

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A) 30 July 2017



Responsorial Psalm

Lord how I love your law!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

REFLECTION

Most people in life go through some kind of pain or anxiety at some stage. Some of these things can be brought on by ourselves, other times they are brought on at the hands of others, and many other times they happen through no one's fault in particular. Wherever these things come from, they may make us think that there is no redemption. Life can sometimes overwhelm us and it can be difficult to see the way ahead. As a result of this we could easily have feelings of hopelessness and self-pity. We begin to doubt ourselves, to doubt life, and even, or perhaps especially, to doubt God. For anyone who has ever felt like this, Saint Paul has a message. He tells us in today's Second Reading that God has a saving plan, a purpose, which everything serves. He can turn everything to the benefit of those who trust in him. He can bring good out of our pain, even out of our sins. This is not to say that God wants bad things to happen to us. No, but when bad things do happen to us, God is there for us, IF we turn to him, and he helps us, not only to pick up the pieces, but to reap a harvest from the wreckage.

There is a story about a king who owned a very valuable diamond. One day an accident happened and the diamond was deeply scratched. The king consulted experts to see if anything could be done to save the diamond. But they told him that even if they were to polish it, they would never be able to repair the wound it had suffered. So the king locked the diamond in his vault where it lay hidden and useless for years. Then one day a very famous diamond cutter arrived in the capital. At the king's invitation he undertook to examine the diamond to see if anything could be done with it. After examining it carefully he said, "Your Majesty, I will make the diamond look even more beautiful than it was before the accident." On hearing this, the other jewellers laughed. But the king was delighted, and gave him permission to work on the diamond. Bringing all his artistry to bear on it, he proceeded to engrave a beautiful rose on the diamond, using the deep scratch as the stem of the rose. When the king and the other jewellers saw what he had done they were filled with admiration. It wasn't just a clever cover-up. He took the diamond's fault and transformed it into something beautiful.

In the same way, God can help us to transform our worst faults into virtues, our worst misfortune into the greatest blessing. Sometimes our sufferings can bring us closer to God and to each other. They can also remind us of the most important things in life, life itself and the love of those around us. Sometimes if we are not careful we can dismiss the moments that can actually bring us closer to God and help us grow as his followers. From painful experiences and difficult times we can learn that God is faithful to us and can bring good out of anything. If we trust him, and have patience, we will see with our own eyes the truth of Scripture: "God makes all things work together for the good of those who love him." God sees us more clearly and knows us better than anyone else. He sees our wounds and our sorrows, the scars we carry in our hearts. He will be good to us in the end, both in this world and in the next. Life is unintelligible and unbearable without God. A close relationship with God is a real treasure: it gives us a sense of who we are and where we are going. Only God can give us what we are looking for. So, if we find God we have everything.

**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

lives simply

MASSES

Phylis Bailey, Carolyn Andrea Burke, Gavin, Joe Hennessey, Vinny Murphy, Pauline & Kathleen Reynolds, Fr Paul Sedon, St Jude, Successful operation, Thanks giving.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

Mothers' Prayers will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 1st August at St Joseph's church.
All mothers and grandmothers welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

If you have a child who will be in Year 4 next term and you would like them to make their First Communion next year and they do not go to a Catholic school, please call into the presbytery any weekday between 9.00am and 4.00pm or after Mass on Sunday to complete an application form.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

GARDENING DAY

Many thanks to the few who have helped with the gardening. If you wish to help, please come along, even if you can only spare an hour: we need more helpers, on Tuesday 10.00am, weather permitting.

COFFEE MORNING

Tea & Coffee will be Served after Mass, next week, 6th August. Everyone welcome, come and join us.

TWELVE APOSTLES

TWELVE APOSTLES SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

Twelve Apostles RCPS are looking for a Foundation Governor to start in September. This is a voluntary role and you don't need any qualifications or expertise just a commitment to making a difference to our young children's future. If anyone is interested or would like to find out more about the role please contact Father Kieran or Mrs Newton the Headteacher on 01942 674312 for an informal chat.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Jul 26 - How important grandparents are for family life, for passing on the human and religious heritage so essential for each and every society!

Jul 23 - When we need help, let us turn to the Father who always looks on us with love and never abandons us.

SUMMER SUNDAY MASSES

Mass times remain the same as usual in St Edmund Arrowsmith parish. Parishioners who may occasionally attend Mass in St Margaret Clitherow parish should note that they will have a trial run, during the month of August, of the following times for Sunday morning Mass:-

Holy Family church @ 8.45am.

St Richard's church @ 10.00am.

St Ambrose Barlow church @ 11.15am.

Reflect:

In today's parables we are reminded that the kingdom of God is something more precious than anything else. Do we spend our lives waiting for the kingdom of God to appear or can we find the kingdom in that sacred space within us? 'The Kingdom of God here on earth is human life, high quality human life, filled with His glory' (Fr Charles Irvin). To what extent do we reveal this kingdom in our daily lives?

Pray:

Lord help us to live the kingdom of God, making it a reality in the lives of those we meet.

May we be abundantly generous with our time and resources rather than limiting ourselves to a bare minimum.

May we give joy instead of taking the joy of living away from them

May we be life-giving rather than a drain on the lives of others
We ask this through your son, Jesus, Our Lord.

Amen

Act:

Make an effort this week to improve the quality of life for others. Find ways to affirm their lives by acknowledging their existence, their importance in the overall scheme of things. By not ignoring the call of the homeless, the poor, the needy, the unloved or unwanted.

Challenge:

This week can you sacrifice your own personal comfort and convenience for the well being of those around you? Can you make choices and decisions which will contribute to the well being of others and of our world?

MEETINGS FOR DIVORCED AND SEPARATED CATHOLICS

The Autumn 2017 series starts on 20th September. The series of six meetings runs weekly on Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.00 pm. Discussions include practical and emotional issues with information and advice on sources of help, rebuilding lives, the impact on children, legal issues, annulment and reassurance about the position of divorced Catholics in the Church.

Groups are small, informative, affirming and confidential. They are run by people who have experienced family breakdown. There is no charge but booking is essential.

There is a one day meeting on Sunday 16th September for those who would find that more convenient. Individual support is also available.

For further information or to make a booking, please contact Frances Trotman on 0151 727 2195.

RETREAT Nov 30th - Dec 4th 2017

On the Island of Krk, Croatia

You are welcome to join Fr Sudac on retreat, Fr Sudac was born on Krk Island and ordained a priest in 1998, in May 1999 he received the first sign of the stigmata, in the form of a cross on his forehead. On 4th October 2000, he received the other five signs of the stigmata. Fr Sudac ministers to multitudes on Krk Island and is passionate about leading people to a deeper and more intimate encounter with the Lord Jesus.

If you are interested in the retreat, please contact Agnes on 07881 293879.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,857.86
Missions appeal £ details not yet received

SICK

Colette Allerston, Eileen Boardman, Gwenda Byers, Sr. Teresa Frost, Sr. Megan Haisley, Mary Heneghan, Alan & Doreen Lowe, Arthur Lowe, Josie Newill, Stephen Peak.

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to:-
Thomas James Stephen Watts, Sophie Megan Dennett, Lucy Grace Dennett and Isaac Brandreth.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Wayne Gary Rigby & Nicola Jane Barton who were married at St Joseph's church on Saturday 22nd July.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Ian Scholes, Geoffrey John Lever
Eternal rest grant unto them ...



FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

Our next day in Fatima was very full and very hot! Many of us prayed the Stations of the Cross in the morning, which was a wonderful experience. It took us quite a while and we met many other pilgrims on route, but it was very prayerful and a wonderful experience. We then went to visit the childhood homes of Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco. The homes were almost unchanged from the days they lived there, over 100 years ago. The rest of the day was spent touring Fatima – some went on the mini-train (not Fr. Paul – he was too big!) and certain others discovered a wonderful new delicacy called Pink Gin!! After tea many of us attended the nightly Rosary Procession. Again another wonderful day with Our Lady and our fellow pilgrims.

There is a page on our deanery website with some photos taken on our recent pilgrimage. It isn't complete yet so please get in touch if you have photos or narrative to be added.
<http://www.leighdeanery.co.uk/15-events/99-pilgrimage-to-fatima>

NORTHERN SAINTS PILGRIMAGE

Visiting Lindisfarne, Seahouses and Durham, Monday 18th to Thursday 21st September 2017, led by Fr Ron Johnson. £295 per person. Please call 0151 733 5492 for further information.

ARC Renewal Conference/Gathering

5th – 12th August 2017

Bewerley Park, North Yorkshire HG3 5JB

"I realise now how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right"

Acts 10:34-35

A relaxed conference catering for all

Established for 34 years, we offer; daily talks, children's groups, Youth groups, Mass, worship and many opportunities to share in community life.

Excellent facilities on site - low cost camping and residential (some en suite) disabled (en suite) places available.

Contact Caroline Shevelan or Chris Rolfe-Moore
07769 680259 crolfemoore@hotmail.com

The Bridge at Leigh Community Cafe

Old Methodist School King St Leigh

Schools-Out

Holiday Breakfast Cafe

Bring your children to our
holiday breakfast cafe,
For a free breakfast

24th July - 1st August

Monday to Friday 10am - 11.30am

Cereal, toast, fruit, juice, beans on toast
Children must be with an adult

The Bridge at Leigh Community Cafe, Food Market, Charity Boutique & Furniture

Volunteers needed, can you help?

If you can spare a few hours please call into the Bridge, more details on the poster at the back of church

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 5th August 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.

MASS AND SERVICE TIMES THIS WEEK

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

Sat 29 July

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY John Fisher

Sun 30 July

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

StJ 8.30am MASS People of the Pastoral Area

SH 9.30am MASS Richard Hilton R.I.P.

StJ 10.30am MASS Frances & James Clarke (anniv.)

OLR 11.00am MASS Edmund Martin L.D.

There will be no Sunday evening Mass in the pastoral area until September 3rd.

Mon 31 July

Memorial of Saint Ignatius Loyola, Priest

StJ 9.00am MASS John Topping (anniv.)

Tue 1 August

Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Ligouri, Bishop & Doctor

SH 12.00noon MASS Teresa Donlan R.I.P.

Wed 2 August

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 17)

12A 10.00am MASS Winifred Robinson (anniv.)

StJ 12.00noon MASS Ted Connor (birthday)

Thu 3 August

Weekday in Ordinary Time

StJ 9.00am MASS Tony Brandwood Jnr. R.I.P.

SH 12.00noon MASS Marie Fitzsimmons R.I.P.

OLR 2.00pm FUNERAL SERVICE Ian Scholes

Fri 4 August

Memorial of Saint John Vianney, Priest

(OLR) 10.00am MASS at Moss Bank Court John Flynn (anniv.)

StJ 12.00noon MASS Tony Shovelton R.I.P.

Sat 5 August

Weekday in Ordinary Time

SH 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation

SH 12.00noon MASS Marie Daven R.I.P.

12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY Karol and Mary Gredecki

Sun 6 August

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

StJ 8.30am MASS Anne Barnes (anniv.)

SH 9.30am MASS Francis Tesmer (anniv.)

StJ 10.30am MASS Teresa Cooney (anniv.)

OLR 11.00am MASS Agnes Wilkinson L.D.

There will be no Sunday evening Mass in the pastoral area until September 3rd.

Sacred Heart Lottery The numbers drawn on 21st July were 6, 15, 20. There was no winner of £150. 21st July was the last day of school term and the last lottery draw day until 8th September.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 456 Josh, £5 No. 386 J Waterfield, £3 No. 165 A Sharkie, £2 No. 358 M Moore

Bonus Ball No. 23 R Ellis



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