

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) 29 January 2017



Responsorial Psalm

How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.
Alleluia!

REFLECTION

Throughout Matthew's Gospel there is much mention of the Good News. Jesus proclaims that the Kingdom of God is at hand, and that people should repent and believe the Good News, but, at this stage, we are not really told what this Good News actually is. Jesus next challenges Simon and Andrew, James and John, to stop what they are doing and follow him. They are not told where they are going. So far there is a building sense of excitement, but no detail about the Good News. The Gospel then gives a summary of Jesus' activity. He preaches in synagogues, he heals sick people, he even raises the dead. This does begin to sound like Good News for those involved but there is still a sense that there is much more to come. This is the point we reach in today's Gospel. Now we begin to understand the scope of the Good News. It is outlined in full on the Sermon on the Mount – this is the first of five public sermons spread throughout Matthew's Gospel. Today's Gospel includes the famous Beatitudes. They are one of the most familiar Gospel passages. It is used in the Liturgy of the Church perhaps more than any other Gospel text. It is the first passage in the Gospel of Matthew to give a clear indication of what Jesus means by the Good News.

The scene is set in a very formal way. The one who proclaims the Good News is accepted by the crowds as preaching with authority. In New Testament times, teachers simply sat down in an open space and began to teach. Their ability as teachers was reflected in the size of their audience listening to them. Matthew says that Jesus saw a large crowd, who were presumably waiting for him, and he sat down and taught them at length. In the Beatitudes he makes it clear what the Good News consists of – it is a sharing in the Kingdom of Heaven. This is stressed, by Jesus, at both the beginning and the end of the list of Beatitudes, especially when Jesus focuses on those who are poor in spirit and those who are persecuted in the cause of right.

Jesus may well have been the first person to declare clearly to whom the Kingdom of God belongs. He is certainly the first person who spelled out the qualifications for membership. Not only does the Kingdom belong to those who are poor in spirit and those who are persecuted for standing up for what is right, it is found among those who mourn, those who hunger and thirst for what is right, those who are merciful, pure in heart, and so on. The Good News is that the Kingdom of God is at hand. Jesus turned words into action when he cured the sick, cleansed lepers, forgave sinners, that is when he made the words of the Beatitudes a concrete reality for those whose lives were broken. It is Good News that the values of God are here for everyone to share. In Jesus' final sermon in Matthew's Gospel, in the Last Judgement parable, he tells his followers that however they behave towards the least of his brothers and sisters is the way they treat Christ Jesus himself. We may well listen to the Good News each day, but how well do we live it out and share this great message with others? This will be the true sign of the quality of our discipleship.

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

Philip John Aldred, Geoff Armstrong, Eveline Donohue, Jessie Flanagan, Christine Hession, Joseph & Ellen Joyce, Bernadette Kelley, Eileen Kelley, Rev. J Leech, Thomas McGulloch, William & Hannah O'Hora, Eileen Pilling, Kevin Quinn, Vincent Raines, Mary Tyrer, Sylvia Withington, Christine Yates.

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.

COFFEE MORNING

Tea & Coffee will be served after Mass next Sunday, February 5th.

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!



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.

RCIA CLASSES

For those wanting to be received into the Catholic Church at Easter, or for anyone wanting to know more about the Catholic Faith, classes will start today, Sunday 29th January, after 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's. The classes will continue through the season of Lent, after which we will welcome our new members at the celebration of the Easter Vigil. Please keep our catechumens in your prayers.



LOST & FOUND

A Divine Mercy Rosary has been handed in to Westleigh Lodge Nursing Home, Nel Pan Lane. If you have visited there and lost your Rosary, please give them a ring - 01942 262521.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Jan 26 - Hope lets new life blossom, like a plant that grows from the seed fallen on the earth.

Jan 25 - I love to repeat that Christian unity is achieved by walking together, by encounter, prayer and preaching the Gospel.

Jan 24 - Let us offer the men and women of our time stories marked by the logic of the "good news".

Jan 23 - "Be not afraid, for I am with you". Let us communicate hope and trust in our time!

Jan 22 - The unity of love is realised when we announce together the wonders God has done for us.

Jan 21 - With St Dominic "we go forward with joy, thinking of our Saviour".

Jan 20 - Christian unity is not the fruit of our human efforts but a gift that comes from above.

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.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE The gift of the Philippines

St Paul's church, Westleigh Lane, Leigh, WN7 5NW. will host this service for all our Leigh area on Friday 3rd March at 7.30pm. All most welcome. All persons of any age who enjoy singing are invited to the singers' practices on Mondays 20th and 27th February, 7.30 to 8.30pm in St Paul's church. If items from the Philippines could be loaned for a display in the church, they would be cared for and returned to you promptly after the service. A Scales of Justice, wood/brass, is required. Please ask your friends. Please ring 01942 676962.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,753.44
Nugent Care (Crib Offering) £ 171.45

Thank you for your generosity.

SICK

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Joseph Eric Gibbons, Margaret Mary Waterworth, Brenda Dowd, Peter Gannon, Angela McMullen, Kevin Sutton.
Eternal rest grant unto them ...



BAPTISMS

We welcome into our parish, through baptism, to :-
Isabella Jean Lewis, Jonah Michael Lewis

RECOVERING AND MOVING ON AFTER DIVORCE

A series of meetings to support divorced and separated Catholics will start mid February 2017 for Catholics and other Christians who are divorced or separated (recently or in the past) or who are experiencing the breakdown of a marriage or a long term relationship.

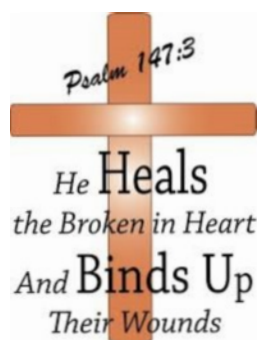
Small confidential groups. No charge, but booking is essential
Meetings include:-

- A chance to meet and talk together
- Information about practical matters, sources of help, the positions of divorced Catholics in the Church, annulment
- Reflection, discussion, prayer

A one day meeting is held for people who find evening meetings inconvenient.

Individual support is available for those who do not wish to join a group

or further information or to make a booking please contact Frances Trotman 0151 727 2195



RESPONDING TO THE CALL VOCATION DISCERNMENT GROUP

To support those exploring Vocations to the Priesthood in our diocese, a monthly day of recollection has been organised for the first Saturday of each month. These days will help men who feel called to ordained ministry to discover more about diocesan priesthood and meet others discerning a call to priesthood. There will be an opportunity to talk with and hear from priests who minister in the diocese, and also a time for prayer and discussion. The next day of recollection will take place on Saturday 4th February at St. Charles' Presbytery, 224 Aigburth Road, Liverpool.

For further information, please contact Fr James Preston, Vocations Director for the Archdiocese of Liverpool, at

frjamespreston@gmail.com or telephone: 0151 727 2493.
Regular updates will be posted on our Facebook page: Archdiocese of Liverpool Vocations.

ORDINARY TIME WINTER

During Ordinary Time (Winter), i.e. up to Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions:

Peace on Earth; Christian Unity; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; The Unemployed.

Racial Justice Day	Sunday 12 th Feb
Day for Victims of Trafficking	Wednesday 8 th Feb
World Day for the Sick	Saturday 11 th Feb
Day of the Unemployed	Sunday 26 th Feb

Ash Wednesday will be on 1st March this year and the First Sunday of Lent will be on 5th March.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon invites you to join him in celebrating the Annual Marriage and Family Life Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Sunday 12th February 2017 at 11.00am. All are welcome to attend, refreshments will be served in the Gibberd Room.

MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES 12 noon Saturday 11th February 2017

Main Celebrant Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP, Christ the King church, Queens Drive, Wavertree, L15 6YQ. All welcome.



ST PATRICK'S NIGHT AT SACRED HEART CLUB, HINDSFORD

There will be an evening of Irish and Country songs at Sacred Heart Club, Hindsford to help the Parish celebrate St Patrick's Day on **Friday 17th March**, from 8.00pm till closing time. Live music from *The Cambridge Crew* plus guest singers/guitarists from the local *Streetlifers* group. Admission free.

GEORGE GALWAY AND FRIENDS

George Galway is the brother of the world-famous James Galway. George plays the most sensitive melodies you will ever hear on saxophone, clarinet and flute. He is accompanied by Bryan Pendleton on piano, Ken Marley on brass and Nigel Cretney on drums.

Also appearing are Swedish singer-songwriter Anna Pauline Andersson accompanied by her father Jack on trumpet.

The programme will include well known songs - e.g. La Vie en Rose, Autumn Leaves, A Foggy Day in London Town, Mack the Knife, Lady be good, Pennies from Heaven, All of me and many more.

The show is to be held in St Stephen's church, Manchester Road, Astley from 7.30pm on Saturday 4th February. Entry fee is £10 for adults. FREE for children. Price includes refreshments. Pay on the door.

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 28 January

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Patrick & Deidre Costello

Sun 29 January

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

StJ 8.30am

MASS Marie Fitzsimons RIP

SH 9.30am

MASS Bernard Timperley L.D.

StJ 10.30am

MASS James Clegg RIP

OLR 11.00am

MASS People of the Pastoral Area

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Mon 30 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 4)

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am

MASS Deceased Members of Phillips & Mannion Families

SH 12.00noon

MASS John Murphy R.I.P.

Tue 31 January

Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest & Doctor

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

SH 12.00noon

MASS Special Intention

Wed 1 February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

12A

NO MASS

StJ 12.00noon

FUNERAL MASS Joseph Eric Gibbons

SH 1.00pm

FUNERAL SERVICE Margaret Mary Waterworth

Thu 2 February

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

StJ 9.00am

MASS Thanksgiving successful operation

SH

NO MASS

Fri 3 February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 8.30am

Morning Prayer

SH

NO MASS

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Eveline Donohue Anni

Sat 4 February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

SH 11.00am

Exposition & Reconciliation

SH 12.00noon

MASS Julia Gallagher L.D.

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY Julie Costello, family & John McAnn

Sun 5 February

FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

StJ 8.30am

MASS Florence & Ronald Pierce RIP

SH 9.30am

MASS Kathleen Ruane (special intention)

StJ 10.30am

MASS Ernest Clarke Birthday Memorial

OLR 11.00am

MASS People of the Pastoral Area

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Sacred Heart Lottery The numbers drawn on 20th January were 1, 17, 19. There was no winner of £371. Last week's jackpot was estimated at £411.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 240 B Ryan, £5 No. 136 2 Bett's, £3 No. 247 D Quinn, £2 No. 210 M Roach

Bonus Ball No. 51 K Johnson

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
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

