

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

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

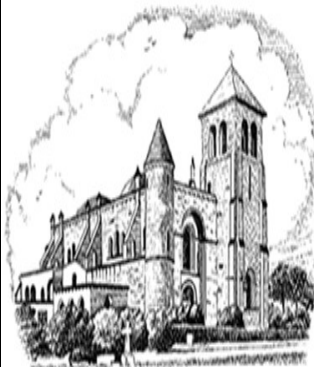
Parish Priest: Rev. John Gorman Tel: 01942 727271

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: 11th April 2021

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (B)

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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (B)

Saturday	6.00pm (StW)	Betty & Brian Williams
Sunday	9.30am (OLI)	Parishioners
	11.00am (StO)	Frank Hayton
	6.30pm (OLI)	Eliza Hughes

Weekday Masses

Monday	9.00am (OLI)	Mary & Bernard Blackburn
Tuesday	9.30am (StW)	Paschaline Donnir
Wednesday	9.30am (StO)	James & Martha Wolfe
Thursday	9.30am (StW)	For a successful operation
Friday	9.00am (OLI)	Fr Bernard Eager
Saturday	10.00am (StO)	Marie Topping

3rd SUNDAY of EASTER (B)

Saturday	6.00pm (StW)	Teresa Wood
Sunday	9.30am (OLI)	Parishioners
	11.00am (StO)	Peggy O'Driscoll

**Please note: There will no 6.00pm Mass at Our Lady's
next Sunday**

Services during the week

Confessions: Sat: 11.00am-12.00noon (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-12noon (StO)

Novena: Wed: 7.00pm (OLI)

Holy Hour: 7.00-8.00pm (OLI)

Sanctuary Lamp

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

Ivor Swarbrick

Anniversaries

11th Apr	Brian Bentham	
	Phyllis Calderbank	
12th Apr	William Houlton	
14th Apr	Tom Ainscough	
	Christine Cunliffe	Thomas Kelly
16th Apr	Marie Topping	
17th Apr	Margaret Eccles	William Gee
	Philip Johnston	

Divine Mercy Sunday

This weekend we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, instituted by Pope St. John Paul II following the Lord's revelations to St. Faustina. A copy of the booklet '*The Divine Mercy Message for all Mankind*', which sets out the Divine Mercy message in the words of Jesus, is available at the back of Church.

Holy Places

Many thanks to all who contributed to last week's special Collection for the Holy Places
which resulted in a total of £190.90

COVID Restrictions

Once again, I would like to re-iterate my thanks to all those who played a part in our celebration of the Holy Week liturgies. Unfortunately, due to increased numbers wishing to attend, it was necessary, for the first time, to close the Church doors on Sunday morning, having reached the capacity allowed. Hopefully this will not happen again but, with people no longer shielding, this cannot be guaranteed.

May I therefore remind you that there is a limit on the numbers who can be admitted to each Church, based on social-distancing guidelines. This limit is 140 at St.Oswald's, 100 at Our Lady's and 75 at St. Wilfrid's. When this number has been reached, there is no option but for us to close the doors. Without going into the rights and wrongs of the matter, you will all have seen what happened in London on Good Friday, and I am not prepared to put in jeopardy the efforts of so many people who have helped to keep our Churches open since last June.

Before Easter, the 11.00am Mass at St. Oswald's was beginning to reach its capacity, but there was still space at the other Masses, particularly on Saturday and Sunday evenings. It would, therefore, be sensible to make sure you arrive in plenty of time.

Although certain restrictions are being lifted, the Coronavirus is still with us, and there are some things, such as social-distancing, which we still have to do, at least for the time being. In asking you to sit in certain places, our stewards are doing only what they been asked to do, and I would ask that you continue to co-operate with them. This is a small price to pay for being able to come to Mass—any of you with family in Ireland (where there have been no public Masses since Christmas) will know what I mean.

Bethlehem Fund

Just before Easter, I was able to arrange, thanks to your generosity, for the transfer of £3000 from our Bethlehem Fund to the Franciscan Parish in Bethlehem. This week, I received the following letter from the Parish Priest, Fr Rami.

Dear Father John & brothers and sisters in the parish community

Bethlehem April 5, 2021

Easter greetings

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

Because of the new corona virus that spreads illness, death, and catastrophe around the world, virtually no economic sector has been spared from harm, especially the tourism sector. Since this pandemic will remain for months and the Bethlehem area relies on tourism, most of the inhabitants have no more source of income.

Therefore, we the habitants of Bethlehem, really count ourselves fortunate because we have good and generous people who think of us like you. I would like to thank you especially for your generous donation of £3000 you gave to the needy families of Bethlehem, which was very providential, especially during the period of coronavirus. With no work, many new families with need appeared.

We know that God is beside us through his people like you. We are grateful for your prompt cooperation and assistance; I will always remember you in my prayers at the Grotto of the Child Jesus. May the Good Lord bless and protect you now and forever.

Yours in Christ
Fr. Rami Asakrieh OFM , Parish Priest

St. Oswald's Annuity Fund

Attached to the newsletter this weekend is a letter from Adrian O'Brien, Co-ordinator of St. Oswald's Annuity in which he sets out the many things which the Fund has been used to provide for the parish over the years, thanks to the generosity of its members. Anyone who is not currently a member, but would like to join, is asked to complete the attached form.