

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

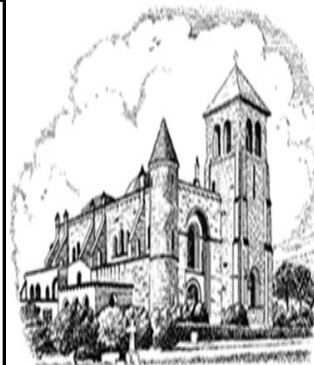
Liverpool Road, Ashton-In-Makerfield, Wigan, WN4 9NP
Liverpool R.C. Archdiocesan Trustees Reg. Charity No. 232709

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: 12th July 2020

15th SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME (A)

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15th SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday	6.00pm	Charles & Alice Fitzpatrick
Sunday	9.30am	Chris Heyes
	11.00am	Helen Ward
	6.30pm	Parishioners

Weekday Masses

Monday	9.00am	Revv. James & John Smith, Ann Beesley, P.J. Monaghan, & Mary Chisnall.
Tuesday	9.30am	Cunningham Family
Wednesday	St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor	
	9.30am	Roger Knowles
Thursday	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	
	9.30am	Jean Unsworth
Friday	9.00am	Peter Taylor
Saturday	10.00am	Dan Leyland

16th SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday	6.00pm	John Fleming
Sunday	9.30am	Parishioners
	11.00am	Dominic Shaw
	6.30pm	Peggy Burns

Services during the week

Confessions: Sat: 11.00-12 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;
Wed & Fri: 6.00-8.00pm (StO)

Novena: There will be no Novena until further notice.

Walsingham Pilgrimage

With great regret and despite our best efforts, it is now obvious that it would not be feasible to undertake our Pilgrimage to Walsingham this year due to difficulties with transport and accommodation.

Deposits will be refunded to those who booked in the next week or so. The dates for 2021 are the 23rd-26th August.

Catholic Pictorial

Copies of the Catholic Pictorial are available at the back of Church, or can be downloaded at <https://bit.ly/2ABcudJ>.

Planned Giving Envelopes

Many thanks to the great many of you who have gone to such lengths to hand in your offertory envelopes over the lockdown period.

For those who have not yet received a new box of envelopes, these are available at the back of Church, as are Standing Order Forms for those who may wish to have one.

For the foreseeable future there will be no offertory collection during Mass. Envelopes may be left in the basket at the back of Church before or after Mass.

Cautious Re-opening of Churches for Public Worship

Thankfully, the recommencement of public Masses passed off this week without major incident and by Tuesday all three Churches were again finally open. In some ways, while familiar, it was also an unusual experience for all concerned (not least your Parish Priest!) as I am sure it will be this weekend for many of you but, hopefully, we will become accustomed to what is being asked of us in celebrating Mass in this way.

Doors will open 30 minutes before Mass, and I would remind you that each church will have a maximum number of people who can be admitted. This number is 130 for St.Oswald's; 100 for Our Lady's; and 75 for St. Wilfrid's. This number will be strictly adhered to, and the doors will be closed should this number be reached. While there is no desire to prevent anyone from attending, exceeding this number will result in permission being withdrawn and there being no Mass in the future.

There is currently no obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and Sunday Mass will continue to be recorded on Youtube.

Those who are elderly or vulnerable should carefully consider whether to attend Mass at this time, and **those who have been advised to shield until the end of July, or have respiratory or other underlying health problems, should most certainly not do so.**

Anyone who is able to attend Mass during the week is encouraged to do so, to allow those who cannot to attend Mass at the weekend, and to relieve the pressure on weekend Masses.

Anyone coming to Church will be required to wear a facemask, which you may lower to receive Holy Communion.

Volunteer stewards will be on hand to direct hand sanitising on arriving and leaving, to direct people to benches and to encourage worshippers to maintain reasonable social distancing. Social distancing guidelines of 1 metre plus are still in force. Only those of the same household, or who have formed a social 'bubble' should sit together.

Every 2nd bench is cordoned off, and seating will be in designated places only. To assist with the cleaning of Church after Mass, places will be filled up from the front of Church, with the side aisles and transepts used only if necessary. This means you may be asked to sit somewhere other than your 'usual' place. Please help by co-operating fully in this.

A one-way system will operate in Church on arrival and at Holy Communion i.e. up the centre aisle and down the side aisles.

Single use newsletters and Mass sheets will be given out but these must be taken home.

There will be no singing and no Sign of Peace during Mass.

Holy Communion will be distributed after the final dismissal of the Mass. Communicants will be directed by stewards as to when and how to approach the altar, and then leave the church directly after receiving Holy Communion **without returning to their benches**. Shopping bags or other large personal items should therefore not be brought to Church.

Holy Communion will be given as the Sacred Host only. The reception of Holy Communion on the tongue is not permitted. The priest will wear a visor while distributing Holy Communion and sanitise his hands before and after distribution.

The words: "The Body of Christ. Amen" will only be said once at the beginning of the distribution of Holy Communion and will not be repeated for each communicant. Communicants should approach the altar with arms outstretched and hands flat, in order to maintain a reasonable distance from the minister, and to avoid skin contact.

There should be no handshakes or hugs after Mass and lingering clusters of conversation in the porch or outside the church are to be avoided.

The toilets will be closed and may only be used in a genuine emergency.

Votive candles may be lit **before** Mass, but only from another lighted candle.

We are greatly indebted to all who have helped to bring about the re-opening of our Churches which has taken many hours of preparation. (There are a number of Churches, even locally, which have not done so). Please note that each Church has to be cleaned after every service, and that a team of volunteers is required after every Mass if our Churches are to remain open. Only those undertaking this task will be allowed to remain in Church after Mass. If you are willing to help, please let Fr John know.

The Archbishop has now decided that **Requiem Masses** may be celebrated, but with a maximum of 30 people present. Coffins may not be touched and must not have any objects placed on them.

Weddings can now take place in Church but there are to be no more than 30 people present.

Baptisms can now take place, but again these should be small family gatherings.

The celebration of the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will resume from Saturday 11th July from 11.00-12 noon at St. Oswald's. Confessions will take place in the Sacristy.

Penitents are asked to wait at the front of Church. If the Sacristy door is open, it means the priest is free.

**St. Oswald's Church will remain open for private prayer and devotion
from Monday – Friday between 10.00am—12 noon and
on Wednesday & Friday between 6.00pm—8.00pm**

St. Oswald's Car Park & Cemetery

As we begin to gather once again for Mass, may I make an appeal for you to foster the good habit of using the main car park at Mass times, and that the area outside the main door of the Church and the main drive be reserved for Blue-badge holders only.

For those of you who may not have been aware, telescopic bollards were installed at the entrance to the car park on St. Oswald's Road recently following persistent problems with anti-social behaviour. These bollards are raised at 5.00pm each day, and I would add there have been one or two near misses recently when owners were late moving their vehicles.

Following a recent incident, when an unsolicited approach was made to someone visiting the cemetery, the gates to rear section of the cemetery will also now be closed at 5.00pm each day. Please be aware that, for your safety, CCTV cameras are in operation around the Church and cemetery. However, as the site is open, there may from time to time be people who have no legitimate reason for being in the grounds. We can only deal with them if it is immediately reported to us and, if necessary, to the Police.

I would encourage you to do so if you see anything suspicious.

St. Oswald's Book of Remembrance

In 2022, we celebrate the bi-centenary of the foundation of St. Oswald's as a Parish. With this in mind, it seems to be an appropriate way to begin to prepare by opening a Book of Remembrance for those members of the parish who have gone before us in faith, and who have left us such a lasting legacy. If you would like to have the name of a member of your family inscribed in the Book of Remembrance, forms are available at the back of Church or, alternatively, you could fill in the details below and return to the Parish Office.

ST OSWALD'S & ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH PARISH

'BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE'

For the entry of your loved one to be included in this book, please put the name and date for Remembrance below:

NAME:

DATE:

A donation of £5.00 per entry is suggested