## ST OSWALD & ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH CATHOLIC CHURCH

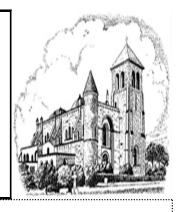
Liverpool Road, Ashton-In-Makerfield, Wigan, WN4 9NP Liverpool R.C. Archdiocesan Trustees Reg. Charity No. 232709

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

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# Week commencing: 10th January 2021 FEAST of the BAPTISM of the LORD (B)

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FEAST of the BAPTISM of the LORD (B)			Services during the week		
Saturday	6.00pm (StW)	Fr Roberto Guzman	Confessions: Sat: 11.00am-12 noon (StO)		
Sunday	9.30am (OLI) 11.00am (StO) 6.30pm (OLI)	Sue Finigan Margaret Wiszowaty Parishioners	Rosary: There will be no public recitation of the Rosary until further notice.  Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:		
Weekday Masses  Monday 9.00am (OLI) Mary Aspey Tuesday 9.30am (StW) Mary Riley Wednesday 9.30am (StO) Fred Eaton			Mon-Fri: 10.00am–12 noon (StO) Fri: 7.00-8.00pm (OLI) Sat: 11.00am-12 noon (StO)  Novena: Wed: 7.00pm (OLI)		
Thursday	•		<u>Anniversaries</u>		
Friday Saturday	9.30am (StW) 9.00am (OLI) 10.00am (StO)	Mgr Austin Hunt Fr Bernard Eager Charles & Alice Fitzpatrick	10th Jan 11th Jan	Veronica Baxter Mary Aspey Ann Carroll John Marsh Susan Rowlands	Freda Atkins Gerald Jones Hannah Murphy
2nd SUNDAY of the YEAR (B)			12th Jan	Harold Cardwell James Kelly	Ellen Foster Charles Murton
Saturday Sunday	6.00pm (StW) 9.30am (OLI) 11.00am (StO) 6.30pm (OLI)	In Thanksgiving (MC) Tom Davies Nick Smith Parishioners	13th Jan 14th Jan 16th Jan	Harold Whittle Rona Gallagher Michael McConl Elsie Boardman Graham Hughes	key John Rodican Basil Webster

#### Oberammergau 2022

In 1633, the villagers of Oberammergau in southern Germany made a vow to perform a Passion Play every 10 years in the hope of being spared the effects of the plague which was rampaging across Europe at the time. Ironically, until last year, that vow had been fulfilled except on one occasion when it was banned, and three times due to war.

Now plans are in place for the Passion Play to be staged in 2022, and places are available for a trip from 29th June-6th July 2022, flying from Manchester to Munich and staying for 6 nights in Mosern, Austria, with tickets to see the Play and one night in Oberammergau. Total cost £1785. For a brochure and/or booking form, please see Fr. John

#### **National Lockdown Guidance**

Following the most recent announcement of a national lockdown, the following guidance is taken from the Government website:

- 1. You can leave home to attend or visit a place of worship for communal worship, a funeral or event related to a death, a burial ground or a remembrance garden, or to attend a wedding ceremony. You should follow the guidance on the safe use of places of worship and must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble when attending a place of worship.
- 2. Weddings, funerals and religious, belief-based or commemorative events linked to someone's death are all subject to limits on the numbers that can attend, and weddings and civil ceremonies may only take place in exceptional circumstances. You must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble if you do attend a service.
- 3. Weddings must only take place with up to 6 people. Anyone working is not included. These should only take place in exceptional circumstances, for example urgent marriages where one of those getting married is seriously ill and not expected to recover, or where due to undergo debilitating treatment or lifechanging surgery.
- 4. Funerals. In all areas, there must be no more than 30 people attending. Anyone working is not included as part of the 30 person limit.

In view of the above, the normal timetable of Masses and Services, including daily Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, will continue until further notice.

#### Year of St. Joseph

On the 8th December 2020, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis declared a 'Year of St. Joseph' with the Apostolic Letter 'Patris Corde' ('With a Father's heart') to mark the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

### Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as:

- i) 'a beloved, tender, obedient father...who concretely expressed his fatherhood by making an offering of himself in love, a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home. Because of his role at the crossroads between the Old and New Testament, St. Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people. In him, Jesus saw the tender love of God. Joseph is also a father in obedience to God with his 'fiat' he protects Mary and Jesus and teaches his Son to do the will of the Father.
- ii) 'an accepting Father...because he accepted Mary unconditionally. The Bridegroom of Mary is the one who, trusting in the Lord, accepts in his life even the events that he does not understand, setting aside his own ideas and reconciling himself with his own history.
- iii) 'a courageous father...was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting in divine providence. He had to deal with "the concrete problems" his family faced, problems faced by other families in the world.
- iv) 'a father who teaches the value, dignity and joy of work...a carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family.
  - v) 'a father "in the shadows"...centred on Mary and Jesus. Joseph's fatherhood of Jesus is the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father. A father does not simply bring a child into the world, but takes up the responsibility to care for that child, all too often lacking in today's society.'

In response to the Holy Father's letter, it is proposed to begin the restoration of the altarpiece in St. Joseph's Chapel to promote devotion to him during this special year.