# The Catholic Parish of
# St. John Henry Newman
"Heart Speaks to Heart!"

COR AD COR LOQUITUR


**Parish Priest:** Fr. Kieren Mullarkey
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**The Presbytery, 5 Roseneath Road, Urmston, M41 5AX**
**Phone:** (0161) 7482328
**Deacon:** Rev. John Walsh

**Parish Admin:** Amanda.Craven@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
**Safeguarding Rep:** Mrs. Amanda Craven
**Parish Centre:** (0161) 747 9173 (bookings - bar - via SDC)
sjhnpc@sdc-trading.co.uk
**SVP :** 07495251598


St John Henry Newman, Urmston

**If you would like to make a donation to the Parish please scan the above QR code.**

## 2nd Sunday of Christmas - Psalter 2

Dear Parishioners,

A New Year has begun and yet we are still in the Season of Christmas!

My decorations remain up and I'm even considering leaving my tree up until Candlemas (2nd February)!

2025 was a stressful year, both my parents spent a lengthy period in hospital to the extant that felt that I had almost become the unofficial chaplain to Wythenshawe hospital. We lost Pope Francis and welcomed Pope Leo, and we have begun and concluded a Jubilee Year - it has certainly been an interesting year!

The last 12 months have reminded me that time doesn't stand still, we all get older and things are always changing (in our personal life and the Church); but there is one constant:

**The Word of God, that is itself God.**

As Catholic's, let us remember that it is the constancy of Jesus Christ that we focus on, everything else– all things in this world– passes away.

In this New Year, forget "dry" January and any meaningless "resolutions", rather choose to commit yourself to grow in your faith and in doing so grow closer to Word that became Flesh.

To help you do this, I invite and encourage you to participate fully with the various initiatives that will come from the Diocese throughout this year, fruits of the Diocesan Synod. I also challenge you to difficult and consider things that might need to pass away, in your own lives and in the Parish, so that the Word may be made flesh in us.

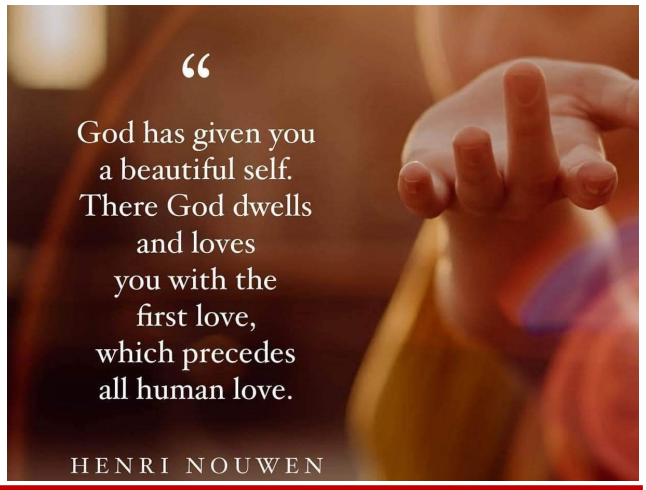
God Bless you all in 2026 …
and Happy Christmas (one more week to go!!)

*Fr. Kieren*

## PARISH WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Times may change due to Weddings & Funerals

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tue<br>10.00am | 06<br>EM | THE EPIPHANY<br>Requiem Mass. Tina Welch |
| Wed<br>11.30am | 07 | Christmas Weekday<br>Requiem Mass. Ann Rabbit<br>No Mass in Parish |
| Thu<br>9.30am | 08<br>EM | Christmas Weekday<br>Mass |
| Fri<br>9.30am | 09<br>SM | Christmas Weekday<br>Mass |
| Sat<br>10.00am<br>11.00am<br>5.00pm<br>5.30pm | 10<br>EM<br>EM<br>SM<br>SM | Christmas Weekday<br>Adoration and Confession<br>Mass<br>Confession<br>Vigil Mass |
| Sun<br>9.30am<br>11.30am<br>1.30pm | 11<br>EM<br>SM<br>EM | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD<br>Mass<br>Mass<br>Baptism |



## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2025 - 2026

### Dates for Catechesis & Celebrations

Catechesis/Celebrations
Parent meetings are marked in GREEN

| | |
|---|---|
| 22nd January 6.30pm | Parish Centre |
| 24th January 9.30am | Parish Centre |
| 25th January 9.45am | Jubilee Room |
| 5th February 6.30pm | Parish Centre |
| 7th February 9.30am | Parish Centre |
| 8th February 9.45am | Jubilee Room |
| 24th Feb 6.30pm 1st CONFESSION SM | |
| 25th Feb 6.30pm 1st CONFESSION SM | |
| 7th/8th March | Lenten Mass |
| 19th March 6.30pm | Parish Centre |
| 21st March 9.30am | Parish Centre |
| 22nd March 9.45am | Jubilee Room |
| 16th April 6.30pm | Parish Centre |
| 18th April 9.30am | Parish Centre |
| 19th April 9.45am | Jubilee Room |

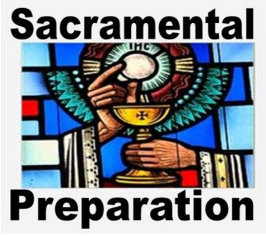
HOLY COMMUNION MASSES 2026

OLOR 1st HC Mass 25th April NOON (SM)

SM 1st HC Mass 9th May NOON (SM)

EM 1st HC Mass 16th May NOON (SM)

For children in non-Parochial Schools please choose either 9th or 16th May for 1st Holy Communion Mass.




## The Angelus Prayer

I thought we might continue to pray the Angelus throughout the Christmas Season

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary ...
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done to me according to thy word.
Hail Mary. . .
V. And the Word was made flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary. . .
V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

## Mass Intentions

### LATELY DEAD

Requiescat in pace

Tina Welch, Alan Walsh, Tom McBride, Conway Wright, John Moran

### GENERAL INTENTION

A special intention, in thanksgiving, a successful operation, speedy recovery, Gemma Fowler

### ANNIVERSARY

Gerry Kielty, Patrick McLoughlin, Geoffrey Martin, Kathleen McGrory and deceased members of the McGrory and Doidge families, Eileen Flanagan, Ethel and Jack Large, Elizabeth Donohue

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Margaret Barker, Paul Hales, Josie Fitton, Leo Turnbull, Anne Turnbull

Names can only be added to the sick list with permission of the individual

HOLY COMMUNION UNDER BOTH SPECIES as you know I have raised the possibility of reintroducing Holy Communion under both species a number of times. Unfortunately there have been no collective enthusiasm for the return of this practise.

But I want to try again!

I am hoping to arrange a refresher course for Extra - Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion before Easter, but in order to move forward we need new ministers. I therefore invite all who are interested to attend the upcoming course, the following criteria must be met: you must be over 16, fully initiated into the Church and a practising Catholic. Please speak to me if you have any questions.

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Dates for Catechesis 2026

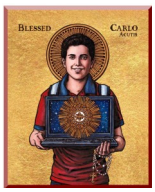
1. Thurs. 8th January** (6.30pm). 2. Thurs. 12th Feb (6.30pm)
3. Thurs. 26th March (6.30pm)
Please return completed forms to Fr Kieren before the end of the Christmas Season.

The date for the celebration of Confirmation has now been confirmed as Sunday 28th June 2026 (2pm) at St Monica's Church

Please return completed registration Forms before Christmas
** note change of date.

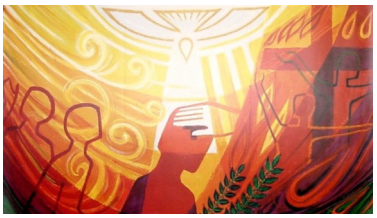
CRIB OFFERING during the Christmas season there will be an opportunity to support the Christian community in the Holy Land. If you would like to support our brothers and sisters in Christ please place your donation in the basket at the crib.

ADVICE AS WEATHER GETS COLDER and energy bills rise If you or someone in your wider parish community is in need of support around rising energy bills, Caritas Salford, our diocesan charity, has a free energy advice service that can help. You can find details on their website on how to arrange a free session with their energy advice service team, and lots of other information: www.caritassalford.org.uk/energysupport




Relics of St Carlo Acutis to Visit Diocese of Salford In January, the relics of St Carlo Acutis will be hosted at two of our churches over five days, during which time the Diocese will welcome schools, parishioners and people from all over for veneration. The relics will be presented at St Mary's Church, Burnley from 28-29 January 2026 before they travel to St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst from 30 January to 1 February 2026. More information will be shared soon with parishes and on the Diocesan website and social media channels.

Safeguarding Survey - Public Call for Information The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) are completing a safeguarding inspection within the Diocese of Salford, and would like to hear the views of as many people as possible regarding their arrangements for safeguarding. Responses will be collected anonymously unless you choose to provide your contact information, and the survey will close at 11:45pm on Friday 16th January 2026. To submit your response, please scan the QR code:



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION a FINAL reminder for parishioners in Yr 8. If you would like to join the programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation please complete the form (available at the back of both churches) and return it to Fr. K. Details of the programme are in the Parish Newsletter.

POTENTIAL PARISH SISTER as many of you know the Parish has been asked to consider employing a Parish Sister. Very soon some sisters belonging to "The Sisters of Our Lady of Fatima" will be joining our diocese. In principle I have agreed to welcome one of the sisters to help in the Parish. However, this is not set in stone and there are a lot of logistical problems to solve. I will keep you informed as I receive more news.

SYCAMORE THE CATHOLIC FAITH EXPLAINED

SYCAMORE led by Deacon John will continue in the New Year. Please check future newsletter for updates. The first session will be held on 12th January 2026!

FUNERAL DETAILS OF THE LATE ALAN WALSH Requiem Mass Monday 5th January 12-30pm at St Ann's Church by Fr. Patrick McMahon, prior to interment at Sale Cemetery.

PARKING AROUND ST MONICA'S as we begin this New Year, can I take this opportunity to remind parishioners to use the Parish Carpark. The front of St Monica's should not be used as a carpark and we need to ensure that emergency services have clear access to the church. Can I also ask parishioners to avoid if possible parking at the junction of Woodsend South and Irlam Road as parked vehicles are limiting the visibility to oncoming traffic. Thank You

DO YOU KNOW ANYBODY WHO could service the Organ at St Monica's. If so please let Fr. Kieren or Amanda (in the Office) know.

Advice as energy bills continue to rise If you or those in your wider parish community are in need of support with rising energy bills, Caritas Salford has put together some helpful advice on their website. Their energy advice service team can support with free sessions and drop-ins in your area. You can find out more by visiting www.caritassalford.org.uk/energysupport

'Neurodiversity and Our Faith' Research The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales and Birmingham Newman University are conducting research into Neurodiversity and our Faith. . To find out more and to complete the short surveys, please visit: www.godwhospeaks.uk/neurodivergent-catholic-surveys/

THE PARISH SICK LIST will be deleted and renewed for the New Year. If you would like loved ones to be placed on the new prayer list please email Fr. Kieren directly with their information. Permission must be sought and given by the sick person for their name to be published.

CONTEMPLATING A PARISH PILGRIMAGE I've been approached by a number of parishioners asking me … "where are we going next?" I wasn't actually planning anything this year, but I've been asked to consider bringing a parish group to Krakow. If you are interested (it will depend on numbers), come and let me know and I will begin looking into it. Fr K

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS - Starting primary school September 2026 If you live in the Parish of St John Henry Newman (and beyond) and your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, they are eligible to start school from 1st September 2026. Please check the website of each school and read the Admissions Policy and note the supplementary documentation that must be produced (Baptism Certificate). The closing date for primary school applications is 15th January 2026. www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/schools/school-admissions/Primary/primary-school-admissions.aspx

## RECEIVING & PREPARING FOR THE FULLNESS OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION

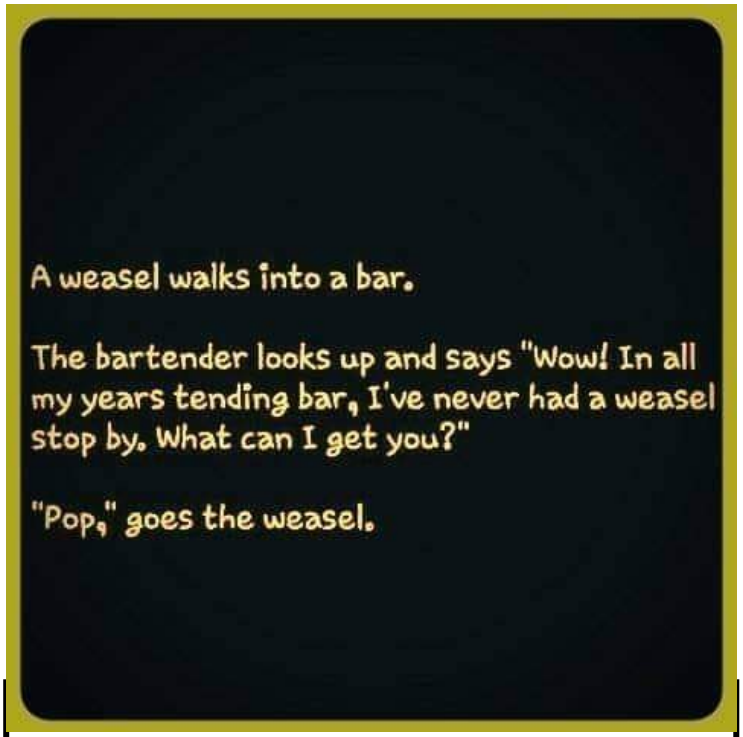
**EUCHARIST (1st HOLY COMMUNION)**

*The Eucharist is the source and summit of all Christian life, the Eucharist is not a thing or a holy object, the Eucharist is the gift of God Himself given and shared with us.*

All parent's of children who will be entering Yr 3 (in September 2026) will be invited to enrol their child on the Sacramental Programme.

All children must be baptised in the Catholic Church and families **WILL** be expected, to do what all Catholic families should already be doing, that is attend Sunday Mass.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** Parishioners from Year 8 (upwards) are invited to join this programme. All details will be published in the newsletter and a notice will be sent to our local Diocesan Catholic Secondary School (St. Antony's) and those schools that are in the Diocese of Shrewsbury (BTH, St. Ambrose & Loreto).




## GETTING MARRIED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

In order to get married in the Catholic Church 6 months notice must be given, please contact Fr. Kieren for further information.

If you are a Catholic and have attempted marriage outside the Church and would like to consider a convalidation please speak to Fr. Kieren or Deacon John.

*"And that is what marriage is! Hand in hand, always and for the rest of your lives".* Pope Francis

Please keep in your prayers those who will

**TRAFFORD NORTH FOOD BANK** Please place any of the above items in the grey bin at the back of church (English Martyrs). To donate directly Co-op Bank a/c 65855834 Sort code: 089299.

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*"Parents are obliged to see to it that infants are baptised within the first weeks after birth"* (867)

In order for your baby/child to be baptised, if you are not already practising your Catholic faith, then you must begin to **attend Sunday Mass for a minimum of at least 6 weeks** before a baptism date can be discussed.

- If you live outside the Parish, but this Parish is your place of *regular* worship, no permission is needed.
- If you live outside the Parish and don't regularly attend Mass, permission from your Parish Priest is needed.
- After a date for baptism has been set, a meeting with Fr. Kieren or Deacon John must be arranged (by you).
- If your child is aged 7 or over they are treated as an adult and must follow an adapted RCIA programme.

To read the full diocesan policy:
https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Forming-young-people-for-life-Policy-Nov-2016.pdf

## OUR CATHOLIC PARISH AND DIOCESAN SCHOOLS

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

**English Martyrs**
Wycliffe Road, Urmston.
Head teacher: Mrs J Dunn (acting)
(0161) 748 7257

**Our Lady of the Rosary**
Davyhulme Road, Urmston.
Head teacher: Mrs Hannah Groves
(0161)748 4626

**St. Monica's**
Woodsend Road South, Flixton
Head teacher: Mr. Mark Doherty
(0161) 748 3353

SECONDARY SCHOOL

**St. Antony's Catholic High School**
Bradfield Road, Urmston
Head teacher: Mr. A. Campbell
(0161) 911 8001

**HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY CARE** If you have a relative or friend who is an inpatient and would like a Catholic Chaplain to visit them for pastoral support please contact the Chaplaincy Office on 0161 276 8792. The Chaplains no longer have access to patient details - a chaplain must be requested by a member of the family to minister to a sick relative.