

St. Mary's Parish Horwich

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 23rd August 2026 (21st Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Mass this Week

Tuesday 25 th Aug	- 10am Mass <i>with Exposition from 9:30</i>
Weds 26 th Aug	- 6:30pm Mass (<i>Dominic Barberi</i>)
Thurs 27 th Aug	- 10am Mass <i>with Exposition from 9:30</i> (<i>St Monica</i>)
Friday 28 th Aug	- 10am Mass <i>with Exposition from 9:30</i> (<i>St Augustine</i>)
Saturday 29 th Aug	- 11am Eucharistic Service
Sunday 30 th August (22 nd 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:** Canon Mortimer Stanley, Fr Paul Taylor OMI, Pauline Mavin. **Anniversaries:** John Murphy, Catherine Murphy, George Howarth, Dominic Simpson. **Altar Flowers Dedication:** The flowers this weekend have been sponsored in memory of John Murphy (21/08) and Mary Fitzgerald (22/08).

SVP National Summer Raffle Tickets 2026

St Mary's SVP Conference has received 200 raffle tickets to sell for the National SVP Summer Raffle. First Prize £5,000, Two prizes of £1,000 and 15 of £100. Tickets are £1 each or £5 for a book of 5. Our own Parish SVP keeps half the amount raised from ticket sales, minus a small admin charge. Tickets will be on sale after the Masses this weekend. Thank you.

St Mary's Parish Lunch Club

There are currently vacancies for new people to attend our Wednesday Parish Lunch Club. Lunch is served at 12:00 pm: it is a two-course meal with tea & coffee and a free raffle each week. The cost is £6. Please contact Ronnie Adamson: 07858 504840.

Rosary Room 20th Anniversary

This year, the Rosary Room is celebrating 20 years since its opening. To mark this and to celebrate, there will be a short presentation about how the Rosary Room came into being after the 10:30am Mass on **Sunday the 13th of September** in the Rosary Room. John and Joan Chamberlain will give a brief history of the Rosary Room, followed by a small buffet, with time for people to reminisce and share stories. If anyone is willing to contribute food items for the buffet, please contact: 07309744018 or email: rosaryroom19@gmail.com. Thank you.

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

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.

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

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.

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.

Outdoor Mass at Laudato Si Centre

Mass will be held at 10am in the gardens of the Laudato Si' Centre on Tuesday 1 September to mark the start of the Season of Creation, and all are welcome to attend. Laudato Si' Centre, Wardley Hall Road, Worsley, M28 2ND

Resources from University of Manchester: Salvation and Creation Care

As we approach the start of the Season of Creation on 1 September, 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/>

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.

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 our 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

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/>

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>

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 10 October 2026 at St George's Cathedral, London. Please click [here](#) for more information and to register your interest.

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

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

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.

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

VACANCIES

Parish Administrator Role

The parish of Our Lady & St Alphonsus Moss Side are looking for a Parish Administrator to provide a broad range of support to the parish including communications, coordinating the liturgical calendar and parish events, parish administrative tasks and liaising with volunteer and community groups. To find out more about the role and how to apply, please visit the diocesan website: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>