

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



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

**Parish Administrators**

**Office Hours:**

Jacqui Unsworth

Anne Crinigan

**Mon, 1.00pm—4.30pm St J**

**Wed, 10.00am – 2.00pm SH**

**Thurs & Fri, 10.00am—2.00pm St J**

**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**4<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Kieran O'Grady  
**email:** [k.ogrady@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:k.ogrady@rcaol.org.uk)



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

**Parish Office**

St Joseph's Presbytery

Mather Lane

Leigh WN7 2PR

**01942 673517**

[stedmund.leigh@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stedmund.leigh@rcaol.org.uk)

**Food for thought!**

Jesus has strong words to say in the Gospel today. We can often think that these words are directed to others, but we must also realise that the Gospel is written for us in our day too. Both the first Reading and the Gospel tell a story about a vineyard. We are all invited to work in the Lord's vineyard - but the Lord doesn't force anyone - He only invites! In both the stories, the owner of the vineyard, (who represents God), plants, prunes and looks after the vineyard. Gardeners are always fond of what they grow –that's why they'll go to any lengths to protect their plants from things that can harm them. It's a bit like that with God – only more so. We know he desperately cares for us and wants to protect us from the things that can harm us. Today St Paul offers us a clear and simple way of living - filling our minds and hearts with all that is true, good, pure. We know that's not easy - human nature can often be overwhelmed by anger, revenge etc. It takes practice to grow in love - in fact, it takes a lifetime! But, if we try to live by the fruits of love – joy, peace, goodness, justice, honesty, forgiveness - we become increasingly aware that God is on our side. May our garden of love grow a bumper crop of such fruits – that will gladden the heart of the Lord and bring blessings and healing to those we meet.

Praise Him!

### Recently Deceased

We pray for those who have died

**Winifred Cowley**

**Katherine Jagger**

**Christine Burke**

**Anthony Canning**

**Barbara Wilkinson**

and those whose anniversary occurs at  
this time, may the peace of our risen  
Lord Jesus enfold us all.

### Sick and Housebound

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

James Allen

Nuala Conroy

Brother John Dawson SCJ

Sean Fleming

Margaret Hawkins

Marian Hindley

Brenda Jones

Kitty Jones

Iris McKiernan

John Mulligan

Josie Newell

Paul Ross

Cecily Simon

May the risen Lord embrace them  
with healing love.

### Sanctuary Lamps

This week our Sanctuary Lamp will  
shine for:

**Anthony Canning R.I.P.**

at St Joseph's Church

and

**Paul Ross R.I.P.**

at Sacred Heart Church

### The Pope's Intention for October: For Mental Health Ministry

Let us pray that the mental health  
ministry be established throughout  
the Church, helping to overcome  
the stigma and discrimination of  
persons with mental illness.

### The Sacrament of Baptism

We hold in prayer **Rivan & Matilda  
Douglas**, and their family, who receive  
this powerful Sacrament in Sacred  
Heart Church on Sunday.  
May they rejoice in God's presence.

### Christmas Fayre 2026

Our annual Christmas Fayre is on  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November,  
1pm – 3.30pm, in St Joseph's Hall.  
Donations of unwanted and good  
quality gifts and bottles such as  
smellies, alcoholic and non-alcoholic  
drinks are greatly appreciated. Please  
leave them at the back of the Church.  
Raffle tickets will be available from the  
31<sup>st</sup> October, before and after the  
Masses. At £2 a strip with 5 chances of  
winning. Prizes include shopping  
vouchers and food, wine and pamper  
hampers. We are also looking for  
volunteers to help during the planning,  
preparation and on the day itself. The  
next meeting is on the 25<sup>th</sup> October at  
Sacred Heart presbytery after the 11am  
Mass. Thank you for your continued  
support.

### Sacrament of Anointing the Sick

If you would like Fr. Kieran to visit a family  
member who is sick and housebound,  
please speak to the Parish Office.

### **Ponder on today's gospel**

#### **Who does the Vineyard Represent?**

The **Vineyard** is God's people, the ones He loves and tends.

The **Owner** is God himself, our Father and our Friend.

The **Tenants** are the leaders, who failed to do what's right  
They turned away God's messengers, and rejected the way of light

The servants are the **Prophets**, sent by God to speak His word,  
they warned the people to repent, and obey the voice they heard

The **Son** is Jesus Christ God's beloved One,

The tenants turned against Him

But God's love would still be done.

So, the story teaches us...to listen...trust...obey  
and offer God the fruit we grow by walking in His Way

#### **Archbishop's Certificate**

##### **Starting Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

The Archbishop's Certificate in Catechesis is the principal training course in the Archdiocese of Liverpool whose aim is to equip and support catechists and lay leaders in evangelisation and formation.

Applications are open for this year.

For more information, or to apply,  
please visit:

[aec.rcaos.org.uk/liverpool](http://aec.rcaos.org.uk/liverpool)

#### **Advent Retreat for Young Adults**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

**10am – 4pm**

Led by **Fr Derek Lloyd**, we will organise the Advent Retreat for Young Adults on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November** at **St Basil's Church, Widnes, WA8 4SZ.**

The Retreat Day will start at 10am and aim to finish at 4pm. The event is free of charge, but please bring your packed lunch. For further information, please

contact Moses at

[m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk)

#### **The Gift of the Rosary**

The Rosary has been a powerful instrument of prayer down through the centuries. Mary speaks to us not from book learning, but from human experience. As we approach the month of October let us ponder in a special way the wonder and riches of the rosary, so that it may enrich our lives, especially during these difficult times, and with her help lead us closer to her beloved Son.

This week the Rosary will be prayed after the midday Mass on Tuesday.

There will be no Mass on Wednesday at St Joseph's Church as Fr. Kieran has a Lancashire Infirm Secular Clergy Fund AGM meeting at Garstang.

#### **The Sodality Hall/Mather Room**

is available to hire for parties etc. To book the room, please contact:

Christine Prince **07766681339**

| Mass Times, Services and Intentions                                            |         |                                       |                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October <i>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> |         |                                       |                                   |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 4.30pm  | Mass                                  | David Warbis Birthday Memorial    |
| Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>   |         |                                       |                                   |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 9.30am  | Mass                                  | Edward Unsworth Birthday Memorial |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 11.00am | Mass                                  | People of the Parish              |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 12.30pm | Baptisms                              | Rivan & Matilda Douglas           |
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Week 27 in Ordinary Time</i>                |         |                                       |                                   |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 12.00pm | Mass                                  | D Flannery & Family R.I.P.        |
| Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary</i>    |         |                                       |                                   |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 12.00pm |                                       | No Mass                           |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Week 27 of Ordinary Time</i>               |         |                                       |                                   |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 10.00am | Mass                                  | For God's guidance                |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 12.00pm | Funeral Service                       | Winifred Cowley                   |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 1.30pm  | Sacred Heart School - Mass of Welcome |                                   |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Feast of St John Henry Newman</i>            |         |                                       |                                   |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 1.30pm  | Funeral Mass                          | Christine Burke                   |
| Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>  |         |                                       |                                   |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 4.30pm  | Mass                                  | People of the Parish              |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>    |         |                                       |                                   |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 9.30am  | Mass                                  | Elizabeth & Kevin O'Rourke        |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 11.00am | Mass                                  | Roddy Glynn R.I.P.                |