

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, Closed SH**

**Thurs & Fri, Closed St J**

**29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**18<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!**

When we think that we are being unfairly treated, we have an urge to defend ourselves and it's difficult to remain silent. I'm sure many of us have been in one of those 'Catch 22' situations when we feel we just can't win. It's a bit like that in today's Gospel. Despite appearing to be in a no-win situation, Jesus knew exactly what the Pharisees were trying to do and completely avoided the confrontation they hoped for. His answer wasn't just clever - it had a very basic message that we often forget - God is in charge, not human beings! Jesus' words today remind us that while we should fulfil our duty as citizens, we must always remember we give back to God what belongs to Him – faith, hope, kindness and love. Today's letter from St Paul which was written over 2,000 years ago is still as relevant today. He tells us the kind of community that we can model ourselves on - a community whose faith spills over into action - a community who listens to the Word of God, reflects on it and lets it take deep root in their hearts. Caesar's image was created on a coin - we are created in the image and likeness of God – and that's worth more than any coin!

**Praise Him!**

### Recently Deceased

We pray for those who have died

**Alan Robbins**

**Sarah Monks**

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:

**For World Mission Sunday**

at St Joseph's Church  
and

**Barbara Wilkinson RIP**

at Sacred Heart Church

### 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.

### 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.

### Christmas Fair 2026

Our annual Christmas Fair 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.

### Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards and Christmas religious items at now on sale.

### World Mission Sunday (APF Missions)

The second collection today is for the spread of the Good News throughout the world and is our way of supporting the missionaries who carry out this important work...thanks as always for your generosity

**We hold Pope Leo in our prayer as he recovers from his recent surgery.**

### News Regarding the Tower at St Joseph's Church

I am very pleased to share the news that **St Joseph's Church** has been awarded a grant of **£188,000** from **Historic England**. This funding will make a significant contribution towards the conservation and repair of the west tower, including masonry and buttress repairs, the replacement of severely weathered stonework, repointing, the removal of vegetation, and the investigation of the bell chamber.

The project also includes repairs to churchyard fencing and entrance features, helping to improve accessibility and security.

I am very grateful to Neil Fewtrell, one of our Archdiocesan surveyors, for all his hard work in preparing the application. I would also like to thank Historic England for its generous support in awarding this grant. At the moment, the Archdiocesan Legal Team is finalising the award by reviewing the necessary documentation. All being well, the grant will soon be formally secured, enabling this important work to proceed.

#### Baptisms

We hold in prayer  
**Hardy Stuart West,**  
**Jack Thomas Berry**

**Rosie Gradwell,**  
**Willow Grace Lazoryk**  
and their families

as they receive the Sacrament of  
Baptism at St Joseph's Church this  
weekend.

May they grow  
in the love of the Lord.

#### Pious Lists

Envelopes are now available. Please  
place the names of those  
you want us to pray for inside the brown  
envelope, with a donation, and drop  
them either into the collection basket or  
into the parish office or push them  
through the letterbox at either  
presbytery.

All the names will be placed on the altar  
during the month of November, the  
month of the Holy souls.

#### The Rosary

Pope Leo asks us to pray this  
powerful prayer with him  
throughout October for peace  
throughout the world.

This week the Rosary will be prayed  
after the **midday Mass on Tuesday**  
**and the Celebration of the Word**  
**and Communion on Wednesday.**

#### Walsingham Easter Pilgrimage 2027

If you would like to join the Walsingham  
Pilgrimage next Easter, from **Monday 29**  
**March to Thursday 1 April 2027**, please  
contact Theresa Thompson as soon as  
possible: **07780 064 502**.

#### 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 17 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Twenty-Nineth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 4.30pm  | Mass                                  | Barbra Gildart R.I.P.                                           |
| Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Twenty-Nineth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>   |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 9.30am  | Mass                                  | People of the Parish                                            |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 11.00am | Mass                                  | John Ford Anniversary                                           |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 12.30pm | Baptisms                              | Hardy Stuart West, Jack Berry<br>Rosie Gradwell, Willow Lazoryk |
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October Week 29 Memorial of St Paul of the Cross       |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 12.00pm | Mass                                  | N.J. Varghese Anniversary                                       |
| Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Week 29 of Ordinary Time</i>               |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 12.00pm | Mass                                  | Joan Grady RIP                                                  |
| Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October <i>Week 29 of Ordinary Time</i>             |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 12.00pm | Celebration of the Word and Communion |                                                                 |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October Memorial of John Paul II                     |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 10.00am |                                       | No Mass                                                         |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October <i>Week 29 of Ordinary Time</i>                |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 9.30am  | Mass                                  | Lydia Kelly R.I.P.                                              |
| Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>     |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 4.30pm  | Mass                                  | Christian Flynn R.I.P.                                          |
| Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> October <i>Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>       |         |                                       |                                                                 |
| St Joseph's                                                                    | 9.30am  | Mass                                  | Ronald Kenwright Anniversary                                    |
| Sacred Heart                                                                   | 11.00am | Mass                                  | People of the Parish                                            |