

**Mass Times, Services and Intentions**

**Saturday 23rd December Weekday of Advent**

St Joseph's	4.30pm	Mass	David Warbis Anniversary
-------------	--------	------	--------------------------

**Sunday 24th December Fourth Sunday of Advent**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Kitty & Ernest Clarke R.I.P.
-------------	--------	------	------------------------------

Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	People of the Parish
--------------	---------	------	----------------------

**Sunday 24th December Vigil of the Nativity**

St Joseph's	6.00pm	Mass	Ellen & Reginald Squires
-------------	--------	------	--------------------------

**Monday 25th December Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Kieran Moss R.I.P.
-------------	--------	------	--------------------

Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	Fr Joseph Camilleri special Intention, Fr Mike Williams, Fr Phil Reece
--------------	---------	------	---

**Tuesday 26th December Feast of St Stephen**

Sacred Heart	10.00am	Mass	Senal Simon R.I.P.
--------------	---------	------	--------------------

**Wednesday 27th December Feast of St John, Apostle & Evangelist**

St Joseph's	10.00am	Mass	Joseph Garvey
-------------	---------	------	---------------

St Joseph's	3.00pm	Funeral Mass	Alan O'Donnell
-------------	--------	--------------	----------------

**Thursday 28th December Feast of the Holy Innocents**

Sacred Heart			<b>No Mass</b>
--------------	--	--	----------------

**Friday 29th December Feast of St Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop & Martyr**

St Joseph's			<b>No Mass</b>
-------------	--	--	----------------

**Saturday 30th December Sixth day within the Octave of the Nativity**

St Joseph's	4.30pm	Mass	Coffey & Gregory Families
-------------	--------	------	---------------------------

**Sunday 31st December Feast of the Holy Family**

St Joseph's	9.30am	Mass	Joyce Worden R.I.P.
-------------	--------	------	---------------------

Sacred Heart	11.00am	Mass	Jack Radley R.I.P.
--------------	---------	------	--------------------

**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



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

**Parish Office Manager**  
Jacqui Unsworth

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

**24th December 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Clergy Team:**

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



**Food for Thought**

Today as Advent draws to a close, we enter into the wonderful Christmas season. The message of Christmas is that God, out of love for the human race became one of us - showing us how to live in love - with Him – and through Him. The very God who created the universe humbled himself by being born a baby in a manger and living as one of us, with all of our limitations! How we welcome Him! Christ's Light is always shining, but not everyone can see it yet. That's where we come in! We pray that our light will shine throughout the coming year, helping those who maybe experiencing darkness. As Advent draws to a close like moonlight, and the dawn of Christmas approaches, may we feel His closeness! Don't let the Christmas rush blind you to all the Lord desires you to receive! Whatever situation you find yourself in this Christmas...whoever you have lost...whoever you may miss... whatever you may be suffering.....the birth of our Lord brings hope, mercy, love and salvation. All will be well! May the joy and peace of the Lord be with you and may He always light your way. Praise Him!



### Recently Deceased

We pray for those whose have died, especially Alan O'Donnell

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:

**Vera Seventi,**  
**Carol Greenhalgh,**  
**Mary Griffin**  
**Sean Fleming,**  
**Craig Hardman,**  
**Kitty Jones,**  
**Baby Roman Bleu Emery,**  
**Doreen Hayes,**  
**Sr. Megan**  
**Nellie Flynn**  
**Mary Barnes**  
**Archbishop Patrick Kelly**  
**Catherine Peaty**  
**Sandra Smith**  
**George Cartledge**  
**Pat Avery**  
**James Allen**  
**Kathleen Holland**  
**John Mulligan**  
**Anthony Michael**  
**Marian Hindley**

May the Lord embrace them with healing love.



### Christmas Masses

#### Christmas Eve

First Mass of Christmas, Children's Mass at St Joseph's Church 6.00pm

#### Christmas Day

9.30am St Joseph's Church  
11.00am Sacred Heart Church

#### Baptism

Congratulations to **Alfred Stephen Conchie & Autumn Margaret Hilton** and their families, who celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism last Sunday at St Joseph's Church.

### CAFOD FUN RUN

CAFOD's Christmas Fun Run is back! Join us for some festive fun on Wednesday 27th December at 10.00am to walk, run, or stroll a 3km or 5km route, all raising money for CAFOD's work.

For more information:  
Email: [events@cafod.org.uk](mailto:events@cafod.org.uk)  
or contact: 07779 804242

#### Thank You

Thank you so much for the cards, gifts and kindness! It is a joy and a privilege to be with you at both Sacred Heart and St Joseph's as your Parish Priest.

May the Lord continue to guide us in His Way of peace, hope, and joy this Christmas and throughout the New Year! God bless you.

Fr Kieran

### St Joseph's Players' 2024 Pantomime

#### CINDERELLA

Wednesday 24th January -  
Saturday 3rd February 2024

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7.15pm  
All Matinees: 1pm and Saturday evening: 6.15pm

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

Tickets are also on sale at the Parish Office:  
on Friday 5th, 12th and  
19th January from 9.30-11.30

Group Bookings for 10 and over 07907 880308

#### St Joseph's Church

Some of the benches in St Joseph's Church have been cordoned off and are not to be used as there are problems with the floor area.

Sorry for this inconvenience.

#### Parents

Can I ask parents to please accompany their child, when they need to use the toilet in church.

#### Sanctuary Lamps

This week our Sanctuary Lamp will shine at Sacred Heart Church for **Peace in the world** At St Joseph's for **The Holy Land**

#### Nugent Care

There will be a box at the back of both churches for Crib Offerings. All money will be sent to Nugent Care who support vulnerable people in the Archdiocese.

#### Mary's Meals Double the Love

Up to January 2024, donations made to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1million. With Double the Love, your donation will be matched and your kindness will go even further.

To find out more visit:

[www.marysmeals.org.uk/](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/)

#### Our Three Primary Schools:

**Sacred Heart**  
**St Joseph's**  
**Twelve Apostles**

Thank you to the staff and the children who have worked so hard this term. May you all have a refreshing break and rest.

#### Children's Corner

What do you get if you cross a Christmas tree with an apple?  
A pineapple!



Why does Santa go down the chimney?  
Because it soots him!