

# 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)



## First Sunday of Lent – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026 This Week's Schedule

<b>Sunday 22nd February</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	First Sunday of Lent
<b>Monday 23rd February</b>		No Mass Today	Lent Weekday / St Polycarp (OM)
<b>Tuesday 24th February</b>	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Lent Weekday
<b>Wednesday 25th February</b>	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Lent Weekday
<b>Thursday 26th February</b>	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Lent Weekday
<b>Friday 27th February</b>	<b>6.30am</b> 9.30am  <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Lenten Penitential Mass</b> Requiem Mass for Patricia Reynolds <b>Stations of the Cross</b>	Lent Weekday / St Gregory of Narek (OM)
<b>Saturday 28th February</b>	9.30am – 10.30am 11.00am-11.45am 12 noon	Adoration Confessions Holy Mass	Lent Weekday
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Second Sunday of Lent

### ***Readings this Week:***

In the Cycle of Sunday Readings, the oldest are those of Year A in Lent – these Gospels have accompanied the Church for many centuries. We must realise why: Lent was originally the time of immediate preparation of candidates for Baptism at Easter (something which has been reintroduced to the Church by RCIA): those already baptised used it as a time to prepare for the renewal of Baptismal promises. This is why so much of the Scripture in Lent is about Baptism, New Life and Salvation. What is the new life of Baptism? What are we set free from? What is sin? We begin Lent by hearing about sin and temptation; the Gospel will tell us of Jesus' own temptations, something he shares with us, though he did not sin. The other Scripture readings prepare us for the Gospel, in which Jesus, the new Adam, triumphs over temptation.

### ***Marriage Matters: Avoid independence***

Today, both Eve and Jesus are tempted to become independent, to turn away from the love of God. In marriage, we can think we have a right to fulfil our own desires without considering our partner, but we need to share these deepest hopes and dreams and be prepared to hear the impact on our loved one and our relationship.

### ***Mass Intentions Received:***

**Lately Dead:** Patricia Reynolds, James McCann, Christopher Duffy, Fiona Gallagher, Nancy Morley & Nancy Lavin.

**Anniversaries:** Agnes Halligan, Michael Clavin & Gerard Hartley.

**Other:** Don Thompson (90<sup>th</sup> Birthday), Korean Lunar New Year, Deceased family members of Yulia Yun & Joseph Won, Michael Warriner & family (Special Intention).

### ***Parish News and Events:***

**Changes to the Schedule this Week:** On Friday we will celebrate the funeral of Patricia (Pat) Reynolds with a Requiem Mass at 9.30am, there will be no Adoration on that day. On Friday and for Fridays throughout Lent, as a particular Lenten offering, we will celebrate an additional Mass at 6.30am. On Friday evenings throughout Lent, we will pray the Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm.

**RCIA Rite of Election:** At 2.30pm today Bishop John will preside at the Rite of Election at St Patrick's, Collyhurst, for all those in our diocese who are preparing to be Baptised or received into the Church at Easter. Three candidates are from our parish and will be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil this year. As the reflection on the readings above notes, the origin of Lent can be traced to the early Church and the period of intense preparation for Baptism, a period of "purification and enlightenment". Please pray for our candidates especially during this time.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day:** Next Friday is CAFOD Family Fast Day. Envelopes can be collected today to take away and used to contribute to their collection (the envelopes will be collected next Sunday and there will be a collection for CAFOD at the end of Mass next week). You can also donate online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). Also, don't forget you are invited to our **Bread and Soup Lunch in the Kavanagh Centre from 12 noon to 1.30pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February** to raise funds as well. Come along and bring a friend!

**St Patrick's Day:** To celebrate the feast of St Patrick after morning Mass on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March there will be refreshments in the Kavanagh Centre and a chance to raise some funds to support the work of our St Vincent de Paul group. If anyone can donate prizes that could be used for the raffle, it would be appreciated. A box is provided in the porch for donations. Thank you!

**Charitable Giving:** Foodbank final donation this week was 26kg. Thank you for all your generous donations which are always very gratefully received!

**Cornerstone Day Centre:** During Lent we support this diocesan charity in Hulme for homeless people. For their store cupboard they would like the following items: breakfast cereals & porridge oats, coffee, sugar, long life milk, bottles of squash/cordial, individually wrapped biscuits/cakes, tinned meat, fish, vegetables, fruit, rice pudding & custard, complete meals (stews, curries), cook-in sauces as well as stock cubes, condiments, rice and pasta. Thank you.

**Catholic Post:** We have received a number of copies of the March 2026 edition of the Catholic Newspaper Catholic Post for free this week. They can be taken on a first come first served basis from the table at the back. Do we want a parish subscription to this newspaper? Please let us know if there is demand. The subscription is quite reasonable but there would need to be sufficient interest. The March edition has two items of local interest, a story about the visit of the relics of St Carlo Acutis to the Diocese and a story about our own parishioner Pedro ("Pedrito") Ballester whose life of holiness is currently being studied by Church authorities.

## ***Other News and Events of Interest:***

**Permanent Diaconate event:** If you are a Catholic man interested in learning more about the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Salford, there is a 'Come and See' event on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March at St Mary's Church Hall, Burnley, BB10 4AU: 10am – 2pm. See poster on the notice board for further details.

**Exploring God's Creation within Catholic Theology:** Dr Finlay Malcolm from the University of Manchester will be delivering an interactive teaching session exploring how our care for creation and the environment is integral to Catholic faith and theology. The event will take place on **25<sup>th</sup> February, 7-9pm**, at Guardian Angels Roman Catholic Church in Bury. For more information and to sign up see: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/exploring-gods-creation-within-catholic-theology/>

**Caritas Salford - Pray, Fast, Give:** This Lent, visit Caritas Salford's website for a range of free resources and information for your parish community as you pray, fast and give this Lent: [www.caritassalford.org.uk/Lent](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/Lent)

**New Dawn Catholic Conference 2026** will take place at All Saints Church, Manchester (Redclyffe Road, Urmston, M41 7LG) as we celebrate 40 years of New Dawn! Join hundreds of people in prayer, worship, and fellowship at All Saints - the Church of the City of Mary Immaculate - and be encouraged by the beauty of the Catholic faith as together we seek the ongoing renewal of the Church in England. Our first conference runs 29-31 May with daily Holy Mass, praise and worship, talks, prayer ministry, children's (ages 5-11) and youth (ages 12-17) ministries, and opportunities for confession and personal prayer; bookings are now open (<https://booking.princeofpeace.org.uk/>). A second conference follows 3-7 August, with bookings open March 1st. For more information go to [www.princeofpeace.org.uk](http://www.princeofpeace.org.uk) - all are welcome.

**The Catenians** are an international body of Catholic laymen who meet once a month and offer friendship and support to Catholic men and their families at all stages of their lives. Information is available at <https://thecatenians.com/about-us/> or [membership@thecatenians.com](mailto:membership@thecatenians.com) We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Davenport Golf Club, Poynton and would be pleased to welcome new members. Please contact our parishioner Bernard Stafford on 07745 916775 who will be happy to provide you with more details and introduce you to his Catenian friends.

**Boarbank Hall Retreats:** The Canonesses of St Augustine at Boarbank Hall, near Grange-over-Sands, invite you to consider making a retreat with them to take in the wonder of God's creation. They especially highlight a bird watching retreat in May – Two Wings and Some Prayers (May 9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> 2026) – and a Re-Creation retreat in October (October 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> 2026), which focuses on re-energising those who are committed to living their faith with hope in a world of ecological challenge. For more information on these and other retreats please email [margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk](mailto:margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk). Or see their Website: [www.boarbankhall.org.uk](http://www.boarbankhall.org.uk)