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)

All Saints –1st November 2026
This Week's Schedule

Sunday 1st November	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	All Saints
Monday 2nd November	9.30am	Holy Mass	All Souls
Tuesday 3rd November	9.30am 8.15am	Holy Mass Church Open for Private Prayer	St Winifred (S)
Wednesday 4th November	9.30am 8.15am	Holy Mass Church Open for Private Prayer	St Charles Borromeo (M)
Thursday 5th November	9.30am 8.15am	Holy Mass Church Open for Private Prayer	Weekday
Friday 6th November	9.30am 8.15am	Holy Mass Church Open for Private Prayer	Weekday
Saturday 7th November	9.30am – 10.30am 11.00am – 11.45am 12 noon	Adoration Confessions **Holy Mass for the sick and housebound**	St Willibrord (OM)
Sunday 8th November	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings this Week:

"A huge number, impossible to count" – that is the picture this Solemnity creates. In every age there have been men and women who have followed the Lord faithfully, and who now rejoice in the Liturgy of Heaven, as they stand before the throne of the Lamb. These are the "anonymous" saints, whose names we don't remember - but even though their names are not on our lips, their memory, inspiration, example and prayers are set before us today, so that we too can be encouraged in our own "journey of perfection". What does it take to be a saint? Surely the Gospel that is appointed for today (the Beatitudes) shows us that it is in the small things that we triumph: gentleness, mercy, making peace, faithful mourning, purity of heart, poverty in spirit - these are not grand, public ways to sanctity. They are domestic, and homely, to be practised and perfected with those closest to us. We sometimes exalt the "named" saints to the degree that we can feel they are distant from us. Today's feast, as well as celebrating the memory of the many whose name we do not know, also prompts us to see holiness as within our grasp.

Marriage Matters: *We too may go through tough times*
Today's Gospel tells us that it is not only when we are strong that we live out God's plan for our marriage. Sometimes, when we are weak, our Sacramental way of life is mainly using our energy to minister to each other. A lot of joy can be found when we walk down a difficult road together.

Mass Intentions Received:

Lately Dead: Seamus Brennan & John Street.
Anniversaries: Clive Berry.
Special Intentions: In Thanksgiving (Special Intention), Successful operation (Special Intention), Billy Maher, Charles O'Sullivan, Mary Conroy & Gary Conroy (Birthday remembrances).

Parish News and Events:

Changes to the Schedule: Please note that there will be Mass on Monday this week at 9.30am for the memorial of All Souls. In place of Adoration this week the church will be open for private prayer on Tuesday to Friday from 8.15am.

November Masses: During November the daily Masses, unless otherwise allocated, will be offered for our departed loved ones and envelopes for names to be included in our Masses are available in the porch.

Mass of Remembrance: On ***Saturday November 14th at 12 noon*** we will celebrate our annual Parish Mass of Remembrance followed by a reception in the Kavanagh Centre.

Red Wednesday is an annual day dedicated to highlighting the plight of persecuted Christians throughout the world. This year Red Wednesday is on ***18th November***. We will light the façade of the church in red and, at ***7pm***, hold a Holy Hour to pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters.

Blessing of Graves: On ***Saturday November 21st*** we will attempt a blessing of graves service at Mill Lane Cemetery. We will pray together near the entrance to start and then Fr Mark will meet each family in attendance at their family grave for a brief prayer and blessing. There will obviously be some waiting around for some as it will take Fr Mark time to visit each grave with families. **The service will start at 9am**.

Advent Service of 9 Lessons and Carols: On ***Sunday December 6th at 6pm*** (just 5 weeks away!) we will gather for our Service of 9 Lessons and Carols. With singing led by our school and adult choirs we will herald the coming of the Lord together. Please put the date in your diaries. The service will be followed by refreshments in the hall and the draw for the Christmas raffle.

Monthly Mass for the sick and housebound of the parish: Next Saturday, 7th November, we will celebrate our monthly Mass for the sick and housebound of the parish at 12 noon. Please come along to pray together for all the sick and housebound of our parish.

Friends and Family Bingo: Our school's Friends and Family group will host an afternoon of family bingo today, Sunday, 1st November, at 2pm. The event is to raise money for school funds. £5 per adult and £1 per child including 2 games of bingo!

Parish History: After reporting last week that the date of the establishing of the parish was **9th January 1953**, a year later than was thought, we now have more time to prepare for the celebration of our 75th anniversary. It strikes me that a good way to do this would be to spend the year from 9th January 2027 to 9th January 2028, that is our 75th year, celebrating different aspects of our parish life and reflecting on our mission into the years ahead. If you are interested in being part of a group to help plan a series of appropriate events and celebrations for the year ahead, please let me know.

In the meantime, we will keep working on documenting the history as best we can both from the memories that have been shared, the official documents and the photographs.

Charitable Giving: The Harvest Appeal for Wellspring has now ended. Many thanks for your generous donations. We now turn to the 'The Rucksack Project' for the next four weeks. The idea is really simple – they aim to provide essential items for as many people facing homelessness as possible during the winter months. The items needed are rucksacks, sleeping bags, flasks, gloves, hats, torch, men's & women's underwear, socks and wet wipes. Also men's joggers, jeans, winter/waterproof coats, t-shirts (sizes M/L), hoodies and boots or trainers (sizes 7 -11); men's and women's toiletries. Items need not be new but should be in good condition. If you prefer to go online to donate, go to wellspring.co.uk and follow the links. We had a fabulous response to this last year. Let's have one again!

The Cafod World Gifts catalogues have arrived and are available at the back of church! World Gifts are a range of meaningful, life changing virtual gifts that will delight the people you give them to and help transform the lives of families and communities around the world. Please take a catalogue home and look through it or visit *world.gifts.cafod.org.uk* You may be surprised by what you can buy and gift to others!

Invitation to Celebrate St Winifred's Feast Day in School: On Tuesday 3rd November our school will be celebrating St Winifred's Feast Day and would like to extend a very warm invitation to all parents, grandparents, parishioners and friends of our school community to the school hall from 8:50am to 9:30am for tea, coffee and cake as we come together to celebrate our patron saint. Our children will continue to celebrate throughout the day: all classes will visit the hall during the morning to share special hymns dedicated to St Winifred and in the afternoon there will be a Mass in the school for the children. We look forward to making our parish feast a joyful occasion for our whole school and parish family!

Vocations Director Conference: This week Fr Mark has to attend the National Vocations Director Conference so will unfortunately be away. Cover will be provided for daily Masses in the parish, including Monday for the memorial of All Souls and Tuesday for the parish feast, by the recently retired former Bishop of Middlesbrough, Bishop Terry Drainey. Bishop Terry was a priest of the Diocese before he became a Bishop. It is wonderful to be able to welcome him to the parish. He will also celebrate Mass in the school for the children on the afternoon of St Winifred's Day.

Christmas Raffle: Tickets for the Christmas raffle will be on sale after Masses this week and next week. Thank you for your support.

Other News and Events of Interest:

Taizé Service: Tuesday,3 November at 7.00 pm at Church of St Nicholas, Kingsway.

Visit of the Relics of St Gerard Majella: The relics of St Gerard Majella will be coming to Our Lady of Grace Church Prestwich (M25 1AS) on Monday 23 November from 5:30pm. Mass at 6:30pm St Gerard is the Patron Saint of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those looking for work, and making a good confession. You are most welcome to join us.

Free Catholic Social Teaching Webinar: Many people are unaware of the depth of the Church's teaching on social justice. On the 11 November from 6pm to 7.15pm, our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford will be holding a free online session on Catholic Social Teaching, in advance of World Day of the Poor. To register to join the free webinar, visit: www.caritassalford.org.uk/CSTWebinarNov26