



# Our Lady and St Joseph RC Church Heywood

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## The Exaltation of the Cross, 14th September 2025

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#### THIS WEEK AT OUR LADY AND ST JOSEPH

**Monday 15th Sept.:** Our Lady of Sorrows (Memorial).

9.30 am Mass:

**Tuesday 16th Sept.:** St Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian. (Mem).

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Wednesday 17th Sept.:** Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mas:

**Thursday 18th Sept.:** Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

**Friday 19th Sept.:** Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

**Saturday 20th Sept.:** St Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest, and Paul Chong Hasang and their Companions. (Mem.).

10am Morning Mass:

10.30am. Adoration and Confessions.

6pm: First Mass of Sunday:

**Sunday 21st Sept.:** Twenty Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.30 am Mass:

11am Mass:

#### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

**13th/14th Set.:** Readers: 6pm J. Sherry, 9.30am: J. Skinner, 11am: G. Da Silva. **Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: B. Doyle, 9.30am: D. Dodd, 11am D. Tierney

**20th/21st Sept.:** Readers: 6pm P. Sherry, 9.30am: M. Schofield, 11am: D. Doyle. **Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: J. Matthews 9.30am: S. Skinner, 11am C. Shore.

**Thank you** for your generosity. **Last Weekend:** £420.50 (Gift Aid) £366.28 (Loose Change) & CAFOD £89.60.

**200 Club** If you would like to join it is only £5 a month which needs to be paid at the beginning of every month. The more members we have, the bigger the prize and more money going back into our church. Winners are on the Notice Boards.

**Do you want to learn more about our faith?** RCIA is the process, and specific ceremonies, which leads adults to Christian baptism and into full Communion with the Catholic Church. **ALSO**, if you are already Catholic but would like to learn more about our beautiful Catholic Faith you are MORE than welcome to join us. **RCIA sessions will start from Friday the 26th of September in the parish meeting room at 7pm.**

**New Parish Secretary:** We welcome Sharon Whittle our new parish secretary, who has already resumed her duty in the parish. Shron will be in the office on Mondays and Wednesdays.

**Christmas Fayre Volunteers Meeting:** There will be a meeting for all volunteers to discuss this year's Christmas Fayre on Monday the 15th of September in the Parish meeting room, at 6.30pm. We are asking for volunteers, both those who have been involved previously and new ones to come along to the meeting.

**Holy Family College Faith Forms for Children currently in Yr 6:** Please contact the office to make your appointment with Fr Augustine.: Meetings will be Tue-Friday evenings 4pm -7pm. You must attend with your child, also with evidence of baptism. The final meeting will be Wednesday 29th October.

**Let us pray** for the people of the parishes of St Ambrose, and St. Bernadette, Chorlton and Withington, and for Fr. Peter Tierney, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school and for Loreto High School.

**Let us pray** for those who live and work on Hendon Gr, West Malling Cl, Hornchurch Court, Biggin Gardens & Worthington Ave.

**For** The sick of our Parish.

**For** Elizabeth Ante, Cathrine Smith, and all who have died recently.

**For** Hughie McCulloch, Cathrine Rothwell, Clare Taylor, Margaret Ashton, Mark Ashton, Frank Ashton, Glenn Wildman, Charles Schofield, Norman Butterworth, Kathleen & Charles Rhodes, Frank & Clara Taylor and all we remember at this time.

**Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham:** Join us in celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham with a special Mass at St Luke's Church (M6 7WR), in Salford, on Wednesday 24 September. Mass, which will be celebrated by Bishop John, will begin at 7pm. There will also be an opportunity to find out more about next year's diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham.

**Life in the Spirit Seminars:** Discover more about what it means to live in the Holy Spirit with a series of seminars heading to Manchester this autumn. This series of Life in the Spirit Seminars will be taking place at Our Lady's Church, Moss Side, from Wednesday 24th September, 7.30pm-

**Jubilee of Youth:** Our Jubilee of Jubilee series continues this August by following the journey of young adults of our diocese who travelled to Rome to celebrate the Jubilee of Youth. From radio broadcasts, to video reflections, and written articles, this month's resources invite you to journey with our young pilgrims as they learn more about discovering and sharing the hope of Christ throughout our pilgrimage of life. Begin reflecting with us today at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/calendar/>

#### From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

**Jesus consummates his sacrifice on the cross:** 616 It is love "to the end" that confers on Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction. He knew and loved us all when he offered his life. Now "the love of Christ controls us, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died." No man, not even the holiest, was ever able to take on himself the sins of all men and offer himself as a sacrifice for all. the existence in Christ of the divine person of the Son, who at once surpasses and embraces all human persons, and constitutes himself as the Head of all mankind, makes possible his redemptive sacrifice for all.

617 The Council of Trent emphasizes the unique character of Christ's sacrifice as "the source of eternal salvation" and teaches that "his most holy Passion on the wood of the cross merited justification for us." and the Church venerates his cross as she sings: "Hail, O Cross, our only hope."

**Our participation in Christ's sacrifice:** 618 The cross is the unique sacrifice of Christ, the "one mediator between God and men". But because in his incarnate divine person he has in some way united himself to every man, "the possibility of being made partners, in a way known to God, in the paschal mystery" is offered to all men. He calls his disciples to "take up [their] cross and follow (him)", for "Christ also suffered for (us), leaving (us) an example so that (we) should follow in his steps." In fact Jesus desires to associate with his redeeming sacrifice those who were to be its first beneficiaries. This is achieved supremely in the case of his mother, who was associated more intimately than any other person in the mystery of his redemptive suffering. Apart from the cross there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven.

# SUNDAY *Plus*

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross **Divine Office Week IV** Year C

**Education Day**

## The deepest longing

[The Sage] greeted me as a friend and stood looking at me for a long time... After a long silence, he said in a quiet voice: "You are very lucky."

"Why do you say that?"

"Because you are human and you can search. A rose is beautiful, but it spends its whole life as a rose without knowing why and for whom it is beautiful."

"What value is the search if you do not find?" I asked at once...


It was then that my longing was irresistibly expressed as a fervent plea: "Help me to live! I am hungry and thirsty for life and I cannot find anything that will satisfy me..."

Very quietly and very slowly he replied: "It is a question not so much of living as of loving... Your obsession with your

hunger and thirst is leading you astray. You will never satisfy them. Even if you had access to all the food and drink in the world and consumed them every moment of the day, you would still experience hunger and thirst. They are not your real hunger and thirst. They conceal another hunger and another thirst and those hidden longings are more persistent and more demanding, because they are infinite.

"The deepest longing in the heart of every man and woman is not the longing to live, but the longing to love and to be loved. That is what we are all hungering and thirsting for... that is not surprising. We are, after all made by love and for love."

*Michel Quoist, The Breath of Love*

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.  Amen.

### Father, forgive them

By Paul Higginson

Today's feast of the Holy Cross gets to the heart of what it is to be a Christian. On the cross, Jesus is subjected to hatred and violence but he chooses not to pass this back to those who crucify him. In fact he says, "Father, forgive them: they know not what they do." We too are called to understand that we don't need to hate others when they hate us. If others speak ill

of us we don't need to give the same back. We are called to join Jesus on the cross, dying to our own ego and self-absorption, losing our life in order to find it. In today's Gospel Jesus says he comes not to condemn, but to save. And if we can be transformed by the cross into people who don't need to hurt the people who hurt us, then we can truly say with confidence that we are saved.

*Paul Higginson is a retired teacher and author of Doing Christianity: how religion is about what you do, not what you believe*

In our own day, the Church offers to everyone the treasury of her social teaching.

Pope Leo XIV

### Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

#### 20 September Jubilee of Justice

We need to recognise the immense goodness present in our world, lest we be tempted to think ourselves overwhelmed by evil and violence. The signs of the times, which include the yearning of human hearts in need of God's saving presence, ought to become signs of hope.

The first sign of hope should be the desire for peace in our world, which once more finds itself immersed in the tragedy of war... Many peoples are prey to brutality and violence. What does the future hold for those peoples, who have already endured so much? How is it possible that their desperate plea for help is not motivating world leaders to resolve the numerous regional conflicts in view of their possible consequences at the global level? Is it too much to dream that arms can fall silent and cease to rain down destruction and death? May the Jubilee remind us that those who are peacemakers will be called "children of God".

*Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the year 2025:7, 8*



### READINGS

Today:  
Numbers 21:4b-9  
Philippians 2:6-11  
John 3:13-17

Monday:  
1 Timothy 2:1-8  
Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday:  
1 Timothy 3:1-13  
Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday:  
1 Timothy 3:14-16  
Luke 7:31-35

Thursday:  
1 Timothy 4:12-16  
Luke 7:36-50

Friday:  
1 Timothy 6:2c-12  
Luke 8:1-3

Saturday:  
1 Timothy 6:13-16  
Luke 8:4-15

Next Sunday:  
Amos 8:4-7  
1 Timothy 2:1-8  
Luke 16:1-13