

ST OSWALD & ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

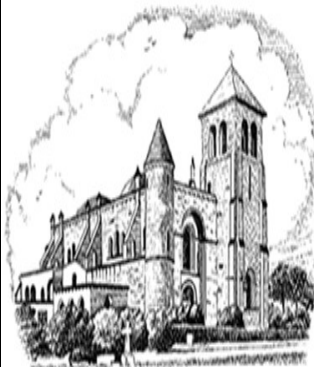
Parish Priest: Rev. John Gorman Tel: 01942 727271

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

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

Email: stoswaldstedmund@rcaol.org.uk

Parish Website: www.stoswaldandstarrowsmith.org.uk



Week commencing: 21st March 2021

5th SUNDAY of LENT (B)

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5th SUNDAY of LENT (B)

Saturday	6.00pm (StW)	Gertrude Topping
Sunday	9.30am (OLI)	Parishioners
	11.00am (StO)	Joan Simm
	6.30pm (OLI)	Fr. Fred Rose

Weekday Masses

Monday	9.00am (OLI)	Peggy Burns
Tuesday	9.30am (StW)	Anastasia Donnir
Wednesday	9.30am (StO)	Denis O'Brien
Thursday	The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD	
	9.30am (StW)	Joseph Connors
Friday	9.00am (OLI)	Mae Leadbetter
Saturday	10.00am (StO)	Mary Touhey

PALM SUNDAY (B)

Saturday	6.00pm (StW)	Prosper Donnir
Sunday	9.30am (OLI)	Maureen Rigby
	11.00am (StO)	Mary Gates
	6.30pm (OLI)	Parishioners

Services during the week

Confessions: Sat: 11.00am-12 noon (StO)

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon-Fri: 10.00am-12 noon (StO)

Sat: 11.00am-12 noon (StO)

Novena: Wed: 7.00pm (OLI)

Stations of the Cross: Fri: 12 noon (StO)
7.00pm (OLI)

Anniversaries

21st Mar	James Clarke	Stanley Cook
	William Giverin	Alice Kelly
22nd Mar	7Doreen Johnson	
23rd Mar	Paul Cain	Mary Haslam
24th Mar	Keith Green	
26th Mar	Marian Griffin	Dorothy Siney
	Mary Touhey	
27th Mar	Mae Leadbetter	

National Day of Reflection

Tuesday of this week (23rd March) marks the anniversary of the first national COVID-related lockdown, and has been designated a Day of Reflection and Prayer. A message from the Catholic Bishops of England & Wales accompanies this newsletter, and I would remind everyone that Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place between 10.00am-12 noon on Tuesday at St. Oswald's.

Planned-giving Envelopes

Planned-giving envelopes are available from this weekend. It would be helpful if those who use an envelope but are not tax-payers would also give their contact details.

This year, I would encourage as many of you as possible to use the Standing Order form included so as to reduce the amount of cash handled and the number of boxes we need to order

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week for the intention of:

John Craven

St. Oswald's Cemetery

The annual Cemetery maintenance fee of £30 is now due. Cash, or cheques made payable to 'St. Oswald's Parish' may be handed into the Parish Office.

Please remove Christmas pots and ensure there are no flowers/memorials in the ground in front of the headstone as grounds maintenance will begin soon. Anything which obstructs the grounds maintenance will be removed.

Easter Services

This year, we will be able to celebrate the services of Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum in the presence of the faithful, albeit with the usual restrictions of social distancing in place. This means that the numbers able to attend will be determined by the capacity of the Church which, for us means 140 in St. Oswald's, 100 in Our Lady's and 75 in St. Wilfrid's. It also means that some of the more familiar aspects of the Easter Liturgies will not be included.

Whilst the use of social media has allowed many who are shielding to following Mass during the period of lockdown, it is suggested that the focus on media coverage of liturgies should be on those presided over by the Diocesan Bishop so that those who are unable to attend their own church follow the diocesan celebrations as a sign of unity. This means that while we will record Mass for Palm Sunday, there will be no recording of the Triduum and we will give details next weekend of the times of services in the Cathedral and how to access them.

The following times of Services will therefore take place during Holy Week:

1. **Palm Sunday:** The normal weekend Mass times will apply. The Blessing of Palms will take place at the beginning of Mass, but from the back of Church. There will be no procession, and you will be asked to take your place before Mass in the usual way. Palms will be distributed at the end of Mass. The shorter version of the Passion narrative will be read by the Priest or Deacon, without the different voices being used.

2. **Chrism Mass:** The Archbishop has decided that the Chrism Mass will take place at The Cathedral during Holy Week, but in the presence of Deans and Hospital Chaplains only, so there will be no coach for this Mass this year.

3. **Liturgy of the Hours:** Morning Prayer & the Office of Readings will be prayed on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday at 10.00am in St. Oswald's Church. This is a good opportunity for those who are physically unable to attend to join in the Prayer of the Church.

4. **Mass of the Lord's Supper:** Mass will be celebrated on Maundy Thursday evening at 7.00pm in Our Lady's Church. The Washing of the Feet will be omitted, and there will be no Procession to the Altar of Repose or Watching in the Garden at the end of Mass.

5. **Good Friday:**

i) The Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 12 noon in all three Churches at the same time. Those who attend the Stations of the Cross are under no obligation to attend the Commemoration of the Lord's Passion at 3.00pm. In this way, it is hoped there will be sufficient space for all who wish to attend the later service.

ii) The Commemoration of the Lord's Passion will take place at 3.00pm in St. Oswald's Church. Once again, the Passion narrative will be read by the Deacon, without the different voices being used. The Unveiling of the Cross will take place in the usual manner, but the Veneration of the Cross will be by the Priest alone. You will then be asked to kneel for a short period of silent prayer. Holy Communion will be given at the end of the Service in the (now) usual way.

6. **Confessions:** Confessions will be at St. Oswald's between 11.00am—12 noon on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. There will be no Confessions on Good Friday or Holy Saturday.

7. **Easter Vigil:** The Easter Vigil will take place on Holy Saturday at 8.00pm in St. Wilfrid's Church. There will be no Mass at 6.00pm that day. The Blessing of the Fire will be omitted, and Mass will begin with the Greeting and singing of the *Exsultet*. The Liturgy of the Word will include a number of Old & New Testament readings, followed by the Gospel and Renewal of Baptismal Promises. Mass will then continue in the usual way.

8. **Easter Sunday:** Mass on Easter Sunday will be at 9.30am in Our Lady's and 11.00am in St. Oswald's. There will be no 6.30pm Evening Mass in Our Lady's on Easter Sunday.