

St. Mary's Parish Horwich

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 26th July 2026 (17th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Mass this Week

Tuesday 28 th July	- No Service
Wednesday 29 th July	- 6:30pm Mass (<i>Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus</i>)
Thursday 30 th July	- 10am Mass with Exposition from 9:30
Friday 31 st July	- 10am Requiem Mass for Bernadette Galea
Saturday 1 st August	- 11am Mass followed by Exposition, Rosary & Confessions (<i>St Alphonsus Mary De'Liguori</i>)
Sunday 2 nd August (18 th Sunday in OT)	- 6:30pm Saturday Vigil; 10:30am Mass

Prayer List

Our sick and housebound: Agnieszka Przybytniak, Patricia Mould, Theresa Hargreaves, Theresa Jean Molyneux, Kevin Lawman, Anne Aldred, Derren Harrison, Madeline Bell, Anthony Michael Woods, Stan Ellison, Simon Taylor, Paul Davis, Tim Travis, Steven Welch. **Latently Dead:** Fr Michael O'Leary, Bernadette Galea. **Anniversaries:** Georgina Jankay, Elsie Black.

This weekend – Voluntary Retiring Collection for Stella Maris

Stella Maris (formerly 'Apostleship of the Sea') is the maritime charity of the Catholic Church. Its chaplains and ship visitors provide practical help and care to seafarers and fishers in the UK and around the world. We pray this weekend for all those who spend their working lives at sea and will hold a retiring collection should you wish to donate. Anyone can also donate online: <https://stellamaris.org.uk/donate/>

World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly: 26 July 2026

"The celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that the Church is called to be a mother to all and that at any age it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. May this day, therefore, be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young, to revive the beautiful custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family, and even those who have no-one to visit them." Pope Leo XIV. As World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly approaches, take a look at a free resource from Caritas Salford, on celebrating and developing relationships with older family members and older people within our parish and wider communities: www.caritassalford.org.uk/OlderPeopleResource

Free Catholic Social Teaching webinar

Catholic Social Teaching has been referred to as 'the Catholic Church's best kept secret' (Mark Shea). Many people are unaware of the depth of the Church's teaching on social justice, which applies the Gospel to current social issues impacting our communities. With the by-election for the Mayor of Greater Manchester set to take place on **Thursday 30 July**, the time is right to raise our awareness of Catholic Social Teaching and reflect on how it can help to inform the decisions and choices we make in life. Caritas Salford, our diocesan charity, is running a free webinar to introduce you to the basic principles in an accessible way. Book your free place now: www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/cst-webinar

A Night of Music and Fun

The African Priests and Religious of the Diocese of Salford are inviting you to a concert in celebration of African Liturgical and folk music. This is to be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Failsworth, M35 0NN on **31 July 2026** at 7PM. This promises to be a night of good music (by the invited choir) and laughter (by the priests and religious who also try to sing!). For more information please email Canon

Michael Job: Michael.job@dioceseofsalford.org.uk before 30 June 2026. Above all else, let us come with our parishioners to have a fun evening.

Team St Mary's Parish Kit

Once again, Team St Mary's kit is available: T-shirts in navy/yellow and white/pink from last year and a newly added light blue and navy t-shirt in adult and children's sizes. There is a lightweight tracksuit top with a hood in light/navy blue, with the Parish logo in adult sizes, plus baseball caps and bucket hats, in both adult and children's sizes available in the new light blue. Lorraine is available after Mass to take orders and answer any questions. As ever, enquires can also be emailed to: stmarysteamkit@gmail.com

Urban Outreach

The next Urban Outreach collection will be on Wednesday 5th August. They are desperately short of everything at the moment so any donation, however small, will be gratefully accepted. There is a list of the most needed items at the back of the church above the Grub Tub.

St Mary's Parish Garden

We are always looking for more volunteers to help with the care and maintenance of the church garden. Please contact Mary Durkan on 07786 033449 if you would like to help or want more information about what is involved.

Rosary Room: House keeping

If you have any items to donate or which you think might be useful for the Rosary Room, please speak first to Geraldine Ratcliffe before bringing them in. Thank you.

St. Mary's Volunteers

We recently made an appeal for new volunteers in the parish. Volunteering makes a huge positive contribution to the life of the parish, and we are always looking for new helpers. All volunteers will go through the Diocesan 'Safe Recruitment' process. If you would like to volunteer or ask for more information, please send an email to stmaryshelpers@yahoo.com

Parish Flower donations

As announced recently, we are launching a new fundraising initiative whereby parishioners can sponsor the altar flowers for a particular date e.g. for a special feast day, or for the anniversary of a loved one etc. We are grateful that one of our parishioners, Liz Gillies is overseeing this project and you are welcome to speak with Liz for more information: e-mail: lizgillies274@gmail.com or phone: 07510332291. Full details are available on the blue sheet at the back of church.

Parish Art Club

The Art Club meets in the Rosary Room on Monday mornings 10am-12noon. If you are interested, please come along and join us in the next few weeks and see what we do. All are welcome (not restricted just to Parish members). The cost is £5.00 per week, which includes refreshments and is only required when you attend. Enquiries to Anne-Marie Davies, Tel:01204 695210.

Donations made to Charities by Cheque

You can make a donation to a particular charity at any time by putting it in the Parish Collection (e.g. CAFOD, Caritas Diocese of Salford etc.). If you do this by cheque, please make it payable to: '**St Mary's RC Horwich**' and write the name of the charity you wish to support on the back. Thank you.

Hope in the Future Cycle of Prayer

Over the coming weeks, we will be praying for the parishes of the Deanery of St Therese of Lisieux, for its parishioners and clergy in our latest Hope in the Future Cycle of Prayer. Please click [here](#) to download the latest cycle now.

Lourdes at Home

The 92nd Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop John, will take place from Thursday **30 July - Wednesday 5 August**. If you are not able to join us in Lourdes, please be assured of our prayers for all in the diocese during our time on pilgrimage. You can still participate in our celebrations of Mass via 'Lourdes at Home'. This year we will be live-streaming extra Masses in the programme so that those not with us in person can still join in our Masses and processions. All live streaming links, liturgy sheets and the programme for the week can be found on the 'Lourdes at Home' page of our website: www.salfordlourdes.co.uk We hope you can join us.

Join the Catholic Medical Association

Whether you are a doctor, nurse, student, or allied professional — if you are a Catholic in healthcare, join us to grow in fellowship, prayer and formation together. For more information & upcoming events, visit: <https://catholicmedicalassociation.org.uk>

Catholic Holidays in the Lake District this Summer

During August and September, Castlerigg Manor in Keswick is opening its doors to families, groups of friends, or private individuals who are looking for an affordable stay in the Lake District. Breakfast and evening meal are provided, and Mass is celebrated on site. For more information check out castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / 017687 72711.

During October half term, Castlerigg Manor is also running a quiet retreat for individual adults who want to spend a few days of peace, relaxation and prayer in the Lake District. Each day there will be a talk, Mass, and evening prayer, and then a lot of time to explore the area, pray, or just simply relax. Book at castleriggmanor.com/events or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Marriage Preparation Course - Love for a Lifetime

This course will be held on Saturday **5th September** and Saturday **12th September** 2026 from 2PM to 5PM at St John Fisher's Presbytery, Manchester Road, Kearsley. Attendance is required on both dates. For more information and to register please email Fr Bryan Cunningham at fr.bryan@schoenstatt.org.uk or Fr Herbert Opara at fr.herbert@schoenstatt.org.uk

ADOREMUS 2026

The 2026 National Eucharistic Congress will be held on Saturday **10th October 2026**, at St George's Cathedral, London. We hope to attend as a diocesan group and have a limited number of places available. The event is being offered free of charge but you must register by completing an online form [Click here to register](#) If you have any queries please contact Helen Carey at formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk You can find out more [here](#). Adoremus is a day organised by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and is an invitation to renew our devotion to the Eucharistic Lord. The day focuses on deepening our devotion to the Eucharist and encouraging Eucharistic adoration. **For the travel:** Please indicate on the registration form whether you would be interested in travelling to the event by coach as part of a diocesan group. A small charge will apply for this. The coach would depart early to arrive for Mass at 12 noon and will depart from Westminster Cathedral after Solemn Benediction at 6 pm. A decision will be taken based on the number of enquirers.

Young Adults Hub

The diocesan Youth Team are delighted to share news of the Young Adults Hub, created especially for those aged 18–35 across the Diocese of Salford. The Hub offers a welcoming space for young adults to deepen their faith, build authentic friendships, and grow together through prayer, formation, and social gatherings. If you would like more information, please reach out to Mikey hub.president@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk and Edward hub.chair@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Newsletter from Diocesan Vocations Team

The Diocese of Salford's vocations team is delighted to share its latest newsletter exploring updates on vocations to diocesan ministry, which includes the priesthood and permanent diaconate. For the

latest on ordinations, inspiring vocation stories, and the latest update by numbers, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/vocations/>

Volunteering at the Laudato Si' Centre

The Diocese of Salford's environment hub - the Laudato Si' Centre - is looking for new recruits to join its team of volunteers. This flexible, rewarding opportunity can be on a regular or ad hoc basis as the team works to develop the Centre's beautiful walled garden and woodland areas, set within the grounds of Wardley Hall. Email laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more!

Laudato Si' Centre Website and Brochure

We're delighted to share details of a brand-new brochure and updated website for our Laudato Si' Centre. Packed full of information on our beautiful spaces, engaging activities, and opportunities for parishes and schools, our updated resources are a great way to find out more about the Centre and how your parish can get involved. The brochure is available online now at <https://tinyurl.com/brochure-lsc> You can visit our website at <https://laudatosicentre.org.uk/> For more information or to discuss a visit to the Centre, please email laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

CARITAS

Services to Support Local People

Caritas Salford runs a wide range of community and outreach services to help people in our diocesan communities who are experiencing poverty, homelessness, isolation and discrimination. If you, or someone you know, might benefit from their support, you can find details on their website: www.caritassalford.org.uk/services

Fancy a walk?

Caritas Salford is organising a 6-mile scenic, circular sponsored hike in Lancashire, along the delightful Downham Trail. Taking place on **5 September**, the walk is an undulating route with the potential for expansive views from the summit of Beacon Fell. Visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/LancsWalk for more information or to register for your free place.

Love knitting, crocheting, sewing or making?

Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, is looking for creative parishioners who might be able to help them raise funds to help support people in our parish communities who are experiencing poverty and homelessness. They're looking for people who can either make items to sell in aid of the charity, or groups of people from our parishes who can be paired with local schools to help knit hats and scarves for pupils to wear in their Big Sleep Out fundraisers. If you can help, please get in touch with the team at fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk or call 0161 817 2250.

New Volunteering Role at Caritas Salford

Our diocesan charity Caritas Salford has a team of almost 200 amazing volunteers, all of whom support their work with people in our parishes who are experiencing poverty, homelessness and discrimination. The team is looking for suitable volunteers who would be interested in giving a little time to work alongside families at their young parent accommodation in Blackburn - supporting and facilitating activities with the babies and their parents. All roles will be subject to an enhanced disclosure and barring check. To find out more about this or other volunteering opportunities with the charity, visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer or contact Matt Yates: m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk

Free energy bill advice from Caritas

If you are worried about rising energy costs, our diocesan charity Caritas Salford runs a range of free drop-in advice sessions to help with everything from energy debt to making your home more energy efficient. You can find out more about these and other ways the team can help people across Greater Manchester and Lancashire on the Caritas website at www.caritassalford.org.uk/energysupport

Help end Child Poverty in our Parishes

Child poverty is increasing in our area, with latest statistics from the government showing almost one in three children are growing up in poverty. Our diocesan charity Caritas Salford supports local families facing crisis and is asking us to join them in taking action to help. There are lots of different ways you and your parish can get involved. Please visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/endchildpoverty to find out more.

Caritas Salford E-newsletter

Did you know that Caritas, our diocesan charity, now has a monthly e-newsletter providing updates, free resources, news and event details, plus much more? To begin to receive it, visit: <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/newsletter/>

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Reach Befriending Service

Reach is a charity which matches volunteers with isolated and elderly people across Bolton for weekly visits, friendship, and a listening ear. If you would like to volunteer or for more information, contact: Hello@reachfamilyproject.co.uk