



# Our Lady and St Joseph RC Church Heywood

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Served by the  
Missionary  
Society of St Paul

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**The Twenty Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C, 28th September 2025**

## THIS WEEK AT OUR LADY AND ST JOSEPH

**Monday 29th Sept.:** Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael (Feast).

**Please No Adoration, No Mass.**

**Tuesday 30th Sept.:** St Jerome, Priest, Doctor. (Mem.)

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

**Wednesday 1st Oct.:** St Therese of the Child Jesus (Mem.).

**Please No Adoration, No Mass.**

**Thursday 2nd Oct.:** The Holy Guardian Angels (Mem.)

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

**Friday 3rd Oct.:** Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

**Saturday 4th Oct.:** St Francis of Assisi (Mem.).

10am Morning Mass:

10.30am. Adoration and Confessions.

6pm: First Mass of Sunday:

**Sunday 5th Oct.:** Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.30 am Mass:

11am Mass: Family Mass

### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

**27th/28th Set.:** Readers: 6pm B. Brown, 9.30am: P. Cunningham, 11am: P. Greenall. **Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: B. Doyle, 9.30am: H. Sharrock, 11am S. Fitzsimons.

**4th/5th Oct.:** Readers: 6pm S. Gibson, 9.30am: S. Skinner 11am: Children. **Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: J. Matthews 9.30am: D. Sharrock, 11am Concelebrating Priest.

**Thank you** for your generosity. **Last Weekend:** £359.95 (Gift Aid) £429.00 (Loose Change) & CAFOD £20.75.

**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.

**First Holy Communion Class Sessions:** October class session is on the Weekend of the 4th/5th. **November Class sessions is changed from the weekend of the 8th/9th to the weekend of the 15th/16th November, parents please note the change.**

**Family Mass:** After the summer break, we resume our parish Family Mass on Sunday the 5th of October. There will be **Junior Choir** practice in the parish meeting room on Monday the 29th at 3.40pm.

**RCIA Class Sessions:** every Friday in the parish meeting room at 7pm.

**Mission Appeal:** Fr. Denis Carter SSC of the Columban Missionaries will be visiting our parish at the weekend of the 4th - 5th October for Mission Appeal.

**Parish Christmas Fayre :** Saturday 6th December. We need donations for hamper items; tins, bottles items, dried goods, biscuits etc. Any gifts or donations can be placed in the basket at the side door. Thank you .

**The Bereavement Group:** Meeting on Tuesday 7th October Bereavement Group 7-8:30pm Therapist Shirley Jamil hand, joint, head massage. Cost £7.

**Our Lady and St Joseph's Prayer Group:** Meeting on Friday October 10th 7-8:30 pm. All welcome any details please contact Pat Greenall on 07599355924.

**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.

**Saint Vincent De Paul Young Adults Group:** A new SVP group for young adults aged 18 to 33 is starting at St Vincent's church in Norden. The first meeting is at 7.30 pm on Saturday 4

October in the parish centre at St Vincent's Church on Caldershaw Road, Norden. Anyone in this age group is welcome to join. Contact [Roystonc@svp.org.uk](mailto:Roystonc@svp.org.uk) if you would like more information.

**Heywood Foodbank:** The foodbank requires volunteers to help with collection of food items from Fareshare and local supermarkets. For more details, please call 07396 071193

**Let us pray** for the people of the parish of Our Lady and St Mary, Mulberry St, Manchester, and for Mgr Canon Anthony Kay, their parish priest.

**Let us pray** for those who live and work on Springfield Way, Salthill Ave, Coronation Ave, Thornbank Cl & Arnold Ave.

**For** The sick of our Parish.

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

**For** Fr Michael Kinirons, Justin Fernando, Monica Somers, Veronica Maguire, George Basset, Frank & Clara Taylor and all we remember at this time.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day - 3 October 2025:** This Family Fast Day (Friday, 3 October), CAFOD is highlighting its work with communities in Ethiopia facing climate challenges, where our donations fund vital water infrastructure projects. This is alongside CAFOD's continued response to urgent needs in the Holy Land, Ukraine, and Sudan through trusted local Church partners. Further information about the Family Fast Day appeal and parish collection resources can be found at [cafod.org.uk/parish](http://cafod.org.uk/parish).

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2026:** We are delighted to announce the date for our 2026 diocesan pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine at Walsingham. Next year's pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 2nd May You can now register your interest by calling our pilgrimage office on 0161 817 2209 or emailing [walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**The Mercy Brothers:** Enjoy a family-friendly night of musical entertainment with clergy band, The Mercy Brothers. The concert will raise funds for our Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund, which supports our sick pilgrims and medical team. The concert takes place on Friday 3rd October at St Michael's RC Parish, Whitefield. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets cost £15 for adults, £10 for 16-21 year olds, and free for under 16s. Food will be provided and included in the cost. Book now by emailing [Lourdes.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:Lourdes.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or phone the pilgrimage office on 0161 817 2209.

**THE WORD OF THE WEEK:** Following on from last week (You cannot be the slave of both God and money) we see a practical illustration of what this means. The division between rich and poor was very striking at the time of Jesus: popular understanding, however, said that to be rich was a blessing from God. Jesus reminds people that riches carry their own responsibility the duty to notice the poor man, especially when he lies at your own gate. In this parable, Jesus is subtly attacking the people's lack of acceptance of the teaching of the prophets They have Moses and the prophets but they obviously haven't listened to them. The twist in the last line is powerful: they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead. Since our world still sees a division between rich and poor, how true those words have become!

Y	S	A	E	D	E	M	R	O	T	RICH	PURPLE	LINEN
N	O	D	O	N	A	S	U	P	N	SORES	ANGELS	TORMENT
O	E	U	R	T	S	E	U	S	E	BOSOM	FLAMES	AGONY
G	O	N	H	C	I	R	D	R	M	BROTHERS	WARNING	DEAD
A	S	F	I	E	P	O	E	E	R			
F	A	L	M	L	I	S	R	H	O			
F	L	A	E	S	S	R	O	T	T			
D	A	M	S	G	M	O	S	O	B			
I	A	E	L	E	N	I	B	R	O			
M	G	N	I	N	R	A	W	B	E			

# SUNDAY *Plus*

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time **Divine Office Week II** Year C

England & Wales: Harvest Thanksgiving

## Poverty

Beneath a very aged tree,  
I saw an aged man,  
whose mortal days were seemingly  
Worn to the shortest span.

His dress was ragged, and his brow  
Deep marks of sorrow bare;  
His eyes, once bright, were darken'd now,  
By teardrops of despair.

He spoke – but none would hear his tale  
Of sorrow and distress;  
He wept – yet tears had no avail –  
All pass'd him pitiless.

The very drops e'en seem'd to stand  
With fearful loathing by,  
Dreading the cold touch of his hand,  
The chill glance of his eye.

I marvell'd much, I marvell'd long,  
Who this sad wretch could be;  
I asked one of the passing throng:  
He said, 'twas Poverty!

*Joseph Middleton, 1840*



God loves to communicate himself, not in the roar of thunder  
and earthquakes, but in the “whisper of a gentle breeze”.

*Pope Leo XIV*

## A conscientious objector


By **Sr Janet Fearn**  
FMDM

It was a secret sign and, at the same time, a declaration of belief and trust in the Trinity. The early Christians quickly saw that the anchor could represent the stability of a faith anchored in God. However, they also went one step further: the ring at the top symbolised the Father. The body, shaped like a cross, was Jesus, the Son who was crucified. The curved base denoted the Holy Spirit in the

form of a winged dove. In times of persecution, an anchor meant everything to the early Church as a summary of Christian belief. That is why sometimes, they also portrayed the anchor holding two fish, those who had been called and drawn into a relationship with Jesus.

*Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.*



Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see Jesus: to reach out and touch him and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.  Amen.

Robert Cull

## Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope Anchored in hope

The image of the anchor is eloquent; it helps us to recognise the stability and security that is ours amid the troubled waters of this life, provided we entrust ourselves to the Lord Jesus. The storms that buffet us will never prevail, for we are firmly anchored in the hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ and to overcome sin, fear and death. This hope, which transcends life's fleeting pleasures and the achievement of our immediate goals, makes us rise above our trials and difficulties, and inspires us to keep pressing forward, never losing sight of the grandeur of the heavenly goal to which we have been called.

*Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the year 2025:25*



## READINGS

**Today:**  
Amos 6:1a. 4-7  
1 Timothy 6:11-16  
Luke 16:19-31

**Monday:**  
Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14  
John 1:47-51

**Tuesday:**  
Zechariah 8:20-23  
Luke 9:51-56

**Wednesday:**  
Nehemiah 2:1-8  
Luke 9:57-62

**Thursday:**  
Exodus 23:20-23a  
Matthew 18:1-5. 10

**Friday:**  
Baruch 1:15-22  
Luke 10:13-16

**Saturday:**  
Baruch 4:5-12. 27-29  
Luke 10:17-24

**Next Sunday:**  
Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4  
2 Timothy 1:6-8. 13-14  
Luke 17:5-10