



# The Parish of Saint Hugh & Saint John

314 Manchester Road, West Timperley, Altrincham WA14 5NB  
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Parish Priest: Canon Christopher Matthews

## Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time: Week commencing Sunday 8 February 2026

Sat 7th	BVM	11.00am 12noon	<i>Adoration &amp; Reconciliation</i> All those who have lost their lives in Iran's recent unrest
	First Mass of Sunday	6.30pm	Parishioners
Sun 8th	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day of special prayer for victims of trafficking</i>	8.30am 10.30am	Layan's mum RIP anniv. David Whitfield RIP 2nd anniv.
Mon 9th	Ferial	9.30am 2.00pm	<b>No Mass</b> Living Water Prayer Group
Tues 10th	Saint Scholastica	7.00pm	<b>No Mass</b>
Wed 11th	Our Lady of Lourdes <i>World Day of Prayer for the sick</i>	9.30am	Bishop Mark ( <i>priestly ordination anniversary</i> )
Thurs 12th	Ferial	9.30am 7.00pm	<b>No Mass</b> No Holy Hour and Adoration
Friday 13th	Ferial	9.30am	<b>No Mass</b>
Sat 14th	Ss Cyril, Mark and Methodius <i>Day of special prayer for Europe</i>	11.00am 12 noon	<i>Adoration &amp; Reconciliation</i> Priest's Intention
	First Mass of Sunday	6.30pm	Fred and Cecilia Berry (8 <sup>th</sup> anniv. of Cecilia)
Sun 15th	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day of special prayer for the unemployed</i>	8.30am 10.30am	Parishioners Hilda Sheerin RIP

### Canon Christopher writes:

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

Today we welcome Father Peter Dutton to celebrate the 8.30am and 10.30am Masses for us. I am very grateful to Father Peter for his support as I travel to Lourdes for the International Pilgrimage Directors Conference. I will remember you all to Our Lady of Lourdes and ask her to intercede for our parish family. Today we also welcome our First Holy Communion children to one of their *year of celebration* Masses. At this Mass they will receive a prayer book, as another 'tool' to add to their prayer kit. Please do keep our First Holy Communion children and their families in your prayers.

This week is Marriage Week when we pray especially for married couples, for families and for those engaged to be married. May the Lord Jesus fill your hearts with grace, peace and love. For those who have brought a copy of their wedding photo to church, please place it in front of the altar, where they can remain as a focus for prayer during this week. We also remember all those who have lost a husband or wife and pray also for those who are separated or divorced. May the Lord Jesus bring wholeness, peace and healing.

We wish prayerful congratulations to Bishop Mark on the forty second anniversary of his priestly ordination on Wednesday, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. May the Lord continue to bless him in his ministry. Canon Pat will be celebrating Mass in church on Wednesday for Bishop Mark's intentions; thank you Canon Pat.

Wishing you a blessed week ahead.

*Now that we are a one priest parish again, for any home communions, sick visits, Mass intentions, baptisms, funerals, RCIA, etc. please contact Canon Chris via the Parish Office.*

## LITURGY & PRAYER:

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**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** please pray for Chloe L., ZiNing Joseph Lin, John R., William C., AE B., Amrut, Sue O'M., Anna B., Valentine M., Jozef and Anna M., Niall O'H., Gerard, Jim & Bernadette S., Gerry B., Hannah H., Denis C., Kitty D., Seema Mc., B. S., Lisa C., K. C., Sam H., A.P., Jo R., Timothy M., Margaret B., May & John H., Anne L., Brian T., John R., Bernadette B., Roger P., and Margaret L.

**REST IN PEACE:** Deacon Terry Simms, Father Paul O'Grady, Sandra Doyle, John McDonald, Anne Cramer and John Kirton who have died recently. Anne's funeral will be celebrated on 19<sup>th</sup> February at Saint Hugh; John's funeral will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> February at Altrincham Crematorium. Please keep them and their families in your prayer. May they rest in peace in the arms of the Good Shepherd.

### MARIAN LAMP:

This week the Marian Lamp burns for *Mary Anderson – successful operation*

### SAINT HUGH & SAINT JOHN LAMP:

This week the Saints Lamp burns for our *Parish Welcomers*

If you would like one of the lamps to burn for a week for a particular intention, please contact the Parish Office. A donation of £5 per lamp per week is recommended.

## PARISH:

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**WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK:** Masses are available at Holy Angels, Saint Vincent's and Saint Joseph's. Canon Chris is grateful to Canon Pat for his offer to celebrate Mass for us on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on Wednesday at 9.30am.

**A LITTLE REMINDER FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS:** If you have not yet collected your Christmas thank you bag from the sacristy, please pop by at your convenience. Thank you for all that you do – without our volunteers we could not function.

**CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES:** There are three certificate plaques left from 2023. If they are yours, or you know who they belong, to please collect them from the church porch.

**DATES FOR DEANERY LENTEN STATION MASSES:** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at Saint Vincent's, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at All Saints, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at Saint Hugh & Saint John (us!), Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at Holy Family and Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at Sacred Heart. Confessions & Adoration 6-7pm; Mass 7pm; Light Refreshments after Mass.

**MOVING FROM CASH TO STANDING ORDER OFFERTORY GIVING:** The Diocese has informed us that there has been a significant increase in bank charges for the processing of cash and cheques. We are looking at ways to reduce this increased cost; one way is for offertory donations to be given as a Standing Order or via the card machine instead. If you would like to make your offertory donation as a Standing Order, please contact the Parish Office for more details. If you are not interested in doing this, you can continue to give cash and we are extremely grateful for all offertory donations made, as this makes up the majority of our parish income.

**COLD & FLU SEASON:** If you are feeling unwell, please avoid receiving Holy Communion from the Chalice. Also remember that if you are really unwell, the Sunday obligation does not apply, and it is not a sin to miss Mass. We hope everyone remains healthy and well this winter.

**SPUC YOUTH CONFERENCE:** Are you between 16 and 35, interested in meeting others of your age, and curious about the work of Society for the Protection of Unborn Babies? If so, consider a weekend away Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March, organised specifically for you. Please have a look at <https://spuc.org.uk/youthconference/> for details or have a word with John Barry in our parish.

**PILGRIMAGE TO ROME:** from Monday 25 May to Saturday 30 May 2026. The dates fall in half term in case any teachers, or families wish to join us. Organised by Tangney Tours and lead by Canon Chris: flights, transfers, hotel accommodation (bed and breakfast), dinner each evening, travel rep, travel insurance and visiting the major sights of Rome for approx. £1245 (plus single room supplement). There will be a brief meeting for anyone interested after the 7pm Mass on Tuesday 17 February in church.

**PARISH MEETING:** Canon Chris has brought together a small team to help him look at the suggestions raised at the Parish Meeting and look at a way forward. Immediate priorities have been identified including more regular Sunday coffee, prayer for the parish, a lent catechetics course, and parish hall atmosphere. Other priorities will arise from these. Please keep these parish developments in your prayers.

### ***CATECHETICS:***

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**PARENTS BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE:** For children under 7 years of age: the next evening course will be on Thursday 5 March 2026 at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Book a place by emailing the Parish Office.

**CONFIRMATION:** We have had a great response from those enquiring about the Sacrament of Confirmation for next year. If **you** are in School Year 8 or above and wish to be Confirmed please write to Canon Chris at the Parish Office requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation and include **yours, and your parents, contact details**. It is for the young person to write themselves not their parents. Bishop Mark will be with us on Wednesday 6 May 2026 for the Mass of Confirmation. More details and preparation dates to follow very soon – thank you for your patience.

### ***DIOCESE:***

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**VACANCY:** *Two vacancies have arisen within the Diocese of Shrewsbury.*

**Sales Ledger Clerk** - 20 hours per week, term time only contract. Hourly rate £14.60.

**Pilgrimage Booking & Customer Service Coordinator** - 20 hours per week, term time only contract with the possibility of some remote working. Hourly rate £14.60.

CV and covering letter should be sent to Pauline McCulloch [recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

Closing date: Friday 20 February 2026. Further details can be found on the Diocesan website.

**THE DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE** is always a very happy occasion for couples celebrating significant anniversaries and for their families. Bishop Mark will be celebrating the Mass for 2026 on Saturday 13 June at 12noon at Saint Columba's, Chester, followed by a buffet lunch for invited guests in the Parish Hall. All parishioners celebrating a significant marriage anniversary can apply for an invitation, to do so please email your names, wedding celebration anniversary and your full postal address to Zuzana in the Parish Office. Your invitation will be delivered directly to you.

**MARRIAGE WEEK:** (7th - 14th February 2026) is an annual celebration offering the opportunity to support and promote marriage and family life. We are inviting married couples, if you wish, to bring a photograph of your wedding day to church next weekend and to place them on the sanctuary steps for the week (they can be collected after the 15 February). We will pray especially for all married and engaged couples during this week of prayer.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE ROADSHOW:** The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Management Team invites you to drop in to one of our roadshows to learn more about joining our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2026, as we celebrate our 75th annual pilgrimage, at any of the following locations:

Saturday 21/02/26 - Christ the King, Bromborough, CH62 6AT - 11am - 12.30pm

Saturday 07/03/26 - Saint Patrick's, Wellington, Telford, TF1 3AP - 12.30pm - 2pm

**STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY!** Follow us for inspiring stories, parish updates, and ways to grow in your faith. Follow us on:

Facebook: [@shrewsdiocese](https://www.facebook.com/shrewsdiocese)

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Instagram: [@shrewsdiocese](https://www.instagram.com/shrewsdiocese)

Website: [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

## **EVENTS:**

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**LORETO REUNION:** A get together for the year group which started at the school in Altrincham in 1977 is being organised for March. For further details please contact [samfinlandudley@gmail.com](mailto:samfinlandudley@gmail.com).

## **FINANCE:**

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**OFFERINGS: THANK YOU.**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February £711.50. Plus, standing orders and card donations. Your consistent support is invaluable.  
Thank you for your financial support of the parish.

Coffee morning donated £93.81.

## **WHAT'S ON:**

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### **Sunday 8 February:**

10.30am Children's Liturgy in the Parish Hall

### **Monday 9 February:**

7pm Irish dancing classes in the Parish Hall

### **Tuesday 10 February:**

9.30am Exercise class in the Parish Hall

1pm Craft Group in the Parish Hall

### **Wednesday 11 February:**

9.30am Toddlers group in the Parish Hall

10.30am Mothers' in Prayer in the church porch

6pm Rainbows, Brownies & Guides in the Parish Hall

6.30pm Choir practise in Church

### **Thursday 12 February:**

### **Friday 13 February:**

### **Saturday 14 February:**

### **Sunday 15 February**

10.30am Children's Liturgy in the Parish Hall

*Could parish groups please keep the Parish Office informed of dates and times of meetings and events, so the diary is always accurate. Many thanks in anticipation.*

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Canon Christopher Matthews: [frchris.matthews@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:frchris.matthews@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

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