



Our Lady and St Joseph RC Church Heywood

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Served by the
Missionary
Society of St Paul

The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul Year C, 29th June 2025

THIS WEEK AT OUR LADY AND ST JOSEPH

Monday 30th June: Weekday. No Morning Mass

10am. Funeral Service for Mr William Armstrong.
2pm. Mass at Our Lady and St Paul Prim. Schl.

Tuesday 24th June: Weekday

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9.30am Mass:

Wednesday 1st July: Weekday

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9.30am Mass:

Thursday 3rd July: Churches Together Summer Coffee & Cake

St Thomas the Apostle. (Feast)

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9.30am Mass:

Friday 4th July: Weekday

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9.30am Mass:

Saturday 5th July: Weekday

10am Morning Mass:
10.30am. Adoration and Confessions.

6pm: First Mass of Sunday:

Sunday 6th July: Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.30 am Mass:

11am Mass:

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

28th/29th June: Readers: 6pm J. Matthews,
9.30am: M. Schofield, 11am: Confirmation Candidate. **Eucharis-
tic Minister:** 6pm: B. Doyle 9.30am: L. Mather, 11am C. Shore.

5th/6th July: Readers: 6pm J. Sherry, 9.30am: P.
Cunningham, 11am: P. Greenall. **Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: J.
Matthews, 9.30am: D. Dodd, 11am S. Fitzsimons.

Thank you for your generosity. **Last Weekend:** Yet to be
counted.

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.

Confirmation 2025: We congratulate the children of our
parish who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday.

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. **AL-
SO**, if you are already Catholic but would like to learn more about
our beautiful Catholic Faith you are MORE than welcome to join
us.

Be an Altar Server: Being an Altar Server is
an honour and a privilege. It is a wonderful
opportunity to draw closer to God and grow in
faith. Your service at the Altar is a gift to the
Church. If have done your First Communion
Please the Registration and return to the par-
ish. **Practise Meeting for altar Servers both
old and new members on Saturday the 4th
at 11.30am in the church.**

Golden Birthday Celebration: Next Sunday the 6th Fr
Augustine will turn 50. You are cordially invited to a
Thanksgiving Mass in Celebration of the his 50th Birthday on
Friday 11th July 2025 at 6.00 PM at Our Lady and St Joseph
Catholic Church Heywood. Reception follows immediately af-
ter Mass at St Joseph Pre Nursery.



**Churches Together Summer Coffee
& Cake:** 1.30pm -2.30pm Wednes-
day 2nd July at Our Lady & St Jo-
seph's. As we are hosting this

Summer's Coffee and Cakes, we appeal for your attendance. We are
also asking for support with cakes. Please contact Margaret
Schofield, if you would like bake some cakes for the day.

Let us pray for the people of the parish of St, James and All
Souls, Pendleton and Weaste, and for Fr. Ian Farrell, their parish
priest. We pray for their parish primary school. Also for those who
live and work on Knutshaw Gr, Fisher Dr, Dumfries Hollow, Blen-
heim Cl & Woodstock Cl.

For The sick of our Parish.

For Joe Fitzpatrick, William Armstrong, Elaine Delon, Maria
Chambers, Monica Murrell, Maureen Slattery, James Campion, An-
thony Williams, James Keenan, Helen Worrall, and all who have
died recently.

For David Pearson, Angela Morrison, Richard O'Dowd,
Sheila O'Connor, Marina Coles,, Theresa Feerick, Neal Wareham,
Cathrine Johnston, Frank & Clara Taylor, Ernest, Colet and Brian
Leach. Kath Pickering, Charli Quayle, Joe Goss, Mike Logan and all
we remember at this time.

St Joseph's RC Primary School Summer Fair 2025: On
Tuesday 15th July 2025, we are holding a Summer Fair. We want to
invite all our families, friends, parishioners and community to come
and have some fun and raise some money for our school fund. We
are currently fundraising to develop a school library and a school
prayer garden, as well as many other amazing things for our wonder-
ful children. We are asking for your support to ensure our event is a
success. We are collecting raffle prizes. If anyone has anything to
donate, please can you bring them into school by Friday 4th July.

Madonna Del Rosario Procession: The annual Madonna
Del Rosario procession, organised by the Manches-
ter Italian Association, will take place on Sunday 6 July. The proces-
sion will begin at 1.15pm from The Halle St Michael's, George
Leigh Street, in Ancoats. It will continue through Manchester City
Centre to St Peter's Square, where Mgr Anthony Kay will lead a
short service. All are welcome to join this wonderful celebration.

Southern Cemetery Mass: The Diocese of Salford
is delighted to announce the return of its Cemetery Mass at Southern
Cemetery- the first since before the pandemic - providing a wonder-
ful opportunity to come together in faith and remember our loved
ones who have gone before us. Join us at 12 noon on Monday 25
August outside the Roman Catholic Chapel in the cemetery. Seating
will not be provided, so please bring a chair if you require one. In the
event of poor weather, Mass will be celebrated in St Ambrose
Church.

Word of The Week: Peter and Paul are the two great heroes
of the Apostolic Age - Peter for leading the first Christian communi-
ties and binding them in unity, a role that springs from his profession
of faith in Caesarea Philippi, and Paul for travel-ling throughout the
Roman Empire as the Apostle to the Gentiles, ensuring that the Gos-
pel could be heard by all. They both ended up in Rome, the heart of
the Empire, where they crowned
their lives of witness by shedding
their blood for Christ. As the an-
cient hymn for this feast day
("Decora Lux aeternitatis") says:
""Rejoice, O Rome, this day; thy
walls they once did sign With
princely blood, who now their
glory share with thee. What city's
vesture glows with crimson deep
as thine? What beauty else has
earth that may compare with
thee?" In celebrating the death of
these apostles and martyrs, we
celebrate the triumph of life and
death offered fully to God.



SUNDAY *Plus*

Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles **Divine Office Week I** Year C

You are Peter...



In the Gospel for today, the solemnity of the holy apostles, Ss Peter and Paul, Jesus says to Simon, one of the Twelve: "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church". Peter is a name that has several meanings: it can mean rock, stone, or simply, pebble. And, in fact, if we look at Peter's life, we discover a bit of all three of these aspects of his name...

This is all in Peter: the strength of the rock, the reliability of the stone and the littleness of a simple pebble. He is not a superman — he is a human being like us, like every one of us, who, in his imperfection, generously says "yes" to Jesus... And it is with this true humanity that the Spirit forms the Church. Peter and Paul were real people. And today, more than ever, we

need real people.

Now, let us take a look inside ourselves and ask ourselves some questions starting from the rock, from the stone and from the pebble. From the rock: is there ardour, zeal, passion for the Lord and for the Gospel in us? Or is there something that easily crumbles? And then, are we stones, not stumbling blocks, but building blocks for the Church? Do we work for unity, are we concerned for others, especially the weakest? Finally, thinking of the pebble: Are we aware of our littleness? And above all, in our weaknesses, do we entrust ourselves to the Lord who accomplishes great things through those who are humble and sincere?

Pope Francis

Even the crows?

By Mary Bell

Having promised the previous owners of our house that we would "look after the birds", we bought a birdfeeder. A new, delightful world opened up for us: rainbow-coloured wings; the charm of watching a family of coal tits as the adults fed the small, fat youngsters on a nearby tamarisk tree.

However, before long, the local crows sussed out that there were easy pickings to be had and in no time columns of birdseed


"disappeared" within twenty-four hours of being filled.

The answer was to invest in a birdfeeder with apertures too small for the crows. Problem solved!

But then remorse set in. Were the jackdaws and rooks not also worthy of being fed? This led me to reflect that the situation that confronted Peter and Paul was not dissimilar: to spread Jesus' words to both Jews and Gentiles. All were hungry for the Good News.

Regardless of the differences and intolerance between the two groups, Jesus wanted all to be fed with his message of love.

Following many years in the classroom and as Head of RE, retired teacher Mary Bell now has time to enjoy the beauty of the natural world around her.

Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by you, always follow your plans, and perfectly accomplish your holy Will. Grant that in all things, great and small, today and all the days of my life, I may do whatever you require of me.  Amen.

St Teresa of Avila

Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

Practise patience

Saint Paul is a realist. He knows that life has its joys and sorrows, that love is tested amid trials, and that hope can falter in the face of suffering. Even so, he can write: "We boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope". For the Apostle, trials and tribulations mark the lives of those who preach the Gospel amid incomprehension and persecution. Yet in those very contexts, beyond the darkness we glimpse a light: we come to realise that evangelisation is sustained by the power flowing from Christ's cross and resurrection. In this way, we learn to practise a virtue closely linked to hope, namely patience.

Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction of Jubilee Year of Hope



READINGS

Today:
Acts 12:1-11
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
Matthew 16:13-19

Monday:
Genesis 18:16-33
Matthew 8:18-22

Tuesday:
Genesis 19:15-29
Matthew 8:23-27

Wednesday:
Genesis 21:5, 8-20a
Matthew 8:28-34

Thursday:
Ephesians 2:19-22
John 20:24-29

Friday:
Genesis 23:1-4, 19;
24:1-8, 62-67
Matthew 9:9-13

Saturday:
Genesis 27:1-5, 15-29
Matthew 9:14-17

Next Sunday:
Isaiah 66:10-14c
Galatians 6:14-18
Luke 10:1-12, 17-20