

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD (Year A) 6 August 2017



Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is my Son, the Beloved,
he enjoys my favour;
listen to him.

Alleluia!

REFLECTION

This weekend we celebrate the wonderful feast of the Transfiguration. For the first time Jesus revealed his divine self to the disciples who followed him up Mount Tabor. It is difficult for us to imagine what really went on and how Jesus looked, but the Gospel today tells us what happened and the effect it had upon Jesus' followers. When Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain, he had reached a moment of crisis. Official opposition to Jesus was growing. When he asked, "Who do you say I am?" Simon had answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." This profession of faith earned him a new name, Peter, the "Rock", and, as Jesus later said, "on this rock I will build my Church." However, within a very short time, when faced with the prospect of Jesus' betrayal, arrest and crucifixion, Peter was quick to dissuade Jesus from going to Jerusalem – "Lord, this must not happen to you". Jesus' response was, "Get behind me Satan, the way you think is not God's way but man's."

So now, six days later, Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain where he was transfigured in their sight. He was teaching them to think in God's way. They saw Jesus with Moses and Elijah, representing the teaching of the Law and the prophets. They heard the voice of the Father, "This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him." It was such an overwhelming experience that they wanted it to last forever. They wanted to stay there. Their minds had been opened to the reality of what it means to say, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." But very quickly the vision was over and they were left alone with Jesus and they had to go back down the mountain and continue on their way to Jerusalem and, for Jesus, the journey to Calvary.

For the disciples, the wonder of the transfiguration soon wore off. When the crisis of Jesus' passion and death came, they were overcome with fear. They ran away and hid in the Upper Room. And this, sometimes, is the reaction of many of us after an experience of faith. We want to stay on the mountain top, like the disciples. But sometimes God calls us to places we would rather not go, to meet people we would rather not see, to do his will when we would find it hard. We all need Tabor experiences in our lives at some time. It is these experiences that keep us going, that enthuse us and excite and inspire us. Yet, like Jesus himself on Mount Tabor, he knew he would have to come down from the mountain to encounter the religious authorities in Jerusalem. May our Mount Tabor experiences – the feeling that God is close to us – be many, and may these moments spur us on to do God's will so that we too, like the disciples, may hear the voice of the Father call us to listen to his Son and do his holy will every day of our lives.

**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 Featherstone, Jean Geregthy, Pat Leyland, Christine & Tony Howard, Alice Wilcock, Julie Wilkinson.

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 today, 6th August. Everyone welcome, come and join us.

RAFFLE

We are hosting a raffle: tickets will be on sale at 50p per strip.

SACRED HEART

COFFEE MORNING

The second Sunday of the month is our regular time for tea and coffee after Mass. Please stay next week and greet friends old and new.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Aug 2 - The Gospel is Good News filled with contagious joy, for it contains and offers new life.

Aug 1 - We effectively do good when we do it without seeking reward and in the concrete situations of everyday life.

Jul 31 - Like Saint Ignatius of Loyola, let us be won over by the Lord Jesus and, led by Him, place ourselves at the service of others.

Jul 30 - We call on all people of faith and good will to take action and oppose modern slavery in all its forms.

Jul 28 - I entrust little Charlie to the Father and pray for his parents and all those who loved him.

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

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 are having 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.

DIRECTORIES

We will be ordering directories for next year in a few weeks so, if you would like a directory, can you please let the parish office know by 31st August, then we can order the correct amount and not have a lot of directories left. The price is £3.50

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 9.00pm. 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.



Reflect:

In the story of the Transfiguration, the eyes of the disciples are opened to the true nature of Jesus living in their midst. Their moment of blinding perception is confirmed by the voice of the Father instructing them to listen to his Son, to follow in his path.

Are we willing to make the climb up the mountain with Jesus, to have our eyes opened to his vision, to the glory of God in this world and the next?

Pray:

God within us

We thank you for the presence of your glory in the flesh of the ordinary

Give us a contemplative gaze

capable of detecting the signs of your presence and love in the people we meet

and in the stuff of our daily existence.

Amen

(Michael Winstanley SJB)

Act:

Going to the shops this week? Try to make sure that you only buy what you require and will use, rather than throwing items away that are past their sell by date or not really wanted. Pop something in the food bank box too!

Challenge:

Take action to live more simply by checking the number of personal effects owned, how often are they used, how often are new ones bought? Can some seldom used items be given away to people in need of such things?

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL	£1,825.06
Missions appeal	£1,325.94

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

SICK

Colette Allerston, Eileen Boardman, Gwenda Byers, Sr. Teresa Frost, Sr. Megan Haisley, Mary Heneghan, Alan & Do-reen Lowe, Arthur Lowe, Stephen Peak.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Denise Warburton
Eternal rest grant unto her ...

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

Our final full day in Fatima included a bit of free time in the morning. Many of us spent the day having a tour around Fatima and enjoying time in the different chapels and spending time in prayer. In the afternoon Fr. Paul (The Elder!) had the great honour of being the Chief Celebrant at Mass in the Chapel of Apparitions. Some of it was even filmed! He needed one of those pink gins afterwards! It didn't touch the sides! It was a truly international occasion – many people stopped and joined in praying at the Mass including many new friends from Ireland. Afterwards many of us attended the Rosary Procession for the last time and bade a very fond farewell to Fatima after yet another wonderful day with Our Lady and our fellow pilgrims.

Many books and articles have been written about the secret messages of Fatima over many years. Perhaps the main message is faith and hope. Our Lady promised the two children, Jacinta and Francisco, that they would be with her very soon in Heaven. They died within two years of the apparitions. Whilst this must have been terrible for the family at the time, Our Lady kept her promise to the children. And now, after Pope Francis' visit to Fatima earlier this year, they are both canonized saints of the Church. Lucia lived much longer and kept the message of Fatima alive. All those who went on the Fatima Pilgrimage felt greatly blessed by the faith and hope of the children, a faith and hope that helped them persevere in their belief and knowledge of the great love of God, shown to them through Mary on those moments when they saw her in Fatima one hundred years ago.

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.

NUGENT CARE "LIVING FULLY"

....enabling every child and adult with a disability to encounter Jesus in the life of the Church today.

A day of study, worship and workshops exploring how all life is a gift from God and how every person has a valuable and dignified place within the Body of Christ.

Saturday 23rd September 2017 10am - 4pm at LACE Conference Centre, Croxteth Dr, Liverpool, L17 1AA

Cost £10: for more information or to book a place please e-mail formation@rcaol.co.uk or ring 0151 522 1040

FEAST DAY MASS

The annual Feast day to celebrate the lives of our patron saints, Edmund Arrowsmith & Margaret Clitherow, will take place on Wednesday September 6th at 7.00pm in Our Lady of the Rosary church.

"LOURDES AT HOME" DAY

A number of people have asked why we didn't have a "Lourdes At Home" Day this year. The reason is simply that we couldn't get a date when all four priests were available to help – don't forget that we would need all the priests for the Mass of Anointing. However, after our recent Pilgrimage to Fatima, we have decided to have a similar day in October, around the date of the centenary of the last Apparition of Our Lady to the children. So, an early warning that we will have a "Fatima At Home" event during October on the following dates:-

Friday October 13th – Holy Hour in St. Richard's church at 7.00pm.

Saturday October 14th – Mass of Anointing in St. Richard's church at 12noon.

In September we will start having planning meetings to prepare for the occasion so please watch this space for further details.

"BEING A CATECHIST" COURSE

This training course is for new catechists and those wanting an opportunity to refresh and/or reflect on their ministry. Over two evening sessions it will look at:

Catechesis as a Ministry of the Word and include reflection on The Emmaus Story.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults as a vision for all Catechesis.

The importance of Adult Faith Formation for the life of the Church.

The principles which underpin our Archdiocesan Resources for Catechesis.

Practical tips and tools for effective Catechesis.

The course will be led by Veronica Murphy and Eleanor Lalley from the Pastoral Formation Department and attendance at both sessions will qualify for the Archdiocesan Certificate.

Two courses will take place this year on:

Mondays 18th & 25th September 2017 at LACE Conference Centre Croxteth Drive, Sefton Park, Liverpool L17 1AA
or:

Mondays 9th & 16th October 2017 at St Joseph's Parish Centre, Crow Orchard Road, Wrightington WN6 9PA
Tea and coffee available from 7.00pm for a 7.15 start until 9.00pm.

COME AND DRINK FROM THE WATERS

A morning of reflection for Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday 30th September 2017 9.30am - 1.00pm at LACE

Keynote address

Sacraments of healing

Workshops

The Scriptures for the sick and dying

Prayer in busy lives

Visiting the sick and vulnerable.

Booking is essential for both courses. Please contact the parish office if you wish to attend.

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 5 August

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.

Mon 7 August

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 18)

StJ 9.00am MASS Colette Allerston (sick)
SH 12.00noon MASS Kocon family

Tue 8 August

Memorial of Saint Dominic, Priest

SH 12.00noon MASS Richard Hilton R.I.P.

Wed 9 August

FEAST OF SAINT TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS, ODC

12A 10.00am MASS Winifred Robinson
StJ 7.00pm MASS Elizabeth Cleworth R.I.P.

Thu 10 August

FEAST OF SAINT LAWRENCE, DEACON AND MARTYR

StJ 9.00am MASS Matthew Paul R.I.P.
SH NO MASS

Fri 11 August

Memorial of Saint Clare, Virgin

OLR 10.00am MASS Joe Devlin
StJ 12.00noon MASS Anne Marsh R.I.P.

Sat 12 August

Weekday in Ordinary Time

OLR 11.00am Exposition & Reconciliation
OLR 12.00noon MASS Mary
12A 5.30pm FIRST MASS of SUNDAY John Robinson

Sun 13 August

NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

StJ 8.30am MASS Tony Broster R.I.P.
SH 9.30am MASS Griffin family
StJ 10.30am MASS Mary Ellen Winstanley (anniv.)
OLR 11.00am MASS People of the Pastoral Area

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

Sacred Heart Lottery The next draw will take place on 8th September.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 200 M & D Flannery, £5 No. 161 F Hilton, £3 No. 415 E West, £2 No. 486 K Jones

Bonus Ball No. 36 Fr K O'Grady



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

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