

# 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

## **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord 11th January 2026**

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



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

### **Parish Administrators**

Jacqui Unsworth  
Anne Crinigan

#### **Office Hours:**

Mon, 9.00am—4.30pm **St J**  
Wed, 10.00am—2.00pm **SH**  
Thur, 10.00am—2.00pm **St J**  
Fri, 10.00am—2.00pm **St J**



### **Parish Office**

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

## **Food for thought!**

Many of us will have made New Year's resolutions and have probably broken them already! When we make resolutions, we are acknowledging that there is something in our lives that we need to change. Life really is all about new starts, and second chances! When we were Baptised, our Baptism was the start of a new beginning with the Lord and the start of a meaningful journey, even though we were too young to know that. Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. It could rightly be said that Jesus did not need to be baptised - but the fact that He chose to, shows His willingness to follow our path, to walk where humans have to walk. It means that we really do have a God who walks with us. Here is the Lord who walks alongside us as a companion - a soul-friend in the truest sense of the word. How blest we are to know that through our Baptism we have His permanent mark on our souls, and He continues to guide, strengthen and renew us each day. May we trust in His grace, follow His calling and celebrate the new life He has given us, now and always.

**Praise Him!**

### **Recently Deceased**

We pray for those who have died

**Margaret Bennett**

**Kathleen Laithwaite**

**Michael Govin**

**Celia Ellis**

**Sheila Crawley**

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

Patricia Case

Nuala Conroy

Sean Fleming

Chris Higgins

Marian Hindley

Kitty Jones

Iris McKiernan

John Mulligan

Kathleen Starbuck

Deacon Dennis Vint

Pauline Woods

Deacon Bernard Worden

May the risen Lord embrace them

with healing love.

### **The Pope's Intention**

**January: For Prayer with the Word of God**

Let us pray that praying with the  
Word of God be nourishment for our lives  
and a source of hope in our communities,  
helping us to build a more fraternal and  
missionary Church.

### **Christmastide**

Christmastide ends today, on the  
Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, as  
we praise the Lord for all the  
blessings He has poured into our  
lives through Advent and  
Christmas! Nourished by all these  
blessings, we face the New Year  
with Faith, Hope and Love!

### **Mothers' Prayers**

The next meeting for Mothers'  
Prayers will be on Monday 12th  
January at 10.30am in St Joseph's  
Presbytery. All mothers and  
grandmothers welcome.

### **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.

### **Sanctuary Lamps**

This week our Sanctuary Lamp will  
shine for:

**Our Sick and Housebound**

at St Joseph's Church

and

**Peace in our World**

at Sacred Heart Church

### **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**

## **The Baptism of the Lord**

As we reflect on the Baptism of the Lord we are reminded of our own Baptism as well.

In waters too, our names were said,  
with the Spirits light upon our head.  
The cleansing water, touched our face  
A sign of seal, a gift of grace.

The cross is traced, the name is said  
A living faith that will be fed.  
The water speaks – we were made new  
not by our strength, but what God can do.

The Church has walked this road with you  
Through word and sign both old and new.  
One Lord, one Church, one family  
One Baptism for eternity.

*Baptism is not simply a rite, but the  
beginning of a lifelong communion with the  
living God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
Pope Leo XIV*

## **St Joseph's Players Present**

### **Sleeping Beauty**

Wednesday 21st -

Saturday 31st January 2026

Weekdays -7.15pm

Saturday evening 6.15pm

Matinees 24th, 25th and 31st 1pm

Tickets can be purchased via

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-josephs-players](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-josephs-players)

or at the hall on

**Sunday 11th January**

12.00—13.00

**Friday 16th January**

8.45 - 10.00.

## **Peace Sunday Memorial Lecture—Sunday 18th January**

The Archdiocese of Liverpool's  
Justice & Peace Commission  
invites you to this year's Peace  
Sunday Memorial Lecture.

In light of Pope Leo XIV's recent  
World Peace Day Message,  
Dr Joanna Frew will speak on  
“Towards an ‘Unarmed and  
Disarming Peace’, Seeking  
Sustainable Security for an  
Unstable World.”

This will take place on  
**18th January at 2pm**  
at **St Vincent de Paul, L1 5JN**

Please sign up at:

**Peace Sunday Lecture:  
Peace be with you all-  
Towards an ‘unarmed and  
disarming’ peace.—  
Fill in form**

## **Meet your Archbishop Wednesday 28th January, 5pm**

The friends of the Metropolitan  
Cathedral are delighted to start the New  
Year with an evening with  
Archbishop John Sherrington.

It will commence with Mass at 5.00pm  
in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Then we will adjourn to the Gibberd  
Room where we will enjoy a hot pot  
supper and a glass of wine.

There will be an opportunity to meet  
Archbishop John, and share with him his  
ambitions and plans for our  
Archdiocese. The cost is £30.00 per  
person. Anyone wishing to sign up  
should email Claire at:

[c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk)

## Mass Times, Services and Intentions

### **Saturday 10th January Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

St Joseph's	4.30pm	Mass	Marie Moffitt RIP
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### **Sunday 11th January Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Mary Keavney RIP
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Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	Successful Surgery
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### **Tuesday 13th January Week 1 in Ordinary Time**

Sacred Heart	12.00pm	Mass	Special Intention (M
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Sacred Heart	1.30pm	School Mass	Sacred Heart School Mass
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### **Wednesday 14th January Memorial of St Kentigern**

Sacred Heart	1.00pm	Funeral Mass	Margaret Bennett
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### **Thursday 15th January Week 1 in Ordinary Time**

Sacred Heart	10.00am	-	<b>NO MASS</b>
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### **Friday 16th January Week 1 in Ordinary Time**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Eileen Topping RIP
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### **Saturday 17th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

St Joseph's	11.00am	-	Reconciliation & Adoration
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St Joseph's	12.00pm	Mass	People of the Parish
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St Joseph's	4.30pm	Mass	Brendan Flannery RIP
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### **Sunday 18th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Alfred Keavney RIP
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Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	Tommy Postlewaite RIP
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St Joseph's	12.30pm	Baptisms	Annabelle Anyanwu, Paige Rose Stott & Gadiel-Joseph Emmanuel Mlay
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