

Services, Mass Times and Intentions

The Baptism of the Lord

In Private	Saturday	Bill Mort R.I.P.
In Private	Sunday	The Byrne Family
In Private	Tuesday	Enid Worden R.I.P.
In Private	Wednesday	David Warbis R.I.P.
In Private	Thursday	Brian Molyneux R.I.P.
In Private	Friday	Marjorie Gregorie R.I.P.

Second of Ordinary Time

In Private	Saturday	Annie Butterworth Anniversary
In Private	Sunday	Agnes Walley R.I.P.



Children's Corner

How do you stop an astronaut's baby from crying? You rocket!

Why was 6 afraid of 7? Because 7, 8, 9

What is a witch's favourite subject in school? Spelling!



St Edmund Arrowsmith

Sanctuary Lamp

Next week our
Sanctuary Lamps will shine
for....

All suffering from Covid-19

at St Joseph's

and

All those suffering

bereavement

at Sacred Heart

The Parish of Saint Edmund Arrowsmith

Served by the Churches of Sacred Heart and St Joseph



Sacred Heart Church
Walmesley Road
Leigh WN7 1YE

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 17th January 2021

Clergy Team:

Parish Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady
email: k.ogrady@rcaol.org.uk
Deacon: Dcn. Dennis Vint



St Joseph's Church
Mather Lane
Leigh WN7 2PR

Parish Office
St Joseph's Presbytery
Mather Lane
Leigh WN7 2PR
01942 673517

Parish Administrator
Jacqui Unsworth
Parish Office Hour
Mon – Fri 9.00 - 14.00
stedmund.leigh@rcaol.org.uk

Deanery Website:
www.leighdeanery.co.uk

THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SACRED HEART CHURCH AND ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

In a recent email to priests of the Archdiocese, the Archbishop has written the following:

“Although I have circulated the recent Government advice on the opening of churches, I want to emphasise that the final decision in this regard is yours. Only you know your people, their age profile and the risks they are likely to be exposed to and present to others. You have to consider your volunteers and stewards. You also have yourself to consider and I would not want you to expose yourself unnecessarily to infection from the virus.”

So, after speaking to a number of health professionals, priests in the Archdiocese, nurses and NHS staff, all the priests of the Deanery have decided to cease the celebration of public worship and private prayer in all the churches in the area. We will review our position when hopefully the situation changes but in the meantime there are several reasons for this decision:

- The number of cases in the NW is still very much on the increase.
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- The new strain of the virus is more virulent than in the past.
- A good number of people who attend Mass are over 70 and are therefore in the vulnerable category – even though there is no obligation, attending Mass is a further risk.
- It is important to ensure the safety of our stewards. Our thanks go to them for all the hard work they have done in the past few months. Without our stewards we would not be able to open up any of our churches.
- Even though our churches have been Covid secure it is still a gathering of people for 30 minutes which increases the risk of spreading the virus.

The overall message from the Government and health officials is to **STAY AT HOME.**

I will continue to celebrate Mass privately and I will hold you in the Mass each day. Please be assured of my prayers for you and your families at this time. Keep safe and God bless. Fr. Kieran

We hold in prayer all who are sick in body, mind or spirit and those who care for them. Including: Craig Hardman & Dennis O'Halloran...also those who have died recently, Margaret Mary Gaskell, Betty Gerrity Laurence Hawkins, David Warbis

LITURGICAL WEEK

Today: Second Sunday of Ordinary Time
 Thursday: Memorial of St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
 Sunday: Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Funerals this week

Wednesday Margaret Mary Gaskell Leigh Cemetery
 Please keep her family in your prayers. For Margaret we pray: Eternal rest...

FINANCES

Thanks for your continued kindness and thanks to all those who have sent in their offertory collections saved up over these last few months.

Collection for 9th/10th January 2021 £561.76

Food for thought

There's something about an invitation that makes us feel special and accepted, and it means a great deal to people both young and old. In today's Gospel we hear how the first disciples responded to Jesus' invitation to '*Come and See*'. When Andrew and Simon Peter met Jesus, they asked Him: "*Rabbi, where do you live?*" He said: "*Come and see.*" They went, and stayed for the rest of the day. I wonder what it would have been like for Mary. Did she return to find strangers in her house? Did she welcome and serve them in her Son's name? I'm pretty sure she did! Mary would have sensed that the personal encounter people had when they met Jesus was life-changing, and yet it was in very ordinary circumstances. Jesus is always ready to meet people 'where they're at', and he always can see our potential, even if we can't! We may think that we've nothing to offer, but the Lord takes what ordinary people can offer and uses it to build up the Kingdom of God. Jesus' invitation to '*Come and See*' is for everyone. Today's Gospel says that *Andrew took Simon to Jesus*. This is how evangelization happens - a parent, brother, sister, friend or relative invites someone they care about, to a relationship with the Lord. They may even make the effort to bring them to Church, so that their friend or relative may come and see! Don't forget the power of an invitation! Who can you invite to come to know the Lord? Praise Him!!