

**ST OSWALD & ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

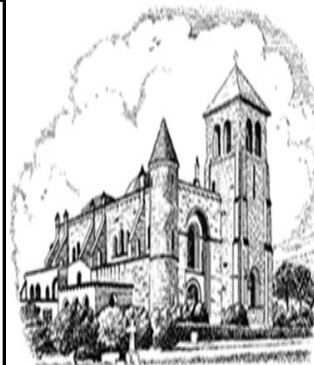
Liverpool Road, Ashton-In-Makerfield, Wigan, WN4 9NP
Liverpool R.C. Archdiocesan Trustees Reg. Charity No. 232709

Parish Priest: Rev. John Gorman Tel: 01942 727271

Deacons: Revv. Paul Blinston, Jim Byrne, John O'Brien (rtd)

Parish Office: 01942 727249 Open: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am—2pm

Parish Website: www.stoswaldandstarrowsmith.org.uk



Week commencing: 17th May 2020

6th SUNDAY of EASTER (A)

Parish Mass Book: Page 268 Order of Mass: Page 7

Preface 5 of Easter: Page 75 Eucharistic Prayer 3: Page 28

6th SUNDAY of EASTER (A)

Saturday	6.00pm	Sarah & Robert Fairhurst
Sunday	9.30am	Mgr. Vincent Brady
	11.00am	Mary Rogers
	6.30pm	Parishioners

Weekday Masses

Monday	9.00am	Peggy Burns
Tuesday	9.30am	Juanita Cunningham
Wednesday	9.30am	Brian Topping

SOLEMNITY of the ASCENSION of the LORD

Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Parishioners
Thursday	9.30am	Tony O'Haire
Friday	9.00am	Mae Leadbetter
Saturday	10.00am	Touhey & Higgins Families

7th SUNDAY of EASTER (A)

Saturday	6.00pm	Parishioners
Sunday	9.30am	John & Hilda Donlan
	11.00am	Joseph Corcoran
	6.30pm	Private Intention

Services during the week

Confessions: There are no Confessions until further notice.

Rosary: There is no public recitation of the Rosary until further notice.

Holy Hour: There are no public Holy Hours until further notice.

Novena: There is no Novena until further notice.

St. Oswald's Church Car Park

Regrettably, after persistent and on-going anti-social behaviour, it is necessary to install bollards to the entrance of St. Oswald's Church car park, both for the security of the Church and the well-being of local residents.

Access to the car park will, in future, be from 8.00am-5.00pm each day, at which time the bollards will be raised.

It should be noted that St. Oswald's is not a public car park and is to be used for Church purposes only.

Children's Liturgy

Parents of children who regularly attend Children's Liturgy may be interested to know that CAFOD have an on-line Children's Liturgy. Just go onto the CAFOD website and register for Children's Liturgy under Schools and Youth. You will then receive an email to log in at 10am on a Sunday morning.

Ashton Food Bank

Anyone who wishes to make a contribution can do so by dropping items off at the Food Bank at St. Thomas' Hall, Ashton, on Friday mornings between 9.30-11.00am. There is a particular need for items such as tinned meat, fruit and vegetables, pasta, mash and uht milk.

Stronghold e-Festival

Youth 200 are holding their first Stronghold e-festival from Friday 22nd-Monday 25th May. Draw closer to the Father who loves us through worship, amazing talks and transformative times of prayer. For further information and to register, visit Youth200.org/events

YouTube

Many thanks, once again, to those of you who took the time to send a message after viewing Mass last Weekend, which over 350 have now done on Youtube at **rcchurchesashton**. A further 120 also viewed the Novena service which was uploaded on Wednesday, and this will remain visible for those who wish offer their prayers each week.

Once again, the Vigil Mass on Saturday evening will be recorded and uploaded onto the same channel in time for you to view it on Sunday morning. In addition, Mass will also be recorded on Wednesday evening for the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, and this may be viewed from Thursday morning.

A reminder, though, that, in the present circumstances, this is not a Holyday of Obligation.

The number of subscribers continues to increase steadily and now has reached a total of 445, which is an increase of 31 on last week. This would suggest that we are unlikely to reach the target of 1000 subscribers in order for us to livestream Mass in this way, and so will have to reconsider how we are able to do so by another platform.

Latest Developments

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have expressed disappointment after the government said Churches in the U.K. should remain closed until at least July 4. The bishops issued a statement on Monday after the Prime Minister's statement setting out plans to ease the lockdown imposed amid the coronavirus pandemic. The government's plan categorized churches alongside hairdressers, beauty salons, pubs, and cinemas as places that will reopen during "Step Three" of a three-step program.

"The timing and the manner of the opening of churches touches profound sensitivities and spiritual needs. The government's document and statements fail to recognize this," a spokesman for the Bishops said.

The bishops' statement said: "The government's position, established today, includes these steps aimed at opening churches as soon as possible: the establishment of a task force for places of worship, to work closely with 'stakeholders' in ensuring that premises are COVID-19 secure; and heeding the experience of other countries in which churches are already open for worship."

"In dialogue with the Government, the Catholic Church will continue its engagement in this process and has already submitted a detailed plan, in full accordance with public health guidelines, for churches to be opened for private prayer. The Church is ready to play its full part in the task force, understanding that this includes the possible earlier use of churches for private prayer, as a first safe step towards their use for public worship."

A further meeting was due to take place on Friday, so further information may be available by the time you read this. It would seem the hope is for us to be able to open our Churches soon for private prayer, as before, with the celebration of public Masses still some weeks away, and then with certain restrictions, such as the number able to attend. Work has already begun to examine how these restrictions might affect us.

Mass for the Sick and Health-care Workers

The series of weekly Masses continues, each Thursday at 7.00pm, for the sick and their families, all front-line workers in the NHS and those who work in social care, celebrated by a different Bishop each week in his own Cathedral as follows. These Masses will be live-streamed, and can be viewed by visiting the Cathedral webpage, or the Bishops' Conference Webpage (cbcew.org.uk)

21st May Bishop Mark Davies Shrewsbury Cathedral

28th May Bishop Terence Drainey Middlesbrough Cathedral

Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

The Catholic National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham continues to live-stream Holy Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary, the Liturgy of the Hours and Divine Mercy Chaplet each day. This can be accessed, for those with the internet, at www.walsingham.org.uk

On-line and Text Giving

The Archdiocese has now developed facilities for online and text giving which can be used for both one-off and regular monthly donations.

Online giving website

Each parish has its own unique link on the website and a photograph of your church is shown to provide additional reassurance to donors that they are donating to their parish. All donations will go to the parish selected by the donor. The link is:

<https://donate.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/st-oswald-st-edmund-arrowsmith-ashton-in-makerfield-weekly-donation-copy>

Text giving

Four text giving campaigns have been created for each parish. The details of each campaign are given below.

Text *STOSWALD* to 70085 to donate £2. Texts cost £2 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £2 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text *STOSWALDNOINFO* to 70085.

Text *STOSWALD* to 70450 to donate £3. Texts cost £3 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £3 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text *STOSWALDNOINFO* to 70450.

Text *STOSWALD* to 70460 to donate £5. Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £5 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text *STOSWALDNOINFO* to 70460.

Text *STOSWALD* to 70470 to donate £10. Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text *STOSWALDNOINFO* to 70470.

Annuity Fund

Due to the current restrictions, the Annuity Fund draws from March onwards have been postponed and will be made at the earliest opportunity.