.30pm, back before 5pm. Ring 01942 676962.

CHRISTMAS CARDS TO THE HOLY LAND

Thanks to each one of you who signed a card. If the card in last week's newsletter was too small for you to read, it was an unexpected reply from Father Ibrahim A. Nino, priests and sister of Church of the Visitation, Zababdeh.



FATIMA 19th - 23rd JUNE 2017

We have a good sized group travelling but still have places available on this Pilgrimage. The price is £377.00 PLUS the airfare (approx £100). If you want to book please contact Des or Cath during the week on 01942 888844 or complete a booking form (at the back of church) and send it with your deposit to the address shown on the booking form.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Jan 12 - Young migrants, especially when unaccompanied, are especially defenceless. Let everyone offer them a helping hand.

Jan 11 - Everyone can help bring about a culture of mercy, in which no one looks at another with indifference.

Jan 10 - My hope is that our countries and their peoples may find increased opportunities to work together in building true peace.

Jan 9 - There can be no true peace if everyone claims always and exclusively his or her own rights, without caring for the good of others.

Jan 8 - Let us ask the Virgin Mary to help us follow Christ on the way of faith and charity, the path set out by our Baptism.

Jan 7 - Let us remember our Christian brothers and sisters of the East, Catholics and Orthodox, who are celebrating Christmas today.

Jan 6 - Like the Magi, may we also journey and be attentive, untiring and courageous on the path to find the invisible God who was born among us.

ORDER OF DEACONS WHY WE NEED MORE DEACONS

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will host an evening for men who may be wondering if they are called to serve as deacons and what the formation involves. Wives and priests are also welcome.

7.30-9.00pm Tuesday 2nd February 2017 (Refreshments available from 7.00pm), Holy Name Parish Meeting Room, Moss Pits Lane, Fazakerley, L10 9LG

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD "YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"

Jo Boyce, from CJM Music, will be leading an afternoon for Children's Liturgy Leaders preparing for Lent, **2.00pm - 5.00pm on Sunday 5th February at LACE Conference Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA.**

For further information contact Maureen Knight 0151 522 1046 or m.knight@rcaol.co.uk or the Parish Office.



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL

£2, 187.80

The retiring collection today is in aid of *Pax Christi*

SICK

Eileen Boardman, Carolyn Burke, Sr. Teresa Frost,
Joan Ganley, Arthur Lowe, Mary Sutton



RECENTLY DECEASED

Trevor Brett, Jessie Flanagan, Margaret Marczak, Monica Pugh, Tom Slater, Mabel Nee.
Eternal rest grant unto them ...



BAPTISMS

We welcome into our parish, through baptism, to :-
Leanne Katj Suhova-Lelkesova, Lyla Rose Smith and Darren (Junior) Hexstall Smith.



PAX CHRISTI

The origins of Pax Christi in 1945 lie in an initiative of Marthe Dortel-Claudot, a teacher in the south of France, who began a campaign of prayer for Franco-German reconciliation. Bishop Pierre Marie Théas of Montauban, who had been imprisoned for protesting about persecution of the Jews, and who had prayed for the German people and urged others to do so, became the first President. The original objective was enlarged and Pax Christi became a "crusade of prayer for the nations". This spiritual basis underpinned the work of the movement which, as it developed, called for socio-political action in public life as a means of bringing about the Peace of Christ.

PAX CHRISTI UK

In 1958 a small group started meeting in London to discuss Church teaching on peace and to promote the international routes, which are marches/pilgrimages across Europe, for peace. The objective was to further peace by fostering international friendship. New papal teaching on peace contained in the encyclical *Pacem in Terris* (1963) and in documents emerging from the Second Vatican Council (1962-65) gave encouragement to Pax Christi's mission. Issues of contemporary concern which the British group took up included the lack of rights for conscientious objectors in Catholic countries such as Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, and British arms sales to Nigeria, Biafra, and South Africa.

The work of Pax Christi – the Peace of Christ – is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in any form. Pax Christi is rooted in Catholic Christianity but is open to all who share its values and work.

Pax Christi works for :-

Peace – based on justice. A world where human rights are respected, basic needs are met and people feel safe and valued in their communities.

Reconciliation – a process which begins when people try to mend relationships – between individuals or whole countries after times of violence or dispute.

Nonviolence – a way of living and making choices that respects others, challenges what is not fair or just, and offers alternatives to violence and war.

Pax Christi works to :-

Support teachers, chaplains and youth workers in promoting a culture of peace in schools and amongst young people. We are happy to work in schools and colleges and explore how young people can be encouraged to make choices based on Christian values.

Develop solidarity between people who are working nonviolently for justice and peace. We do this through joint actions for peace in Israel-Palestine, through events to encourage international efforts to abolish nuclear weapons and by celebrating the life and witness of peacemakers.

Promote an understanding of sustainable security where human needs are met and the environment is protected, rather than seeking security through weapons and warfare. Pax Christi campaigns against military spending, the arms trade and nuclear weapons.

Who we are :-

Pax Christi is a membership organisation of individuals, families, communities and parishes from around the country.

Our members are our greatest asset. We have an office team of three full-time staff and one part-time staff, an editor and a team of volunteers. Pax Christi has an Executive Committee, elected from within the membership, who help to guide the work of the movement. Our National President is Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, of Liverpool Archdiocese. There will be a special collection for the work of Pax Christi in all our churches on 15th/16th January

Blessed Are You Peacemakers

When you speak out against violence.
When you stand by those who are hurt or ridiculed.
When you listen to those you disagree with.
When you give your time and energy to help others.
When you try to forgive those who hurt you.
When you love and open yourself to others.

Adapted, Pax Christi, Blessed are the peacemakers



HELP NEEDED

St Joseph's Pantomime starts on Wednesday 18th January and the Players are in urgent need of people to help with refreshments at the interval. If you feel you can help, please contact the Parish Office 673517. Thank you.

St Joseph's Players
ROBINSON CRUSOE
18th January to 28th January

Evenings Comm. at 7-15pm Matinees 21st 22nd & 27 January Comm. 2pm
SPECIAL OFFER 18th & 19th ALL TICKETS £4
Tickets available from our **BOX OFFICE Stones Carpets**
Chapel St. Leigh (Opposite Church)

Opening Times: **MONDAY to SATURDAY 9am to 5pm.**
and SUNDAYS 11am to 4pm

BOX OFFICE CLOSED FROM 22nd DEC TO 2nd JAN

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

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

Sat 14 January

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Edward Whelan L.D.

Sun 15 January

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

StJ 8.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area

SH 9.30am MASS Philomena Gaughan

StJ 10.30am MASS Carolyn Burke Birthday

OLR 11.00am MASS Maureen Sweeney L.D.

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Mon 16 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 2)

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am MASS Ellenor Heaton RIP

Tue 17 January

Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbott

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Monica Pugh

Wed 18 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

12A 12.00noon FUNERAL MASS Margaret Marczak

StJ 12.00noon MASS Vernon Byrne Birthday Memorial

Thu 19 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am MASS Christine Hession RIP

SH 12.00noon MASS Thanksgiving to God for all breakthroughs and liberation (U.F.)

StJ 2.15pm FUNERAL SERVICE Jessie Flanagan

Fri 20 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am Morning Prayer

SH NO MASS

StJ 12.00noon MASS Reginald Squires Birthday memorial

StJ 2.00pm FUNERAL SERVICE Trevor Brett

Sat 21 January

Memorial of Saint Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

12A 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

12A 12.00noon MASS Marie Sherriff L.D.

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Honora Pemberton L.D.

Sun 22 January

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

StJ 8.30am MASS The Gainer Family

SH 9.30am MASS B&S Fletcher S.I.

StJ 10.30am MASS Robert Farrimond Anni

OLR 11.00am MASS Anne Devlin

StR 6.30pm SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Sacred Heart Lottery The jackpot was estimated at £350. The most recent results (for the first draw of 2017 on 13th January) are expected to be on the notice board from Friday afternoon and will be here in next week's newsletter.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10, 154, B Welding: £5, 301, K Jones, £3, 235; A Simpson, £2, 299, A Unsworth

Bonus Ball 38, C Ackers

We have spare Numbers on our Lotto Bonus Ball. Anyone wishing to take one up please see Margaret at the back of Our Lady of the Rosary church. Thank you.

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

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Deacons: Revv. Tony Arrowsmith, Robert Hewertson, Dennis Vint

Priest Fr. Colin Fealey

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