

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)



Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 23rd August 2026 **This Week's Schedule**

Sunday 23rd August	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday 24th August		No Mass today	St Bartholomew (F)
Tuesday 25th August	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday/ St Louis or St Joseph of Calasanz (OMs)
Wednesday 26th August	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday/Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God (OM)
Thursday 27th August	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	St Monica (M)
Friday 28th August	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am 1.00pm	Adoration Holy Mass Wedding of Emily Field and Andrew Billinge	St Augustine (M)
Saturday 29th August	9.30am – 10.30am 11.00am – 11.45am 12 noon	Adoration Confessions Holy Mass	The Passion of St John the Baptist (M)
Sunday 30th August	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings this Week:

There is a very simple theme to this Sunday's readings: it is the principle of authority in the community of the Church: we are introduced to the idea that God gives authority to someone in the first reading, where Shebna is dismissed by God and replaced. This is a prelude to the Gospel story of Peter being given authority: not because he is powerful or wise in the world's sense, but because he was able to profess his faith in the one sent by the Father. This is the principle of all authority in the Church: it is to spring only from God and our faith in God, professed by our way of life and rooted only in Christ, for 'to him all authority, in heaven and on earth, has been given.'

Marriage Matters: The key to family life

Today's Gospel places keys at the heart of the responsibility Jesus gives Peter. In spite of his weaknesses and failings, because of his faith, he is entrusted with the 'keys' to the kingdom of God. Our married love is entrusted with the 'keys' of our family life. We are the 'rock' upon which the future of our family will be built.

Mass Intentions Received:

Lately Dead: Tom Kennedy & Tom Doveston.

Anniversaries: Chris Savery, Tom Dempsey, Marjorie Morton, Paul Moreton, Kitty Bellak, John Wilkinson, Carmen Frezza, Patrick Neary & Thomas Neary.

Other: Rita McDermott (Special Intention) & Eithne McGloughlin (Special Intention).

Parish News and Events:

Congratulations to Bernardo who will be baptised later today. Congratulations also to Mum and Dad, Taisis & Thomas.

RCIA: Interested in Baptism or becoming Catholic? We run a course every year from September to Easter to help adults prepare. The course will run on Tuesday evenings. It is also a good course for any Catholic who wishes to learn more about their 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.

Altar Servers: We are always keen to recruit new altar servers. If you are interested speak to Fr Mark after Mass or (if you are under 18) ask a parent to send us an email. All training will be provided! Come and join our excellent team!

Sacramental Programme 2026 to 2027: 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 in our Sacramental Programme which will begin in September. Please email Mary Ward in the office to register your interest (stwinifredstockport@gmail.com).

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: Sign up to our parish WhatsApp channel to get the latest news, updates and weekly newsletter straight to your phone. Within WhatsApp, notices will appear under "Updates" (the bottom left of the menu bar). Scan the QR code (or search for "St Winifred's, Heaton Mersey" within the "Updates" function in WhatsApp).



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 bill 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. ***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. This week and next 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.

Could you be called to serve the church as a Permanent Deacon? If you are a Catholic man interested in learning more about the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Salford, please come along to the next 'Come and See' event. There will be opportunities to talk to some of our deacons and find out more about their journey and the ministry without committing to anything further. For more information, please email diaconate@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Cemetery Bank Holiday Masses: There will be Mass this August Bank holiday, 31st August, at Southern Cemetery at 12 noon. It will be held outside the Chapel and there will be limited or no seating so bring a chair if you need one.

Mass at the Laudato Si' Centre and Resources from University of Manchester: Salvation and Creation Care: Mass will be held at 10am in the gardens of the Laudato Si' Centre (Wardley Hall Road, Worsley, M28 2ND) on Tuesday 1 September to mark the start of the Season of Creation. Meanwhile, the Diocese of Salford and the University of Manchester have launched a new collection of Catholic formation resources designed to help parishioners, schools and other groups deepen their understanding of creation care and translate faith into practical action. The resources include a ready-to-use, three-session course built around three short videos, a participants' booklet and a detailed leader's handbook. These resources and more information about the course can be found using this link: <https://research.manchester.ac.uk/en/projects/formation-and-training-resources-salvation-and-creation-care/>

A Talk on the Characteristics of Franciscan Prayer: Sr Joan Kerley FMSJ will be giving an online talk on the Characteristics of Franciscan Prayer on Thursday 17 September from 7pm. Please visit the diocesan website to register your place: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/talk-on-franciscan-prayer/>

Caritas Conference: Tackling poverty and injustice in the Diocese of Salford: Caritas Salford invites you to join them for a free day of learning and reflection on the social teaching of Pope Leo XIV. This conference will be held on Saturday 10 October from 11AM to 3.30PM. Guest speakers will be present with a free lunch provided. For more information and to book your place please visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/CaritasConference.