



St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
Altrincham



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th February 2026

(Parish Mass book - page 133)

We continue the excerpts from Pope Leo's Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te (I have loved you) on Christian love for the poor.

At the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus appeared in the synagogue of Nazareth reading the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and applying the prophet's words to himself: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor" (Lk 4:18; cf. Is 61:1). He thus reveals himself as the One who, in the here and now of history, comes to bring about God's loving closeness, which is above all a work of liberation for those who are prisoners of evil, and for the weak and the poor. The signs that accompany Jesus' preaching are manifestations of the love and compassion with which God looks upon the sick, the poor and sinners who, because of their condition, were marginalized by society and even people of faith. He opens the eyes of the blind, heals lepers, raises the dead and proclaims the good news to the poor: God is near, God loves you (cf. Lk 7:22). This explains why he proclaims: "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God" (Lk 6:20). God shows a preference for the poor: the Lord's words of hope and liberation are addressed first of all to them. Therefore, even in their poverty or weakness, no one should feel abandoned. And the Church, if she wants to be Christ's Church, must be a Church of the Beatitudes, one that makes room for the little ones and walks poor with the poor, a place where the poor have a privileged place (cf. Jas 2:2-4).

In that time, the needy and the sick, lacking the necessities of life, frequently found themselves forced to beg. They thus bore the added burden of social shame, due to the belief that sickness and poverty were somehow linked to personal sin. Jesus firmly countered this mentality by insisting that God "makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous" (Mt 5:45). Indeed, he completely overturned that notion, as we see from the ending of the parable of the rich man and Lazarus: "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony" (Lk 16:25).

Pope's Intention for February

For children with incurable diseases. Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

During Ordinary Time (Winter) and up to Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions:

Peace on Earth, Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those who care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; The Unemployed.

CONFESSION TIME CHANGE

Please note that times for Saturday morning Confession have changed, the new times will be 10.45am to 11.45am. This change is to allow the priest time to repose the Blessed Sacrament at 12noon and prepare for the start of Mass.

ST PATRICK'S SOCIAL EVENT will be on Thursday 19th March in Westleigh. Menu and costs to follow.

PARISH RETREAT – 28 February – 5 March

Our Parish Mission Retreat is coming soon! It starts with our usual parish masses over the weekend and finishes on Thursday 5 March with a Holy Spirit Mass. It is being given by the Franciscans of the Renewal and is for all the parish. You are all invited! Come with open hearts and see what God has to say to you. Sessions will run after the 12.15pm weekday mass and in the evening at 7.30pm in the church. Come to all the sessions or just what you can, come and see.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE - BOOKING OPEN

The next parish pilgrimage will be to Whitby, Thirsk and Knaresborough on Thursday 15th to Saturday 17th October 2026. The cost per person for a twin / double room is £249, there are limited single rooms available which will cost £314. If you would like to join the pilgrimage please complete the booking form (available at the back of church or via newsletter email) and pay the £75 deposit. Please see poster in the church porch for more information.

THE WINDOWS GROUP

The next Windows Group meeting will be on Friday 13th February from 3.00 till 4.30pm downstairs in Westleigh. They will be reflecting on Bible verses that describe God's love. All widows are very welcome to join.

SECULAR CARMELITES

The Secular Carmelites are a Catholic lay movement within the Discalced Carmelite Order devoted to learning how to pray and serve the Lord in the spirit of Carmel. This is in both shared prayer and study in local groups and in a commitment to a personal prayer life. Together we sit at the feet of the great Carmelite spiritual writers like our foundress St Teresa of Avila, St John of the Cross, St Thérèse of Lisieux, St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), St Elizabeth of the Trinity, Blessed Marie-Eugene, and many others

We meet on the 1st Wednesday of every month at Westleigh from 6pm to 8pm. If you are interested or would like to know more, you are welcome to join us or contact cpblamires@aol.com

ALTRINCHAM INTERFAITH GROUP ENTERTAINMENT EVENING - THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY

The Altrincham Interfaith Group (AIG) invites you to join them for an evening of entertainment at All Saints' church hall, starting at 7.30pm – members of different faiths will perform songs, play music, give a sketch, and refreshments will be provided. Please use the booking form (<https://forms.gle/KE9HCHADf3QU4TJV6>) to register, and pay £5 for all attendees over the age of 11. Please contact Dominique at mdodarcy@gmail.com with any questions.

ROMULUS SINGERS

On Sunday 8 February 2026 at 3pm in the Parish Hall, Holy Angels, Hale Barns, Romulus Singers invite you to their winter concert "To shorten Winter's Sadness". Tickets: £12 Adult, £6 Child/Student can be purchased in advance using our online ticketing system at <https://www.romulus-singers.co.uk/feb26> or on the door. Join them for light refreshments after the concert.

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. Closing date: Friday 20 February 2026

CV and covering letter should be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

- ♦ **Children's Liturgy** - 8th and 22nd February at the 10am Mass.
- ♦ **Tea and Coffee after 10am Mass** - every Sunday, with video games (FIFA, tennis, etc), table tennis and other games, all for parents and children.
- ♦ **Playgroup** - Every Friday in term time from 9.30am - 11.30am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Bridge** - Every Monday at 2.00pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **SVP** - Meets fortnightly on Mondays at 6.30pm in Westleigh.
- ♦ **Emmaus Prayer Group** - 7-8pm Mondays in Westleigh. Everybody welcome, please just come along.
- ♦ **Brownies** - Tuesdays in term time at 5.45-7.15pm in Westleigh
- ♦ **Knit and Natter** - 10am in Westleigh: 12th and 26th February (every fortnight)
- ♦ **Mothers' Prayers** - Every Thursday 11.15am in Westleigh
- ♦ **Study Group for Men** - 7.15-8.30pm, Thursdays (fortnightly) in Westleigh: 5th and 12th February 2026.
- ♦ **Friday Club** - First Friday of every month, 2pm in Westleigh. Entertainment & refreshments organised by SVP.
- ♦ **Windows Group (for widows)** - 3pm-4.30pm on Friday 13th February
- ♦ **Young Adults Group (18-35 years)** - Saturday 7th and 21st February. Come along for 5.30pm Mass followed by Adoration & Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Talk, food, time to socialise etc.

ST VINCENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNING Wednesday 11 March from 9:15AM

If you would like to have a look around St Vincent's Catholic Primary School or nursery please come along to our next open morning event for prospective school and nursery parents on Wednesday 11 March 2026. Please visit the admissions page of our website www.stvincents.trafford.sch.uk to book a place or scan the QR code:



LAUDATO SI' CENTRE VISIT - WARDLEY HALL, SALFORD, SATURDAY 14 MARCH

The Laudato Si' Centre was set up by the Diocese of Salford as a response to the call by Pope Francis in his letter 'Laudato Si' - Care of Our Common Home'. Its mission is to be a place of education and outreach to generate environmental hope in those who visit. Along with the staff of the Centre, the St Vincent's CAFOD/J&P group have planned an outdoor retreat-cum-tour, to take place on the morning of Saturday 14 March. It will be a great opportunity to explore the theology of creation and to pray that we may hear the cry of the world and the cry of the poor. Places are limited, so please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to come. There is no required cost, although contributions would be welcome. The idea would be to meet at St Vincent's at about 9:10am, then car-share to Wardley, because parking is limited. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact Alison Sharrock as soon as possible, either by email at alisonrsharrock@gmail.com or by telephone (07906 261107).

MARRIAGE WEEK 7TH - 14TH FEBRUARY 2026

Marriage Week is an annual celebration offering the opportunity to support and promote marriage and family life. Jane Deegan the Director for Marriage and Family Life Vocation is seeking to build a team of volunteers to support this vital ministry in the Diocese. Two Retreat days have been run to date with another being arranged for April 2026. Please see the poster and flyers at the back of the Church. If you would like to volunteer in any capacity and/or would like to find out more, please contact: jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org. Resources can be found on the Bishops Conference website [Marriage Week - Catholic Bishops' Conference](https://www.bishopsconference.org.uk/marriage-week).

THE 'I' in RETIREMENT - LORETO SPIRITUALITY CENTRE, LLANDUDNO

8th-11th May: 'The I in Retirement' a retreat for people thinking about their retirement, or who have retired recently, or who want to reflect on their retirement journey so far. Besides personal and communal prayer, there will be opportunities for creative expression, shared stories (biblical and personal), and walks along the beach / round the Orme. Led by Dominique D'Arcy and Jan Berry at the Loreto Spirituality Centre in Llandudno. To book: <https://loretocentre.org.uk/retreats-and-courses-2026/#> Contact: Dominique mdodarcy@gmail.com

WE DARE TO ASK - 5 WEEK LENTEN COURSE FOR SMALL GROUP FAITH-SHARING

We Dare to Ask is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring 5 sessions exploring our Baptismal Vocation. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. The booklets can be ordered by emailing aec@rcaos.org. The resource can be ordered via this link: [We Dare to Ask — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis](https://www.rcaos.org.uk/we-dare-to-ask) Please see poster at the back of church for more information.

OUR PARISH FAMILY

We welcome into God's Family Evie Elliott and Maggie Mellin who were recently baptised here. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Requiescant in Pace Please pray for those who have died recently including Seamus Edwards (Funeral: 12.15pm 10/02/26), Margaret French (Funeral: 9.30am 17/02/26), Vincent Carr (Funeral: 11am /02/26 at St Mary & St John's Newton Le Willows) and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Please pray for the sick who include James Ainsworth, Michael Anderson, Robert Anderson, Margaret B, Antoni Baranowski, Janet Barnes, M Barnes, George Bell, Pat Bell, Antaolii Benzo, Dave Berry, Stephen Birchall, Helen Boardman, Jackie Body, Laura Body, John Breen, Daniel Brennan, Susan Brennan, Broadfoot, Jozef Broilo, Denise Brooks, Michael Byrne, Jo Carter, Christine Cartwright, John Cawfield, Christopher Choo, Anne Coghlan, Murray Craig, Peter Cresswell, Eileen Davies, Luke Dennett, David Michael Devine, Richard Doherty, Max Dunn, Ross Dwyer, Sean Dwyer, Joyce Eaton, Lynda Edwards, Christine Elliott, Peter Elliott, Freddie Fenton, Marie Ford, John Gardener, Ann Gately, Toby Gimson, Mary Good, Vicky Gosnold, Stella Gould, Niel Halsall, Rufus Hasler & family, Mary Heanue, Catherine Heraghty, Thomas Higginbotham, Gavin Hill, Hayley Hill, Nick, Hennis, Peter Heywood, Gavin Hill, Jane Hollingworth, Katie Holmes, Justin Humphries, Lucy Hunter, Janet, Martin Jones, Ava Kendrick, H Khan, Ann-marie Kelly, H & R Kelly, Nancy Kelly, Amelia Kennedy, Anne Killeen, Thomas Killeen, Elizabeth and Henry Kluck, Marcin and Teresa Kluck, Bernadette Lancaster, Neil Lancaster, David Lawley, Barbara Lee, Betty Leeson, Willy Leeson, Klaudia Linert, Bob Lloyd, Chloe Logan, Laura MacGinn, Helena Machin, Sian Manley, Margaret, Erin Marks, Claire McAllister, Martin McConnell, Rupert McDermott, Maria, Mary McLoughlin, Carol McLoughlin, Brian Morris, Maureen Mullholland, Luke Murphy, Mary Murphy, Charles Musumali, Elaine Neary, Oliver, Maureen O'Hara, Roza Olszewska, Marion O'Neil, Anne O'Neill, Andrea Ottley, Marjorie Owens, Serge Pascau, Anna Perry, Krzysztof Pietrzak, Sue Power, Paul Raybede, Reece, Jackie Reed, Dave Renshaw, Helen Reynolds, Maria Robinson, Rose, Stuart Royle, Margaret Russell, Adrian Ryan, David Ryan and Frank, Mary Ryan, Melinda Ryan, Steve Ryan, Camille Sanders, Jacky Scaife, Julie Taylor, Ralph Taylor, Tomlinson family, Christy Toye, Joe Traynor, Joseph Tumpang, Jed Wainwright, Janina Wardzinska,, Isabella Webb, Neil Wilkinson, Mason Williams, Maria Winthrop, Louise Withers, and all in our hospitals and homes.

MONEY MATTERS

Offertory Collection 1st February £2056.03

Many thanks to the parishioners for your generosity. *The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity No. 234025*



DONATE

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8th February <i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8:30 10:00 11:30 18:30	For the People of The Parish Girl from Altrincham (RIP) Dennis & Margaret Connaughton (60 years of happy marriage) Brian Magee (RIP)
Monday 9th February <i>Ferial</i>	11:30 12:15 18:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Anne Bradley (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Tuesday 10th February <i>St. Scholastica</i>	10:00 BV 11:30 12:15	Ursula Mackay (RIP) NO Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction Requiem Mass for Seamus Edwards
Wednesday 11th February <i>Optional Memorial: Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	11:30 12:15	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Ernest Sands (Ann)
Thursday 12th February <i>Ferial</i>	10:00 BV 11:30 12:15 18:00	Liz Fearon (RIP) <i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Raymond Ball (Ann) <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Friday 13th February <i>Ferial</i>	11:30 12:15 18:30 19:00	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> Mary Davies (Ann) <i>Confessions after Mass</i> <i>Rosary</i> John Cox
Saturday 14th February <i>SS Curil, MK and Methodius</i>	11:00 10:45-11:45 12:15 16:15-17:00 17:00 17:30	<i>Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction</i> <i>Confessions (please note new time)</i> Ann Kirrane <i>Confessions</i> <i>Rosary</i> Marie Booker
Sunday 15th February <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8:30 10:00 11:30 18:30	Marcia, John & Jack Roberts (Int) For the People of The Parish Paul O' Rourke (RIP) John Joynes (RIP)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - 10am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

BOWDON VALE MASSES 10am Tuesday and Thursday **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** - as above & by request

FEBRUARY RETIRING COLLECTIONS: 3/4TH CAFOD, 17TH/18TH Priests Retirement Fund

MASS READING CYCLE: Sundays Year A, Weekdays Cycle 2; Psalter Week 4

PARISH CLERGY - Parish Priest: Canon Jonathan Brandon **Assistant Priest:** Fr Joseph Fawcett Wood

CONTACTS

Address: Parish of St. Vincent de Paul, 2 Bentinck Road, Altrincham, WA14 2BP **Telephone:** 0161 928 1689

Parish Priest: frjonathan.brandon@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Assistant Priest: Joseph.Fawcett@stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

Parish Office: parishoffice@stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

WESTLEIGH PARISH CENTRE- Westleigh Bookings: svpwestleigh@outlook.com

Website: stvincentsaltrincham.org.uk

Facebook/Instagram/Twitter: @svpaltrincham

February Live Simply Message:

Check your carbon footprint. There are plenty of online tools for reputable organisations.

Parish Safeguarding Representative Helen Norwood: 07800 656966

The parish of St Vincent's, Altrincham sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.

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