

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)



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 16th August 2026 This Week's Schedule

Sunday 16th August	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Monday 17th August		No Mass today	Weekday
Tuesday 18th August	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday
Wednesday 19th August	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday / St John Eudes (OM)
Thursday 20th August	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	St Bernard
Friday 21st August	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	St Pius X
Saturday 22nd August	9.30am – 10.30am 11.00am – 11.45am 12 noon	Adoration Confessions Holy Mass	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sunday 23rd August	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings this Week:

This great feast is a twin to the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Then, if you recall, the preface of the Mass contained these words: “Christ is the beginning, the head of the Church; where he has gone, we hope to follow.” Today we celebrate the first of us to do just that, as we remember Mary following Our Lord into heaven. She is the First to follow him - but not the last: this feast should open our eyes to our final destination - heaven. This feast pushes us right back into the Easter Season, to thoughts of death and resurrection: it is the second reading which underlines all this. It talks of the ‘gradual’ resurrection of the dead: Christ first, then “those who belong to him”. Of these, the first is Mary, she who was without stain of original sin, she who was “most blessed of all women”. In her, today, we see the fulfilment of the vision of the First reading: the end of death, and the victory of life in Christ.

Marriage Matters: *We are exalted...* Today we celebrate that Jesus exalted his mother in special way. As married couples we too can take heart from Mary. Although everything will be changed by the death of one of us, it is not the end! Nothing of our love for each other will be lost, but, as the Lord promised, will be made glorious in heaven.

Mass Intentions Received:

Lately Dead: Maureen Sweeney.

Anniversaries: Stella McHugh, Florence Mannion, Shaun Mines, Mary & James Emson, Jimmy Mulgrew, Madeleine O'Neill, Maureen Byrne, David Entwistle, Sam Sidebotham & Thomas Morton.

Other: Kevin Long (Birthday) & The Winstanley Family (Special Intention).

Parish News and Events:

Congratulations to Nancy who will be baptised later today. Congratulations also to Mum and Dad, Matthew & Katherine.

Charitable Giving: The Foodbank has updated their list of urgently needed items to include coffee, long life milk, tins of meat (ham, corned beef, etc), coconut milk, soup, tomatoes, fruit, rice pudding, bars of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, cat and dog food. The box for your donations is on the left side of the porch as you enter the church. Thank you for your generous donations.

Parish WhatsApp Channel: Increasingly WhatsApp is used as a way to stay informed. A function within WhatsApp is a "WhatsApp Channel" where you can follow people and institutions you are interested in and get the latest news from them. As a complement to Facebook, our website and the traditional prints and announcements, it should be a good way to share parish information including newsletters, changes to the schedule and other events. We have launched a channel called "St Winifred's Church, Heaton Mersey". Within WhatsApp, notices will appear under "Updates" (the bottom left of the menu bar) not in "chats" where most interaction takes place. The channel is one way only so it will serve to allow updates to be provided by the parish. To follow us and begin to use WhatsApp to get the latest news from the parish, scan the QR code (or search for us within the "Updates" function in WhatsApp).



RCIA: RCIA stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults and is the liturgical process for an adult to prepare to be Baptised or for a non-Catholic Christian to be received into the Catholic Church. We run a course every year from September to Easter to provide catechesis for adults in that situation. The course will run on Tuesday evenings. It is also a good course for anyone who wishes to learn more about the Catholic faith. If you would like to take part please register your interest by email on stwinifredstockport@gmail.com. Further information and course start date will be provided.

Sacramental Programme 2026 to 2027: Our Sacramental Programme (preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion) will be run from the church, led by teams of catechists and will begin in September. If your child is in year 3 or above, is baptised and has not yet made their First Holy Communion they are eligible to take part. Please email Mary Ward in the office to register your interest (stwinifredstockport@gmail.com).

Defibrillator: The defibrillator is now in place and available for use. It is situated on the outside of the church on the wall of the confessional so that it can be accessed easily from both the church and the Kavanagh Centre. It is a public access defibrillator and so is registered on the Circuit for emergency responders. It would be helpful for us to create a list of those who are trained in emergency first aid for both the centre and the church in the event that an emergency occurs. At some point we will arrange some training in emergency first aid – if anyone is able to provide that training or knows someone who can please contact us by email.

Help Us Celebrate 75 Years of Our Parish! January 2027 will mark 75 years since our parish was erected. We will give some thought over the coming months as to how to mark this milestone. As a start, do you have any photographs of parish life from years gone by? We are looking for pictures of church celebrations, processions, first holy communions and other sacraments, parish groups, social events and other special occasions to help celebrate our parish's 75th anniversary. A selection of photographs will be enlarged, framed and displayed in the Kavanagh Centre as a lasting celebration of our parish's history. Volunteers will be waiting for your photographs after the Masses today and they will be scanned and returned to you. Alternatively, place them in a clearly labelled envelope (with your name and contact details) in the **Photo Collection Basket** at the back of church. Once scanned, they can be collected from the **Photos Returned Basket**. Digital photographs can be emailed to stwinifredstockport@gmail.com. Thank you for helping us preserve these precious memories.

Other News and Events of Interest:

Stop assisted suicide being legalised: Assisted suicide campaigners have sadly brought back the Leadbeater Bill which had been rejected by the House of Lords. The Catholic Church's clear principled objection to this Bill remains and the Bishops of England and Wales have renewed their call for Catholics and people of goodwill to unite in prayer and compassionate action. The can be stopped if MPs vote it down on 11 September. *Right To Life UK* has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you email your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons on 11 September. ***Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide: <https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>.*** It would be good to show our MP that many of his constituents are not neutral on this attack on the sanctity of life.

CAFOD Petition: In 2027, the UK will host the G20 - a crucial gathering of the world's 20 most powerful economies. CAFOD have created a petition to call on the Prime Minister to use this gathering to tackle the global debt crisis. Low-income countries are being pushed into ever more debt, forced to pay increasingly high interest rates meaning that money that should be spent on healthcare and education is flowing out of countries that can least afford it. Governments across the global south have an impossible choice between serving their people or paying their creditors. Every day this continues, millions are suffering the effects. G20 leaders have the power to fix the global debt system. Next week and the following week our parish CAFOD volunteers will have a physical version of the petition for you to sign. There is also an online version here: <https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/189582/petition>. Please sign CAFOD's petition today and strengthen our call for greater ambition and action, not just words, from the UK government.

Become a CAFOD School Volunteer: Do you have a passion for faith, justice, and inspiring young people? CAFOD is seeking volunteers to visit local Catholic schools to lead assemblies and workshops about their work and mission. Help children and young people learn how they can make a positive difference in the world. Full training and support provided. For further information, please contact Anna Letizia on 07710 094449 or email aletizia@cafod.org.uk.

Cemetery Bank Holiday Masses: There will be Masses this August Bank holiday, Monday 31st August at St Mary's Cemetery, Wardley at 11am and Southern Cemetery at 12 noon. It will be held outside the Chapel in both cases and there will be limited or no seating so bring a chair if you need one.