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)

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 15th November 2026
This Week's Schedule

Sunday 15th November	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Thirty- Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday 16th November		No Mass Today	St Edmund of Abingdon, St Margaret of Scotland & St Gertrude (OMs)
Tuesday 17th November	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	St Elizabeth of Hungary, St Hilda of Whitby & St Hugh of Lincoln (OMs)
Wednesday 18th November "Red Wednesday"	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am **7pm**	Adoration Holy Mass **Holy Hour for Persecuted Christians**	Dedication of the Basilicas of SS Peter & Paul (M)
Thursday 19th November	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday
Friday 20th November	8.15am – 9.15am 9.30am	Adoration Holy Mass	Weekday
Saturday 21st November	**9.00am** 11.00am – 11.45am 12 noon	**Blessing of Graves at Mill Lane** Confessions Holy Mass	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (M)
Sunday 15th November	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Christ the King (S)

Readings this Week:

We must be very careful that the real point of today's first reading is not washed away in genuine concerns over what one can and cannot say about the responsibilities of wives. This is not, in fact, a recipe for 'the perfect wife', but an illustration, from one age, of the virtue of fully employing the talents God gives us. Some things are timeless, such as holding out a hand to the poor, while other talents shift and change. The point is that all of us are gifted in varying ways and degrees: none of us should begrudge anyone else their talents, for fear that we overlook our own. We work wisely and well, looking forward to the master's return, when we can hand over to him not just what he gave us, but also the fruits that our labours have gained.

Marriage Matters: *Our love must be nourished* The parable of the talents could be compared to our marriage and the consequences if we, like the lazy servant, do not work at our relationship. Avoiding conflict can mean that the opportunity for forgiveness and growth is allowed to pass by. Let's not allow our love for each other to simply slip away, but work to keep our life flourishing.

Mass Intentions Received:

Lately Dead: Noreen Atkinson, Maureen O'Hare, Margaret Whelan & Eileen Neill.
Anniversaries: Mike Smith, Patrick Brady, Harry Hall, Martin Jackson, Josie Cochrane & Mary Morton.
Special Intentions: Karen Sharpe (Birthday) & Teresa Mohan (Birthday).

Parish News and Events:

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.

Red Wednesday is an annual day dedicated to highlighting the plight of persecuted Christians throughout the world. Red Wednesday is this Wednesday, ***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 Morning prayer of the Church from the Office for the Dead 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**. As a consequence of this service there will be no Adoration in church next Saturday morning.

Cake Sale: Next Sunday, 22nd November there will be a cake sale after our Masses to raise money to support The Christie. There will also be a coffee van on site that morning to provide your choice of hot drinks (Note: only the money from the cake sale, not the hot drinks, will go to The Christie).

Altar Server training: There will be a training session for our altar servers on ***Thursday 26th November at 5.30pm***. If you have not already confirmed, please would parents email stwinifredstockport@gmail.com to let us know who to expect. Following a time of training in the Church we will gather for pizza in the Kavanagh Centre. Anyone who has made their First Holy Communion and might be interested in becoming an altar server is also welcome to come along. Please drop us an email first so we know to expect you.

Celebrating our 75th Year: Our 75th Year as a Canonical Parish runs from Saturday January 9th 2027 to Sunday January 9th 2028. How might we celebrate it? Our Gospel today gives us pause for thought. We have much to celebrate about our past. We have inherited the great gift of faith in this part of Stockport, a "talent" if you like to use the language of the Gospel parable. How will we use this talent to proclaim the Gospel and be the "light to the nations" in the years ahead? I am hoping to put together a group to share ideas, plan and lead the various events that will mark this year. Please let me know if you are interested in being part of the planning team.

Diocesan Synod Update: Clergy Welfare and Pastoral Letter: Bishop John has issued a pastoral letter this weekend. The letter is, in part, an update as to the progress of the implementation phase of the Diocesan Synod, specifically related to one of the more prominent recommendations from the Synod, Clergy Welfare. Much of the content of the letter has been prepared by a group of clergy made up of priests and permanent deacons and Bishop John asks that it is read out at all Sunday Masses this weekend. Although I was not part of the writing group for this letter, like all clergy, I was invited to sessions where clergy shared their thoughts and experiences. Some of the matters that emerged from those sessions – particularly concerning the challenges and struggles that some clergy deal with – surprised me. As the letter explains, this exercise of consultation has highlighted the need for clergy to be more attentive to their own welfare and the welfare of their fellow clergy and a plan under three categories – fraternity, supporting and caring and growth and development – has been outlined to be implemented in the coming years. Copies of the letter can be collected from the back of church for those who wish to read it at home.

Charitable Giving: We are currently collecting for '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, torches, men's & women's underwear, socks, wet wipes, men's joggers, jeans, winter/waterproof coats, t-shirts (sizes M/L), hoodies, boots or trainers (sizes 7 -11) and 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!

Advent Service of 9 Lessons and Carols: On ***Sunday December 6th at 6pm*** 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.

Parish Christmas Fair: This year's Christmas Fair will take place **Saturday, 5th December at St. Winifred's School (1pm – 4pm).** Any tombola donations of bottles / chocolates would be happily received. We would be grateful for any donations of ***delicious home baking***, if anyone is able to help!

Other News and Events of Interest:

Visit of the Relics of St Gerard Majella - To mark the 300-year anniversary of the birth of St Gerard Majella, a nationwide tour of his relics is taking place, and the Diocese of Salford is one of 11 dioceses in the country to receive them for a visit. The relics will be visiting four of our churches – the two most local to us are: Monday 23 November - Our Lady of Grace, Prestwich from 5:30pm with Mass at 6:30pm and Tuesday 24 November - St Mary (The Hidden Gem), Manchester from 1pm with Mass at 6pm; For more information, please visit the diocesan website: https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/whats-on/

Caritas Advent Appeal 2026: The Caritas Salford #BeeThere bees are retelling the story of the Nativity and asking us to help **change the script** for local people facing hunger or homelessness. This Advent, could you #BeeThere for a child or adult in need? Watch the animation, created with Doodledo and featuring the voices of local children, at http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/BeeThere or donate at http:// www.caritassalford.org.uk/donate