

**Mass Times, Services and Intentions**

**Saturday 30th November Feast of St Andrew, Apostle**

St Joseph's	4.30pm	Mass	Deceased Members of the McArt & Murnane Families, Pious List
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**Sunday 1st December First Sunday of Advent**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Kitty & Ernest Clarke R.I.P.
Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	Ernest Skeech R.I.P.

**Tuesday 3rd December Memorial Of St Francis Xavier, priest**

Sacred Heart	12.00pm	Mass	Winifred Gerald, Anniversary
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**Wednesday 4th December Weekday of Advent**

St Joseph's	12.00pm	Mass	Jeffry David Allinson
12A School	2.00pm		Advent School Mass

**Thursday 5th December Memorial of St John Almond, priest & martyr**

Sacred Heart	10.00am	Mass	People of the Parish
Sacred Heart	1.30pm	Funeral Service	Vincent James Marsh

**Friday 6th December Weekday of Advent**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	St Joseph's School Advent Mass Paul Unsworth, Birthday Mem
Sacred Heart	1.30pm		Sacred Heart School Advent Mass

**Saturday 7th December Memorial of St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor**

St Joseph's	4.30pm	Mass	Eric & Doris Pendlebury
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**Sunday 8th December Second Sunday of Advent**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Enid Kenwright, Birthday Memorial
Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	Dominik (Chris) Noon, Birthday Memorial



**Sacred Heart Church**  
Walmsley Road  
Leigh WN7 1YE

**Parish Office**  
St Joseph's Presbytery  
Mather Lane  
Leigh WN7 2PR  
**01942 950204**  
stedmund.leigh@rcaol.org.uk

**First Sunday of Advent**  
**1st December 2024**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Kieran O'Grady  
**email:** k.ogrady@rcaol.org.uk



**St Joseph's Church**  
Mather Lane  
Leigh WN7 2PR

**Parish Office Manager**  
Jacqui Unsworth

**Office Hours:**  
Mon, Wed & Fri  
9.30am—4.00pm



**Food for thought**

Today we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent – the beginning of a new liturgical year. The challenge of Advent is how do we spend our lives while waiting for Christmas. In today's Gospel Jesus makes his point in straightforward language - "stay awake at all times". As Christians we are the ones left in charge. Our responsibility is to stay awake - even when others seem to be sleeping. This Advent be expectant that the Lord will renew, refresh and invigorate your relationship with Him. Bring your hopes, joys, worries and sadness as you come to the miracle of the Mass - and the light of Christ will help you to stay awake and alert to His presence in our lives. Pope Francis' December Prayer Intention is that we become "Pilgrims of Hope". Hope is the light that shines in the darkness. Hope is the light that guides us forward in moments of difficulties or when the future seems uncertain. Christian hope is a foundation of love, faith and assurance that has a confidence in God's promises. As we walk together during Advent may we find hope, especially in the moments of grace that we find in the little things each day!

Praise Him!

## Sick and Housebound

We hold in prayer all who are sick in body, mind or spirit and those who care for them:

**James Allen**  
**Mary Barnes**  
**Sean Fleming,**  
**Bernice Ganley**  
**Carol Greenhalgh,**  
**Mary Griffin**  
**Craig Hardman,**  
**Baby Harper Harrop**  
**Doreen Hayes,**  
**Marian Hindley**  
**Kathleen Holland**  
**Kitty Jones,**  
**Archbishop Patrick Kelly**  
**Joseph Langin**  
**Iris McKiernan**  
**Ramona Mateui**  
**Eileen Midgley**  
**John Mulligan**  
**Tommy Nuttall**  
**Vera Seventi**  
**Mark Tomlinson**  
**Pauline Woods**

May the risen Lord embrace them with healing love.

## Walsingham Pilgrimage 1st - 4th April 2025

If you are interested in going to Walsingham next year, please contact Teresa Thompson: 07780064502

## Christmas Mass Times

**Christmas Eve Children's Mass:**  
6.00pm St Joseph's Church  
**Christmas Day: 9.30am St Joseph's**  
11.00am Sacred Heart

## Recently Deceased

We pray for those whose have died,

**Jean Proctor**  
**Vincent James Marsh**  
**Joan Hayes**  
**Louis Wilcock**

and those whose anniversary occur at this time, may the peace of our risen Lord Jesus

## Pope Francis November Prayer Intention: for December For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

## Second Collection

Next weekend 7/8th December the second collection will be for the S.V.P. Please be generous so that they can continue to help those who are most in need.

## New Lectionaries from Advent 2024

From this weekend, the First Sunday of Advent we will be using the new lectionaries. The new lectionaries use the English Standard Version (Catholic Edition).

I ask all readers to familiarise themselves with the new versions by collecting a Mass sheet a

## CAFOD World Gifts

If you are looking for Christmas presents, World Gifts could have the answer. Buying a World Gift helps the poorest people around the world.  
Catalogues available in the church porch.

## A message from Mrs Ahmed, Headteacher at Sacred Heart Primary School

Dear Parishioners,

As you may have heard I am retiring at the end of this term. I have been teaching for over 35 years, 27 of these years have been at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School. It has been a privilege to be head teacher for 19 of these years but I now want to spend some time with my family.

Please join with me for a celebration at the 11am Mass at Sacred Heart Church on 15<sup>th</sup> December followed by a buffet at the Boars Head. Everyone is invited. Thank you for all your love and support over the years. It has been an honour to work with you all, Father Graeme, Father Connor, Father John, Father James and during the past 12 years Father Kieran for the good of the local community here in Leigh.

With all my love Mrs Ahmed.

## Christmas Flower Memorial

For a donation of £5 you will receive a candle for your loved one (s) which will be placed on the sanctuary and lit at the Christmas Masses. You will be able to take the candle home when the Christmas Season is over, and your loved one's name will be then placed on the Lady Altar during the season of Christmas.

- ◆ Please print the name or names clearly on the piece of paper provided.
- ◆ The name of the church where you want the memorial
- ◆ Place it in an envelope with your donation marked 'Christmas Memorial'.

Please note the deadline date:

22nd December.

## LGBTQ+ Catholics

The next LGBTQ+ Family Mass will held at Sacred Heart Church, Swan Lane, Hindley Green WN2 4HD on Sunday 8th December at 2.00pm. All are welcome especially family and extended family of the LGBTQ+ community.  
Refreshments will be served after Mass.

## Sacrament of Anointing the Sick

If you would like Fr. Kieran to visit a family member who is sick and housebound, please speak to him or contact the Parish Office and a visit will be arranged.

## The Sodality Hall/Mather Room

The Sodality Hall/Mather Room is available to hire for parties etc. To book the room, please contact **Christine Prince: 07766681339**

## Sanctuary Lamps

This week our Sanctuary Lamp will shine at  
Sacred Heart Church:  
&  
St Joseph's Church:  
for **The Pope's Intentions**