

**Mass Times, Services and Intentions**

**Saturday 27th April Weekday of Easter**

St Joseph's	10.30am	St J School	First Holy Communion
St Joseph's	4.30pm	Mass	Eric Pendlebury Anniversary

**Sunday 28th April 5th Sunday of Easter**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Paul Hough Anniversary
Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	People of the Parish

**Monday 29th April Feast St Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor**

Sacred Heart	9.15am	Mass	Joan Ganley
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**Tuesday 30th April Weekday of Easter**

Sacred Heart	12.00pm		<b>No Mass</b>
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**Wednesday 1st May Weekday of Easter**

St Josephs	12.00pm		<b>No Mass</b>
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**Thursday 2nd May Memorial of St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor**

Sacred Heart	10.00am	Mass	Gerry Sharples Sick
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**Friday 3rd May Feast of Ss. Philp & James, Apostles**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Reginald Squires Anniversary
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**Saturday 4th May Feast of the English Martyrs**

St Joseph's	4.30pm	Mass	Keith May Anniversary
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**Sunday 5th May 6th Sunday of Easter**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	David Nicholson Anniversary
Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	John Mulligan Sick

**Newsletter for the Parish of Saint Edmund Arrowsmith  
Served by the Churches of Sacred Heart and St Joseph**



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

**Parish Office**  
St Joseph's Presbytery  
Mather Lane  
Leigh WN7 2PR  
01942 673517  
stedmund.leigh@rcaol.org.uk

**28th April 2024  
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**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**

*How much 'dead wood' do you carry around with you? Jealousy, anger, gossip... low self-esteem etc, all of these things can stunt our growth. We can use lots of energy in things that may not necessarily be very fruitful. Remaining with Jesus is the key theme in the Word of God today. The vine is an image Jesus uses to help his followers to understand the closeness of His relationship with us. **He is the vine – we are the branches.** Every so often, we need to allow God to prune our branches back, so that we can produce the fruit He wants us to bear. When we invite God to prune away anything in our lives that's not of him - He comes closer to us, helping us so that we can bear the fruits of the Kingdom. This may not be pleasant - but remember - when the gardener prunes his plants, it's at that time he is closest to them, nurturing them and helping them to grow. When we remain connected to the vine, the fruits of the Holy Spirit will grow in us...love, joy, peace, patience, helping us to bear abundant fruit!*

*Praise Him!*

### Sick and Housebound

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

**Vera Seventi,  
Carol Greenhalgh,  
Mary Griffin  
Sean Fleming,  
Craig Hardman,  
Kitty Jones,  
Doreen Hayes,  
Eileen Hynes  
Sr. Megan  
Nellie Flynn  
Mary Barnes  
Archbishop Patrick Kelly  
Sandra Smith  
James Allen  
Kathleen Holland  
John Mulligan  
Anthony Michael  
Marian Hindley  
Chris Hallinan  
Bernice Ganley  
Pauline Woods  
Eileen Midgley  
John Forde**

May the risen Lord embrace them with healing love.

### Pope Francis

#### April Prayer Intention For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

### Recently Deceased

We pray for those whose have died especially, **Barry Evans**, and those whose anniversary occurs at this time, may the peace of our risen Lord Jesus enfold us all.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Fr. Kieran is available 3.45—4.15 before the 4.30pm Mass at St Joseph's Church.



### The Month of May

May is the month of Mary!  
What does Mary mean to me?  
Queen of Heaven...  
Star of the Sea?  
She means much more and shows us the way,  
by the gift of the Rosary that helps us to pray.  
She is so close to us and is there for all,  
to proclaim His love,  
that is her call.

### Foundation Governor

One Foundation Governor is still required at Twelve Apostles' School.

To become a Foundation Governor you must be a practicing Catholic, with an interest in working alongside other governors, the Headteacher and staff for the good of our young children. For more information, please contact Fr. Kieran or contact the schools:

XII Apostles: 01942 674312



The people of Sudan need our help urgently. We are launching an [emergency appeal](#) for donations to get aid to them on the biggest scale we can muster. When violence broke out last year in Sudan between government and paramilitaries, most aid agencies evacuated. Now, humanitarian workers are struggling to get back into Sudan to help, meaning severe delays in getting aid to the people, and the challenges of getting into areas where fighting is still going on remain. Many borders are shut as the government say they need to keep weapons out. But the Church and our local partners are still there. Please, stand with them today. The situation has gone from serious to desperate very quickly. The UN is calling it 'the world's worst displacement crisis'. At least 8 million people have had to flee their homes; famine looms. "At least 25 million Sudanese need immediate, emergency help. Families are already going hungry and famine is looming. This crisis threatens to become the worst in living memory.

Donations can be made at [cafod.org.uk/SudanAppeal](https://cafod.org.uk/SudanAppeal)  
You can also text Text **CAFODSUDAN** to **70450** to donate £10.

### Today's Second Collection will be for CAFOD's Emergency Sudan Appeal

### First Holy Communions

Congratulations to Year 4 children from St Joseph's School, who made their First Holy Communion this weekend. Please keep their families in your prayers.

### Children's Corner

"Doctor, I'm a kleptomaniac."  
"You'd better take something for that!"

What did the driver say when he ran over a biscuit?  
Crumbs!



### CAFOD's BIG LENT WALK

CAFOD would like to thank those who signed up for the Big Lent Walk. 200K was walked, a daily average of 5K. Thanks for those who took part for sending your sponsorship into CAFOD

### Sanctuary Lamps

This week our Sanctuary Lamp will shine at  
Sacred Heart Church:  
**Peace around the world**  
and at St Joseph's Church:  
**Peace around the world**