

Celebrate God!

# SUNDAY *Plus*

31 MAY 2026

The Most Holy Trinity **Divine Office Week** | Year A



Before saying his total yes to God, [Augustine's] soul shudders and writhes in painful conflicts. On one side there is God, inviting him; on the other, his old habits, his former "friends," who "tug gently at his clothing of flesh" and whisper to him: "You dismiss us? Remember, the moment we leave you, that certain thing will no longer be allowed you, nor will that other – forever!"

God urges him to hurry and Augustine pleads, "Not at once, just another moment!" And he goes on for weeks, in a state of indecision, in a turmoil, until, assisted by a powerful thrust from God, he summons his courage and makes up his mind...

In the human drama of faith there is a mysterious element: the intervention of God. Paul of Tarsus

experienced it on the road to Damascus and describes it in this way: that day, the Lord "appeared also to me": "by the grace of God, I am what I am..."

The grace of God, in fact, has force, but does not mean to force us; it has a holy violence, but intended to make us fall in love with the truth, not to violate freedom...

The banquet table [of grace] is always laid, open to all. As for me, I try to take daily advantage of it, erecting again today the life of faith knocked down by the sins of yesterday. I wonder if Christians who, like me, feel themselves sometimes good, sometimes sinners, will agree to be "good dinner guests", with me?

Pope John Paul I, *Illustrissimi*

My Lord and my God, I love you and adore you.  
Fill me with your love and let me radiate it to  
the people around me.  Amen.

## Give me yourself

Give me yourself, O my God,  
give yourself to me.  
Behold I love you,  
and if my love is too weak a thing,  
grant me to love you more strongly.  
I cannot measure my love to know how much  
it falls short of being sufficient,  
but let my soul hasten to your embrace  
and never be turned away until it is hidden  
in the secret shelter of your presence.  
This only do I know,  
that it is not good for me  
when you are not with me,  
when you are only outside me.  
I want you in my very self.

St Augustine

We are used to calculating things – and  
at times it is necessary – but this does  
not apply in love!

Pope Leo XIV

Feast of the week  
Wednesday 3 May

## St Charles Lwanga and companions

Twenty-two Catholics and twenty-three Anglicans died at Namugongo, Uganda, in 1885-1886. Most were adolescent boys and pages at the court of Mwanga II, the Kabaka (King) of Buganda, a kingdom within Uganda. All had refused Mwanga's sexual demands. Joseph Mukasa, a convert to Christianity, tried to protect the boys and was the first to be killed.

Charles Lwanga, aged twenty-six, declared that they refused to obey Mwanga in anything which went against their religious belief. Mwanga sentenced them to be burned alive at Namugongo, a two-day march from the palace. The youngest was Kizito, aged fourteen.

Fr Siméon Lourdel, a French Missionary of Africa who had baptised several of the boys, was forced to accompany the group and watch their executions. He reported that Lwanga's last words were, "Katonda," or "My God." Kizito's were "Good-bye, friends. We are on our way." As the flames rose, all were heard praying and encouraging one another.

## READINGS

Today:  
Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9  
2 Corinthians  
13:11-13  
John 3:16-18

Monday:  
2 Peter 1:2-7  
Mark 12:1-12

Tuesday:  
2 Peter 3:11-15,  
17-18  
Mark 12:13-17

Wednesday:  
2 Timothy 1:1-3,  
6-12  
Mark 12:18-27

Thursday:  
2 Timothy 2:8-15  
Mark 12:28-34

Friday:  
2 Timothy 3:10-17  
Mark 12:35-37

Saturday:  
2 Timothy 4:1-8  
Mark 12:38-44

Next Sunday:  
Deuteronomy 8:2-3,  
14-16  
1 Corinthians  
10:16-17  
John 6:51-58



## The Catholic Parish of St Mary & St John Fisher, Denton

Parish Priest, Father Joseph Gee

Parish Sister, Sr Dolores

Office: St Mary's Presbytery, Duke Street, Denton, Manchester M34 2AN.

Tel: 0161 336 2358

Email: [rcdenton@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:rcdenton@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

Website [www.stmaryandstjohnfisherparish.co.uk](http://www.stmaryandstjohnfisherparish.co.uk)

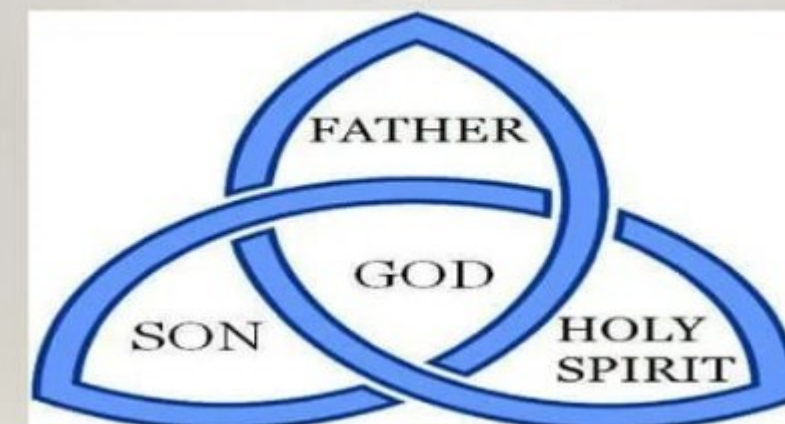
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## The Most Holy Trinity 31st May 2026

## The Word This Week

We begin our Summer 'Ordinary Time' by celebrating a strange feast - not of a particular saint or event, but of the awesome paradoxes of our God, the Three-in-One, Father, Son and Spirit: so immeasurably distant, yet so amazingly close, so full of power and so full of love. It is love that is the key to the mystery: the revelation of God, to Moses and in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, shows a perfect love - a perfect unity. In the beginning, in the story of Creation in Genesis, God made man and woman 'in the image and likeness of God', to live together as a community of love. So too, the Church is an image of this perfection of community which is Father, Son and Spirit. We, as many members of one Church, strive in our everyday lives to imitate God who is Three and One, perfect unity and perfect love.

## The Blessed Trinity



| Mass Times 31st May 2026   |                                         |                                                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 31st May            | Vigil - Saturday 24th<br>Sunday Morning | 4pm - Parish<br>11am - Sick & Infirm Clergy     |
| Monday 1st June            | No Mass                                 |                                                 |
| Tuesday 2nd                | No Mass                                 |                                                 |
| Wednesday 3rd              | No Mass                                 |                                                 |
| Thursday 4th               | No Mass                                 |                                                 |
| Friday 5th                 | No Mass                                 |                                                 |
| Saturday 6th<br>Sunday 7th | Vigil Mass                              | 4pm— Mrs Gee<br>11am – Parish                   |
| Saturday & Sunday          | Sacrament of Reconciliation             | Available 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass |

**Mass Offerings :-** Mary Patricia Murray (BM); David Salisbury (LD); Bernadette Mulligan (LD); Gerard Weaver;

**Please obtain permission from any living beneficiary of a Mass offering before sending it in.)**

**Altar Prayer Candles**  
Our Seven Day Candles can be lit next to the Sanctuary, Our Lady’s Altar and The Sacred Heart Statue at St Mary’s. To dedicate a candle for your own intentions please pick up a green form at the back of church and return in an envelope with your donation. This is another way for your special intentions to be remembered and prayed for in the Parish.

**Vigil Mass;** 4pm St Mary’s, Denton ; 5pm St Josephs, Reddish; and 6.30pm Holy Family, Dane Bank

**Sunday Morning;** 9am St Joseph’s, Reddish; 10am Holy Family, Dane Bank and 11am St Mary’s, Denton

What’s coming up in our parish



Scripture Course

**Wednesday Evening from 6.30m** in the Parish Hall. The dates are:

2026 11th June

Faith in Action (held in the Parish Hall)

Wednesday 17th June 2026 6.30pm to 8.30pm  
Sunday 19th July 2026 (BBQ)

Recent deaths in our Parish

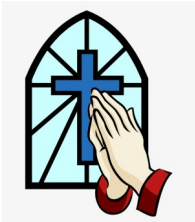
The death has occurred of **Bernadette Mulligan**. Our prayers and condolences go to her family and friends. Bernadette’s Requiem Mass will be held on Monday 15th June at 10am. May she rest in peace.

The death has occurred of **Ann Fadden**. Our prayers and condolences go to her family and friends. Ann’s Requiem Mass will be held on Wednesday 17th June at 10am. May she rest in peace



Mass Intentions.

All the Masses up to the end of June have now been allocated. All Mass intentions received now until the end of June will be forwarded to Fr Laurence Gambella, to be said on our behalf. We will start allocating Masses again from the 1st July.



Pastoral Visits to Hospitals and Care Homes.

If you have a relative or friend who has been taken into hospital or has moved into a Care home, and requires a visit from a Catholic Priest/Chaplin for Pastoral support, please ask the Nursing staff to contact the local Hospital Catholic Chaplin or Parish Priest in that area.

For Care home visits, this would have to be carried out by the Parish Priest local to the home itself and may be outside of our parish boundaries. Homes that are in Stockport; Dukinfield and Hyde, are located in the Diocese of Shrewsbury, and unfortunately Priests from our Diocese have no authorisation in these areas.

A Man for All Seasons

We have chance for some tickets to see A Man for All Seasons at The Lowry Theatre on Saturday 7th November at 2pm. Ticket price is £38.00. Anyone who would like to place a Register of Interest in this event (this does not guarantee you a ticket) Please put your name on the list at the back of church.

**Lost Property;** We have recently found an item of Jewellery after one of the weekend Masses, if you have lost something, please contact the parish office, with a description of your lost Item. We would like to return this to the rightful owner

New Monthly youth Group for Yr4,5 & 6

As part of our young people's Faith in Action programme, **we will be offering a group for children in school years 4, 5 and 6.**

The group will take place monthly and be from 6:30pm until 7:30pm.

**Our Faith in Action young people will run it** (though there will be adult supervision as well) and it will consist of liturgy alongside games and activities.

There is a maximum of 20 places and this will be on a first come first serve basis. The dates are as follows; ; 17/06/26

This is a lovely opportunity to allow our Faith in Action young people to develop their skills further as well as bringing the young of the Parish together.

If you are interested in your child attending or would like any further information please could you speak to Claire Cull after Sunday mass for a parental application form.



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|----------|---------|-----------|
| EVENING  | FIRST   | DAY       |
| DOORS    | CLOSED  | DISCIPLES |
| PEACE    | SIDE    | FATHER    |
| BREATHED | FORGIVE | RETAIN    |