

Roman Catholic Parish of Saint Winifred

Saint Winifred's Church, Mauldeth Road, Heaton Mersey, SK4 3NB (0161) 432 4412; **Website:** www.stwinifred.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)



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 25th January 2026 This Week's Schedule

Sunday 25th January	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday 26th January		No Mass Today	Weekday
Tuesday 27th January	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday / St Angela Merici (OM)
Wednesday 28th January	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	St Thomas Aquinas (M)
Thursday 29th January	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday
Friday 30th January	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am 1.30pm	Adoration Holy Mass Requiem Mass for Nicola Westby	Weekday
Saturday 31st January	9.30am – 10.30am 11.00am – 11.45am 12 noon	Adoration Confessions Holy Mass	St John Bosco (M)
Sunday 1st February	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings this Week:

We will spend most of the Sundays of the coming year in the company of Saint Matthew. His Gospel (like the others has its own characteristics. He is writing for a Jewish audience, and so is always at pains to stress one thing: that Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah. He does this by reference to Jesus' teaching and miracles, and very often by quoting the prophecies of the Old Testament to show that Jesus was their fulfilment. Today is a perfect example. "Zebulun and Naphthali" was an old name for the area round Capernaum by the side of the Lake of Galilee, a busy fishing and trading area, with many Gentile towns and settlements: it is here, rather than in the dangerous town of Nazareth, that Jesus "settles" and begins his ministry. This is where the proclamation of the Kingdom of God begins, as was foretold, and the first followers are invited to join Jesus.

Marriage Matters: *God has a stake in our marriage* - Today, we see two aspects of God's plan for our marriage: '... (I will make) their joy increase' (Isaiah) and 'I will make you fishers of men' (Matthew). God wants us to make our love for each other as close to Jesus' love for us as possible, that all whose lives we touch might experience how much God loves them.

Mass Intentions Received:

Lately Dead: Angela Lawrence, Jim McCann, Michael Comer, Pat Stafford & Karla Jordan.

Anniversaries: William Ireland, Mary Carley, John Hampson, James Jennings, Mary Flannery, Ella Dolan & Gretta O'Neill.

Other: Special Intention.

Parish News and Events:

Caritas Sunday: Today is Caritas Sunday and there will be a retiring collection at the end of Mass to support the work of Caritas Salford, the principal domestic charity of the Diocese of Salford, supporting local people experiencing poverty, homelessness and displacement. Copies of their newsletter, *Love in Action*, are available at the back of church highlighting just some of the difference parish support has made possible in the past year.

This Week's Schedule: On Friday we will celebrate the funeral of Nicola Westby with a Requiem Mass at 1.30pm. On Thursday there is a funeral service for Jean Elvidge at Manchester Crematorium at 3pm.

Congratulations: To Oliver & Aurelia, cousins who were both Baptised yesterday. Congratulations also to both Mums and Dads, Nicholas & Jessica and Ben & Laura.

Car Park Improvement Works: Several parishioners have raised concerns about the condition of the concreted areas near to both entrances of the car park and towards the main door of the church. Over time this area has deteriorated and is becoming a trip hazard. We have received approval from the Diocese to undertake work to replace those concreted areas with tarmac. While the works are being completed there will be some limitations on the use of the car park but it is hoped that at least one half can remain open at all times. The start date is not yet known - we hope it will be soon and will, of course, publish details.

Crib Offerings: Our crib will remain in place until the Feast of the presentation of the Lord (February 2nd) and our offerings will continue to support the efforts of Friends of the Holy Land amongst the devastated communities there. Thank you for your generous support. Donations can also be made using the card reader.

Charitable Giving: Firstly many, many thanks are due for the wonderful response for both the Wellspring food appeal and the Rucksack Project before Christmas. It was tremendous! We will continue supporting the Foodbank for the next 5 weeks. They urgently need long life milk and fruit juice, tinned meat (to cook or serve cold), potatoes, chickpeas, coconut milk and long life sponge puddings; also nappies sizes 5 & 6 and shampoo. We delivered 31.5 kg of food to them this week. Thank you.

50-50 Club: Over the next couple of weeks 50-50 Club Agents will be collecting subscriptions for 2026. To help with the administration of the draw, if possible, could members please write cheques payable to 'St Winifred's' for 3, 6 or 12 months' worth of entries. The annual fee is £48, less than £1 per week, and the draw can raise around £5,000 for the parish.

Other News and Events of Interest:

Relics of St Carlo Acutis to Visit Diocese of Salford: The relics of St Carlo Acutis will be hosted at two of our churches over five days this week, during which time the Diocese will welcome schools, parishioners and people from all over for veneration. St Carlo is the first millennial saint and is celebrated for his profound faith and his use of the internet to log Eucharistic miracles from around the world. He was passionate about spreading the teachings of the Catholic Church up until his death from leukemia at the age of 15. ***The closest church for us is St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst and the best times to go seem to be from 3.30pm on Friday 30th January (Mass at 7pm); from 10.45am on Saturday 31st January (Youth Vigil at 7pm); or between 12.30pm and 4.45pm on Sunday 1st February.***

A missionary in Mongolia: Ever wondered what Mission looks like in Mongolia, home to the youngest Catholic community and church in the world? This is your chance to find out. **Missio** invites you to an evening with His Eminence Cardinal Giorgio Marengo – a Consolata Missionary, the Apostolic Prefect of Ulaanbaatar and the second youngest member of the college of Cardinals. To be held 7pm-9pm on Wednesday, 4 February 2026. Mass will be celebrated at 7.00pm, followed by a short talk at 7.45pm and refreshments at St Peter's Catholic Church, Hazel Grove, Green Lane, Stockport SK7 4EA. Parking is available in the Church car park accessed via Green Lane. It would help if you could let them know whether you will be joining them by emailing: redbox@missio.org.uk

Lenten Talks: School of Prayer: During Lent, a series of talks and prayerful reflections will be taking place every Tuesday from 10:30AM to 12:30PM, led by Mgr Paul Smith, Sr Joan Kerley and Maria Kidd. These will be held at Our Lady and Lancashire Martyrs Church, Little Hulton, from 17 February to 24 March, and light refreshments will be served. For more information on how to book your place please visit the diocesan website by clicking the following link: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lenten-talks-school-of-prayer/>

Exploring God's Creation within Catholic Theology: Dr Finlay Malcolm from the University of Manchester will be delivering an interactive teaching session exploring how creation and the environment are integral to Catholic faith and theology. The session will involve theological and environmental teaching, spiritual reflection, and discussion of how we can be part of God's work, through the Church, in redeeming God's creation. The event will take place on 25 February 2026, 7-9pm, at Guardian Angels Roman Catholic Church in Bury. Refreshments will be provided. For more information and to sign up for the event, please use the following link: [Exploring God's Creation within Catholic Theology - Roman Catholic Diocese of Salford](https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/education/vacancies/)

Early Career Teachers - Primary Pool Applications: The Diocese of Salford Education Team are inviting applications from ECTs to be added to their Primary Pool for 2026. The Primary Pool will identify and recommend high quality candidates who will gain Qualified Teacher Status in summer 2026 for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for September 2026. The Application Form, Person Specification and Job Description can be found in Vacancies on the Diocesan website by following this link: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/education/vacancies/> If you require further information, please contact the Education Team by emailing education@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Vacancies at the Diocese of Salford: Job opportunities occasionally come up at the Diocese. Currently there is a vacancy for a **bid writer** to assist in obtaining grant funding. Please see the link here for current vacancies: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>.