

ST MARY & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

Sunday 28th June 2026 – Feast of St Peter and St Paul

June Devotion: The Sacred Heart of Jesus



The Parish of St Mary
and St Paul

Sing God's praise in the Assembly of the faithful

It is not ourselves that we are preaching, but Christ Jesus as the Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake (2 Co 4:5)

Date	Celebration	Service Time & Location	Intention
Sun 28 th June	St Peter and St Paul Ap	Vigil Mass Sat 6:00pm St Paul's Mass 9:00am St Paul's Mass 10:30am St Mary's	Mary Bouchier Private intention Parishioners' Intention Edward & Elizabeth Riley (RIP); Mike Bibby (PI)
Mon 29 th June	Ferial	Funeral Mass for Maria Angela Trezza at 10:15am, St Paul's	Maria Trezza (RIP)
Tues 30 th June	Ferial	8:30am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Mary's; Mass 9:00am	Parishioners' Intention
Wed 1 st July	The first Martyrs of the See of Rome	8:30am Eucharistic Adoration, St. Mary's; Mass 9:00am	Fr. Oliver's Intention
Thu 2 nd July	St Oliver Plunkett	8:30am St Mary's Eucharistic Adoration; Mass at 9:00am	Fr. Isidore's Birthday Thanksgiving
Fri 3 rd July	St Thomas Apostle	8:30am St Mary's Eucharistic Adoration; Mass at 9:00am	Parishioners' Intention
Sat 4 th July	BVM on Saturday	9:40am Holy Rosary, St. Mary's; Mass 10:00am	Sick and Housebound
Sun 5 th July	14 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Vigil Mass Sat 6:00pm St Paul's Mass 9:00am St Paul's Mass 10:30am St Mary's	Raphaella & Giacomo Pancaro (RIP) Parishioners' Intention Denise Scott (RIP)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 9am to 9:50am St Mary's; 5pm to 5:50pm St Paul's; Sunday 8:30am to 8:50am St Paul's; by appointment. **Sacraments and other liturgies:** Please speak to the Priest after the weekend masses.

Date	Event	Location
Sat 27 th June 2026	Feast of St. Paul's 6pm	St. Paul's Church

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Esmae Patricia Hayward-Savill; Alfie Bryan Hayward-Savill were welcome into the family of God last weekend. Kindly pray for them and their family.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Fr Isidore celebrates his birthday this week, many happy returns!

THE FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL celebrates two very different men shaped by the same transforming grace. In **Acts 12:1–11**, Peter is rescued from Herod's prison by an angel of the Lord. The chains fall from his wrists, the iron gate swings open, and Peter steps into freedom with the dawning realisation that God has not abandoned him. His deliverance is a sign that the Gospel cannot be chained and that God's purposes continue even when the Church faces opposition or fear. Paul, writing near the end of his life in **2 Timothy 4:6–8, 17–18**, looks back with the serenity of one who has "fought the good fight" and trusts that the Lord will bring him safely into the heavenly kingdom. Where Peter's story speaks of dramatic rescue, Paul's speaks of steadfast endurance. Yet both testify to the same truth: God remains faithful, sustaining His servants in every trial. In Matthew **16:13–19**, Jesus entrusts Peter with the keys of the kingdom, not because he is perfect, but because he is willing to confess Christ and follow Him. Peter and Paul remind us that holiness is not uniform. One leads, one preaches; one stumbles, one is relentless; both are held by grace. Their feast invites us to renew our own confession of faith, trusting that the Lord who strengthened them will also guide, protect, and uphold us as we witness to Christ in our world today.

CONFIRMATION: Despite the heat, we had a lovely service with Bishop – congratulations to all the confirmation candidates.

ST OLIVER PLUNKETT (1625–1681) stands as one of the most courageous figures in Irish Catholic history. Born in County Meath, he grew up in a time of deep religious tension, when the practice of the Catholic faith was heavily restricted. As a young man he travelled to Rome to study for the priesthood and later became Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland. He returned to Ireland in 1670, determined to rebuild a shattered Church. He founded schools, trained priests, confirmed thousands, and worked tirelessly for peace between divided communities. His ministry was marked by gentleness, intelligence, and a deep pastoral love for his people. During the anti-Catholic hysteria of the “Popish Plot,” Oliver was falsely accused of treason. Despite the lack of evidence, he was taken to London, denied a fair trial, and condemned to death. On 1 July 1681 he was executed at Tyburn, the last Catholic martyr to die there. His final words forgave his accusers and entrusted his soul to God. Oliver Plunkett’s witness endures as a sign of steadfast faith, reconciliation, and courage in the face of injustice. His relics in Drogheda continue to draw pilgrims seeking peace, hope, and healing. *St Oliver Plunkett is Fr Oliver’s patron saint.*

THE FEAST OF ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE invites us to see faith not as certainty we possess, but as a relationship that grows through encounter. Thomas is often remembered for his doubt, yet the Gospel shows a disciple who longs for truth, who refuses easy answers, and who brings his honest questions to the Risen Christ. When Jesus invites him to touch His wounds, Thomas discovers that faith is not an idea but a living presence. His great confession, “My Lord and my God,” rises from a heart transformed by mercy. Thomas reminds us that doubt is not the opposite of faith; it can be the doorway through which Christ meets us. His story encourages all who struggle, search, or feel unsure. The Lord does not reject our questions but steps into them, offering peace, patience, and the promise that those who seek Him will find life in His name.

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTION for June is “**for the values of sports.**” He invites Catholics to pray that sport may become a true instrument of **peace, encounter, and dialogue**, promoting **respect, solidarity, and personal growth**. The Pope emphasises that sport can unite cultures, build fraternity, and help people grow together rather than compete in ways that divide.

POLITE REMINDER: Please remember that Holy Communion must be received in front of the Priest or Minister and consumed before you go back to your seat. It is OK to take one step to the side, but do not start to walk away until after you have consumed the host.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR: Following the demise of John Storey (our former parish safeguarding and Health & Safety coordinator), the diocese has approved and have appointed Mr. Paul Boyce to be our parish safeguarding representative. We thank Paul for agreeing to undertake this role and ask parishioners to offer him great support and prayer.

PARISH VOLUNTEER SERVICES: There are many non-financial opportunities to support the growth of the parish through various ministries and apostolates. **An Apostolate is a Christian organization “directed to serving and evangelizing the world”.** Apostolates include: St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP); Marian Movement; Catechist; Choir/music group; Youth Apostolate; Divine Mercy; Altar Server; Stewards/Greeters; Society of the Unborn children (SPUC); Gardeners; Legion of Mary; Churches Together. Forms are at the back of church to express your interest.

TEA, COFFEE, AND A CHANCE TO CHAT: Every Sunday after Mass at St Mary’s, there is an opportunity to have a tea or coffee and a chat with some of your fellow parishioners.

LAST WEEK’S OFFERTORY: £491.82; £318.46 SPUC. Thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK: Peter’s Pence **NEXT WEEK:** Building Fund



Scan the QR code to access the Online giving page for St Mary and St Paul, Dukinfield and Hyde

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Please consider remembering the parish in your will.

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