

St. Edmund Arrowsmith

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A) 27 August 2017



Responsorial Psalm

Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,
and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.
Alleluia!

REFLECTION

Do we know of anyone in our lives who has never given up hope in us? Parents are often good at that, sometimes brothers, sisters, our closest friends. All of us need the encouragement and support of other people, especially in our Church. Even when we are not too sure we have the strength and the gifts to live out our faith to the full, there are people around who continue to believe in us even when, perhaps, we don't even believe in ourselves. Each one of us needs people who help and support us each and every day of our lives. The Gospel today reveals the complete hope that Jesus had in Peter. Peter is someone we must all see as a role model. He often made mistakes. He so often got things wrong. He took the easy way out on a number of occasions. And, even after Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension, he continued to get things wrong. Just look at the Acts of the Apostles and some of Paul's letters. He had public arguments with Paul on a number of occasions. And Paul was always right.

Yet Peter still embraced his new position as the leader of God's Church. He was the first Pope. In the Gospel today Jesus, perhaps feeling a bit downtrodden after being rejected by the people yet again, asks his disciples, "Who do the people think I am?" Peter responds by identifying him as the Messiah. Jesus realises that it is God who has revealed this to Peter and therefore chooses Peter as leader of his new Church.

This was quite a strange choice, when you think about it. Peter was a broken man in so many ways. On his first meeting with Jesus he admitted that he was a sinner. He had no idea how to help the people at the feeding of the 5,000. He didn't want to come down from the mountaintop when Jesus was transfigured. He would go on to try to tempt Jesus away from going to Jerusalem to face a certain death. Then later still he would, of course, deny that he even knew Jesus three times. Yet Jesus continued to believe in him.

Peter's story reminds us that there is always a way back with God. God does not dismiss us when we get things wrong, but gives us another chance time and time again. No matter what we have done in the past, no matter how unworthy we feel we are, God has great plans for us if only we continue to believe. Even when we don't always believe in ourselves, God's belief in us is never-ending. Like Peter we can so often feel broken, afraid, worried about life. But it is because we are broken that God loves us even more. God does not necessarily expect us to live lives of perfection. What he really needs us to do is turn to him when we are afraid, when we are in need, when we do feel broken, when we are lost.

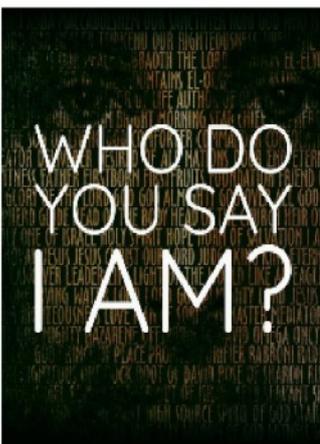
In turning back to God, Peter did become a great leader of God's Church. He eventually gave his life for his faith and suffered persecution so many times. Persecution and suffering continues in the world today. As we remember those who suffer for their faith may we always value the faith that we share and, like Peter, be a rock of comfort and support to others.

**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

Les Almond, Tony Broster, Jack & Elizabeth Cleworth, Deirdre Costello, Patrick Costello snr., Eileen & Alan Hogan, James & Ann Marsh, John McLoughlin, Joseph Smith, Robert Wods, St Jude, Successful Operation.

FIRST COMMUNION

The first meeting for children at Saint Joseph's in Y4 and their parents is on Thursday 14th September in church at 3.30pm. If you have a child in Year 4 and have not already enrolled them on the course, please contact the parish office.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

The raffle will be drawn after Mass today and a list will be put up at the back of church. Thank you to all who supported the raffle.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

Aug 24 - Humanity needs hope in order to live and needs the Holy Spirit in order to hope.

Aug 23 - The Lord is close to all those who are victims of old and new forms of slavery: inhuman labour, illegal trafficking and exploitation.

Aug 22 - When we are feeling sad, when it feels like everything is going wrong, we should remember: "God loves me. God never abandons me".

Aug 21 - May the Holy Spirit grant peace to the whole world and heal the wounds of war and terrorism.

Aug 20 - We always need to rediscover God's love and mercy in order to develop our relationship with Him.

Aug 19 - I pray for all the victims of the attacks of these days. May the blind violence of terrorism no longer find room to exist in this world!

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

If you are interested, or know someone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please contact the parish office, or speak to one of the priests after Mass. Instruction meetings will be starting in September.

DIRECTORIES

We will be ordering directories for next year very soon 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, an-

nullment 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.

LEIGH & ATHERTON WRITERS

... invite you to celebrate the launch of their fourth anthology *Home is the Sailor*. This book is a dedication to Kevin Mulhearn who was a valued member, writer, sailor and friend of the writing group for over twenty years. He was also a well liked and constant presence at Sacred Heart church during many years. The book launch will take place at *As in Eden*, 14 Walmesley Road, Leigh on Saturday 2nd September at 6.00pm. Admission free, refreshments available.

The logo for 'Live simply' features a stylized cross symbol inside a circle, followed by the text 'Live simply' in a cursive font.

Reflect:

"Who do you say I am?". The question Jesus asks of his disciples resonates with us still today. We know the answer that Peter gave: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.", but what does that mean to each of us in our own life? Jesus asks each of us "Who am I for you?" Our response to this question lies in the knowledge we each have of Jesus, in our individual relationship with him. A relationship of love. And if we really believe that Jesus is the Son of God should not our lives reflect this in all that we do and say? Should we not be working in partnership with him to establish the kingdom of God?

Pray:

Lord,
Open our ears to your call in the voices of those who cry out to us
Open our lips to proclaim your good news
Open our eyes to the wonder of your creation in the world around us
Open our hearts to your love in the people we meet on our path through life
Open our minds to the promptings of your spirit that we may not be afraid to walk your path.

Act:

This week take time to really consider the question "Who do you say I am?". Let your response to this question be revealed to all by the way in which you live your life.

Challenge:

As Christians, our lives should reflect the love of God for the world around us - the earth and its abundant life, as well as the people who live in it. On a practical level, take steps to share this abundance of the fruits of the earth with others who have little.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of our Pastoral Area J & P group has been arranged for Wednesday 27th September, 7.30pm in Saint Richard's House.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH TOTAL £1,615.61

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

SICK

Colette Allerston, Eileen Boardman, Sr. Teresa Frost, Sr. Megan Haisley, Mary Heneghan, Alan & Doreen Lowe, Arthur Lowe, Margaret Quinn

BAPTISMS

Welcome into our parish through baptism to:-
Alice Elizabeth Markland, Ava Mae Evans, Maicey Ann Bailey.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Eternal rest grant unto them ...

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Stuart Joseph Park & Clare Louise Robinson who were married at St Joseph's church on Saturday 19th August.

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.

CREATION TIME

1st September – 4th October 2017

Pope Francis has asked us to mark this period with prayer, reflection and action in relation to the Earth and our place upon it and so the Liverpool Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Commission and CAFOD Liverpool have produced a resource for parishes called *Reflections During Creation Time: Praying with the Gospels, stories from our time and Laudato Si'*.

Reflection sessions will be held in the Green Room at Saint Joseph's, every Friday during September, beginning at 12.30pm after 12.00noon Mass.

Sessions are also being held at:-

Saint Ambrose Barlow's Hall, every Tuesday during September and the first Tuesday in October at 11.00am followed by a shared lunch.

St Richard's House every Wednesday during September and the first Wednesday in October at 10.00am, following Exposition.

Please come along to whichever of the above is most convenient for you. You will be most welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S BROWNIES

Do you have a daughter age 7-10 years who may be interested in joining Brownies? St Joseph's Brownies will have a number of places available from the start of the new school term on 11th September. We meet in the Mather room, Mather Lane (just behind St Joseph's church) on Monday evenings 6.00-7.30pm. Brownies do lots of different activities as well as serving the community. It's a great way to meet new friends. If interested please do the following.

- 1: Go online to: www.girlguiding.org.uk. and register your daughter on "join us". Then,
- 2: Please text your name and your daughter's name to our leader in charge: - Jayne Jones on: 07906 138961 who will then contact you.

RETROUVAILLE

A Lifeline for Married Couples

Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?

Are you hurt, frustrated or angry with your spouse?

Have you thought about separation or divorce?

Are you constantly fighting or do you simply shut down?

Does talking only make it worse?

Hope is a phone call away..

All enquiries confidential and without obligation

Text or call 07887 296983

www.retrouvaille.org.uk

A SEED OF LOVE

Sunday 1st October 2017, 3.00pm

The Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ The King
A celebration Mass for people living with a disability
Principal Celebrant Archbishop Malcolm McMahon

All welcome

For more information contact Mary Beatham:
07341 864180 Mary.beatham@nugentcare.org

St Joseph's Players Present

TIME, MURDERER, PLEASE

By Charles Dyer

Produced by Doreen Johnson

Tuesday 12th September to

Saturday 16th September

Comedy Thriller

St Joseph's Hall

Tickets adults £8, 16yrs and under £4

Bar Raffle & Refreshments Available

Leigh Model Railway Exhibition 2017

2nd & 3rd September

St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St Leigh WN7 2DA

Admission £5 under 15s free when

accompanied by an adult

12 working layouts

10 trade stands

2 show you how's + displays

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 2nd September 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 26 August

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY John Henry L.D.

Sun 27 August

StJ 8.30am

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

SH 9.30am

MASS Pearl Wedding

StJ 10.30am

MASS People of the Pastoral Area

OLR 11.00am

MASS Carolyn Andrea Burke R.I.P.

MASS Rita Vint (anniv.)

Sunday evening Mass in the pastoral area resumes next Sunday

Mon 28 August

StJ 9.00am

Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop & Doctor

MASS Bernadette Higgins (B'day memorial)

Tue 29 August

SH 12.00noon

Memorial of the Passion of Saint John the Baptist

MASS Anna Griffin

Wed 30 August

12A 10.00am

Memorial of Saint Edmund Arrowsmith, Priest, Martyr

MASS Winifred Robinson

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Vinnet Lygoe (Anniv)

Thu 31 August

StJ 9.00am

Weekday in Ordinary Time (Year I, Week 21)

MASS Deirdre Costello (B'day mem. & Anniv.)

SH 12.00noon

MASS James Kieran Moss L.D.

Fri 1 September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

Optional Memorial of Saints Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward, Martyrs

OLR 10.00am

MASS Mary Elle Underwood

StJ 12.00noon

MASS Raymond Buck (anniv.)

Sat 2 September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

SH 11.00am

Exposition & Reconciliation

SH 12.00noon

MASS Caitlin Bradbury L.D.

12A 5.30pm

FIRST MASS of SUNDAY People of the Pastoral Area

Sun 3 September

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

StJ 8.30am

MASS Joseph Smith (Anniv.)

SH 9.30am

MASS Kevin & Elizabeth O'Rourke (anniv.)

StJ 10.30am

MASS Edward Unsworth (Anniv.)

OLR 11.00am

MASS Joe Moore

StR 6.30pm

SUNDAY EVENING MASS in our Pastoral Area

Sacred Heart Lottery The next draw will take place on 8th September. Tickets available from Sunday 3rd September.

Our Lady of the Rosary 500 Club £10 No. 217 M Collins, £5 No. 265 C & T Ellis, £3 No. 046 B Woods, £2 No. 195 A Sharkie

Bonus Ball No. No. 3 J Flynn



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

