

Roman Catholic Parish of Saint Winifred

Saint Winifred's Church, Mauldeth Road, Heaton Mersey, SK4 3NB (0161) 432 4412; **Website:** www.stwinifreds.org.uk; **Email:** stwinifredstockport@gmail.com **Facebook:** @St Winifred's RC Church; **Parish Priest:** Fr Mark Paver; **Parish Office:** Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm (Mary Ward)



Christ the King – 23rd November 2025 **This Week's Schedule**

Sunday 23rd November	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Christ the King
Monday 24th November		No Mass Today	SS Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions
Tuesday 25th November	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	St Catherine of Alexandria
Wednesday 26th November	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday
Thursday 27th November	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday
Friday 28th November	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday
Saturday 29th November	9.30am – 10.30am 11.00am – 11.45am 12 noon	Adoration Confessions Holy Mass	Weekday
Sunday 30th November	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	1 st Sunday of Advent

Readings this Week: The year of Saint Luke ends with a characteristic take on the feast of Christ the King: in Luke's gospel we are so familiar with seeing and hearing the voiceless, the rejected, those whom society puts in second place: how suitable, then, that on the feast of the King of all Creation we see him at his most vulnerable – on the cross, with only an abrupt inscription to announce that he is the King. He is King because of the work he has done, which is described by Saint Paul in the Second Reading: "all things [are] reconciled through him and for him ... when he made peace by his death on the cross." Next week, when we re-enter Advent and a new Liturgical Year, we will be thinking of the King who will come again: though he will come as his disciples saw him go at the Ascension, the marks of the cross will still be visible for all time, to remind us of the one who came to reunite all Creation, especially frail human creatures. (*Source: Salford Liturgy*).

Mass Intentions Received:

Lately Dead: Maria Maya.

Anniversaries: Flannan Griffin, George Halligan, Dominic Keniry, Patrick Fowley, Willie Ho, Bernard Murray, Mary Josephine Staddon & Wojtech Pagowski.

Parish News and Events:

Congratulations to Felix who was baptised here at St Winifred's yesterday. Congratulations and blessings to Sophie and Martin, his parents.

Safe Recruitment for Volunteers: Diocesan Safeguarding Policy requires us to follow certain procedures when recruiting volunteers. For some roles a volunteer must obtain a DBS certificate. For others, while a DBS certificate is not necessary, we are required to obtain and keep on file certain documentation. This includes a basic application form, copies of 3 forms of identification and 2 references. We must obtain this documentation for every current volunteer as well as new volunteers. The volunteers affected include: readers, stewards/welcomers, cleaners, gardeners/grounds helpers, and eucharistic ministers within church. To simplify things, after the Masses today and next week we will be handing out packs for volunteers to take away and complete. ***The pack comes with clear instructions!*** On December 14th our safeguarding reps will be available from 10am to 1pm in the Committee Room of the Kavanagh Centre to receive completed packs and check ID. **If you already have a DBS certificate because of a parish role you do not need to complete this process as your documentation has already been provided.**

Thank you! To everyone who came to help with the clearing of the leaves last Sunday. It has made a massive difference.

Pedro Ballester: Many will remember Pedro (“Pedrito”) Ballester and know his parents Pedro and Esperanza from their many years spent as part of our parish family. They still have a home here although Mum and Dad are now grandparents and so their time is split between their home here and that in Spain. Many will know too of Pedrito’s story (captured in a film, “I’ve Never Been Happier” which can be viewed online here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNfgbuFusLU&t=3006s>.), his inspiring faith, joy and witness both before and during his battle with cancer which finally came to an end on January 13th, 2018. Many too have benefited from Pedrito’s intercession using the prayer cards that are available in our piety stall. The Catholic Chaplaincies of Manchester University (MUCC) and the Holy Name Church have invited Pedrito’s Dad to deliver a talk about his son’s life, legacy, and love of God. The talk will take place at **Holy Name Church on Tuesday 25 November at 6pm** – for more information please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/a-talk-on-pedro-ballester/>

Parish Christmas Fair: This year’s Christmas Fair will take place on **Saturday 6th December in St. Winifred’s School Hall (1pm – 4pm)**. Any tombola donations of bottles / chocolates would be happily received (collection box in the porch). Closer to the date, we would be grateful for any donations of delicious home baking, if anyone is able to help! And if anyone needs raffle tickets, there are still some available. Many thanks for your support.

Christmas Dates for the Diary: Service of Nine Lessons and Carols **Sunday 14th December**, 6.30pm in church; Ecumenical Christmas Carols in Heaton Moor Village: **Saturday December 20th**, 1pm to 2pm outside the Moor Top Pub – All welcome to help bring the light and joy of Christmas to the Moor.

Christmas Mass Times: Our Christmas Mass times will be as follows:

Wednesday 24th December: First Mass of Christmas, 5pm

Wednesday 24th December: Carols, 7.30pm

Wednesday 24th December: 8pm

Thursday 25th December: 9am and 11am

Lessons and Carols: If you would like to be part of a church singing group for our lessons and carols service on Sunday 14th December we have scheduled 3 rehearsals for Wednesday November 26th, Thursday December 4th and Thursday December 11th all at 7pm.

Wellspring: Next Sunday we will be our last week collecting for the Rucksack Project, which aims to provide essential items for as many people facing homelessness as possible during the winter months. The items needed are rucksacks, roll mat, sleeping bag, flask, gloves, hat, torch, boxers, socks and wet wipes. Also, urgent items are men’s joggers, jeans, coats, t-shirts (sizes M/L) and trainers (sizes 7 -11). Items need not be new but in good condition. If you prefer to go online to donate, go to wellspring.co.uk and follow the links. They also accept other clothing, but please keep that at home for the last week! Thank you!

The Cafod World Gifts leaflets have arrived and are available at the back of church! World Gifts are a range of life-changing virtual gifts that will delight the people you give them to and help transform the lives of families and communities living in poverty. Please take a leaflet home and look through it. You may be surprised by what you can buy and gift to others!

Walk with Me & My Day by Day Advent Booklets are available in the church porch for free!

Other News and Events of Interest:

A Day of Reflection on the role of Sacred Music in the Liturgy: On 29th November, a practical day course will be held on understanding the use of Sacred Music within the Mass, starting at 11am and finishing with sung Mass at 5:15pm. The morning session will take place at St. Augustine’s, Grosvenor Square, and the afternoon session and Mass will take place at St. Mary’s, the Hidden Gem. The cost is £20 per person, which includes a buffet lunch and light refreshments. To book and for more information please contact Dr. Rosemarie Darby via email: rosemarie.darby@manchester.ac.uk

Baptism Reimagined: Baptism is transformative, it is the gateway to Christ. Come and join a national conversation about how baptism is understood in the life of the Church today, how to reawaken a baptismal mindset in our families and parishes and how might we spread the light of hope today. A day conference is taking place next **Saturday, 29 November 2025, from 10.30am to 5pm at St Joseph’s Catholic Church, Stockport, SK1 1EJ**. The keynote address will be given by Abbot Hugh Allen O.Praem. Cost is £10 and participants should bring their own lunch. Please email Natalie.Orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org to book your place.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Our diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage group invites you to a special Mass in preparation for the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Mass, celebrated by Bishop John, will take place at 3pm on Sunday 7 December at St Patrick’s, Collyhurst (M4 5HF). Following Mass, information will be shared by the Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage group on plans for the 2026 pilgrimage.

Caritas Salford Advent Appeal: Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, has released its 2025 Advent appeal to shine the spotlight on the true meaning of Christmas. To watch their latest animation and to find out more about how to help local people who are facing acute crisis this Christmas, please visit: <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/bee-there-2025/>