



# 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 Third Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C, 7th September 2025**

## THS WEEK AT OUR LADY AND ST JOSEPH

**Monday 8th Sept.:** Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast).

9.30 am Mass:

**Tuesday 9th Sept.:** Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Wednesday 10th Sept.:** St Ambrose Barlow, Martyr (Feast).

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

**Thursday 11th Sept.:** Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

11.45am: Funeral Service for Cathrine Smith.

**Friday 12th Sept.:** Weekday.

9am Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Mass:

**Saturday 13th Sept.:** St John Chrysostom.

10am Morning Mass:

10.30am. Adoration and Confessions.

6pm: First Mass of Sunday:

**Sunday 14th Sept.:** Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.30 am Mass:

11am Mass:

### Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

**6th/7th Sept.:** Readers: 6pm S. Gibson, 9.30am: P. Cunningham, 11am: P. Greenall. **Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: J. Matthews 9.30am: L. Mather, 11am F. Fitzsimons.

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

**Thank you** for your generosity. **Last Weekend:** £375.20 (Gift Aid) £354.45 (Loose Change) & CAFOD £22.55.

**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.

**First Communion Forms:** there will be an all-important first meeting for all parents who have register their children for the First Holy Communion programme on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September in Church at 7pm. During the meeting, all dates and information will be given out. **FORMS** are still available in the church for those who have not yet registered their children. It is for children going into year-three this September.

**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 Tuesdays.

**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.

**Catherine Smith RIP:** Funeral Service for the late Catherine Smith will be celebrated on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September at

11.45am, here at Our Lady and St Joseh. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

**Let us pray** for the parishioners St Augustine's parish, Manchester, and for Fr. Moses Agada, their priest. We pray for their parish primary school and the Daughters of Charity. We also pray for the Jesuit Community at the Holy Name and the Chaplaincy to the Manchester Universities and the Royal Northern College of Music.

**Let us pray** for those who live and work on Sycamore Ave, Ley Drive, East Church Way, Kenley Dr & Tangmere Ave.

**For** The sick of our Parish.

**For** Catherine Smith, William Holden Nina Burges, Fr Paul Shobande MSP, Peter Schofield, Matthew Robinson, William Lawlor, John Morris, and all who have died recently.

**For** Pat Brennan, Thomas Flaherty, Glenn & Kathleen Wildman, Charles Schofield, Norman Butterworth, Angela Morrison, Lawrence Couch, Delia Couch, Mary Summers, Fr Donatus Birk, Ellen Fairhurst, Mary Elizabeth Wrigley, Peter J. Hoyle, Eileen & Winnie Thornton, John Schofield, Vera Navesey, Frank & Clara Taylor and all we remember at this time.

**Annual Rosary Rally - The Legion of Mary:** The Legion of Mary Manchester will hold their Annual Rosary Rally on Saturday 13th September. All are invited to come together to pray the Holy Rosary for Peace, and to end wars around the world as requested by Pope Leo XIV. The rally will take place from 2.30pm at St. Willibrord's Church, North Road, Clayton, M11 4WQ, and light refreshments will be served afterwards.

**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/>

**Word of The Week:** This is a very difficult set of readings. The Gospel itself starts with a saying which many find hard to understand: must we really hate our family to be the Lords disciples? The point is that it is *relative*: what are we prepared to give up for the Gospel? Are we going to try and make our own cross, or accept whatever we are given? Jesus is probably trying to discourage the crowd of sensation seekers and hangers-on who are crowding round him. He wants real disciples, who are aware of the possible cost: not like the incompetent builder, or the useless king. To be a disciple, one must be prepared to follow Jesus anywhere, whatever it might cost in possessions, family or friends. We may never understand why, but then, who can know the intentions of God?

C	O	T	S	Y	O	V	N	E	G
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Y	A	K	E	C	C	S	A	A	L
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N	N	M	E	D	A	W	U	O	O
I	I	I	P	W	R	R	O	H	C
N	I	K	K	S	T	C	F	T	E

CROWDS TOWER COST  
COMPLETE FOUNDATION KING  
MARCHING THOUSAND WAR  
TWENTY ENVOYS PEACE



# SUNDAY *Plus*

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time **Divine Office Week III** Year C

## Built for life

Peace begins with each one of us: in the way we look at others, listen to others and speak about others.

Pope Leo XIV

[Sir Henry Bromley] knew the house well; he had searched it before. First, he examined the long gallery over the gatehouse. There he found two of the dozen or more hiding places. In his report he pays a generous tribute to the skill of Nicholas Owen: they were "cunning and very artificial conveyances in the main brick wall, so ingeniously framed and with such art as it cost much labour they could be found".

As the search proceeded three other secret places were found, "contrived with no less skill and industry" in and about the chimneys, with

entrances covered over with brick, mortared and fixed to the planks that formed the entrance, and coloured black like other parts of the chimney. This was Owen's work again...

No day passed without one other place of concealment being discovered. "Eleven secret corners and conveyances were found". Bromley boasted, "all of them having books, massing stuff, and popish trumpery in them." It was only on the third day... that [Bromley] found his prey.

The two priests [Bl Henry Garnet and Bl Edward Oldcorne] were resolved to

starve to death rather than bring trouble on their hosts by emerging from the place of hiding. "After we had been in the hole seven days and seven nights", wrote Garnet, "and some odd hours, every man may well think we were well wearied, and indeed so it was, for we generally sat...". In fact, the hiding place had such a low ceiling that even in a sitting position the priests were unable to stretch their legs. They suffered continual pain.

*Philip Caraman SJ,  
Henry Garnet, 1555-1606,  
and the Gunpowder Plot*



## Scaffolding

By Seamus Heaney

Masons, when they start upon a building,  
Are careful to test out the scaffolding;


Make sure that planks won't slip at busy points,  
Secure all ladders, tighten bolted joints.

And yet all this comes down when the job's done  
Showing off walls of sure and solid stone.

So if, my dear, there sometimes seem to be  
Old bridges breaking between you and me

Never fear. We may let the scaffolds fall  
Confident that we have built our wall.

*Seamus Heaney wrote this poem to explain that scaffolding offers support so that repairs can be made: a marriage with good walls and solid foundations can survive temporary crises and breakdowns.*

Help us, Lord, to build strong foundations in our families and communities so that we can grow strong and weather the storms that sometimes happen in life. Bring us into the sunshine.  Amen.

Michel Quoist

## Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope Renewed in hope

For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the "door" of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as "our hope".

Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often, we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope.

*Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the year 2025:1*



## READINGS

**Today:**  
Wisdom 9:13-18b  
Philemon 9-10. 12-17  
Luke 14:25-33

**Monday:**  
Micah 5:1-4a  
Matthew 1:1-16. 18-23

**Tuesday:**  
Colossians 2:6-15  
Luke 6:12-19

**Wednesday:**  
Colossians 3:1-11  
Luke 6:20-26

**Thursday:**  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 6:27-38

**Friday:**  
1 Timothy 1:1-2. 12-14  
Luke 6:39-42

**Saturday:**  
1 Timothy 1:15-17  
Luke 6:43-49

**Next Sunday:**  
Numbers 21:4b-9  
Philippians 2:6-11  
John 3:13-17