



Mass Intentions 11-18th January 2026

Saturday	10 Jan	5:00pm	Sacred Heart	Marie + Neil Burrow
Sun – Baptism of the Lord	11 Jan	9:30am	St Richards	Richard Adamson
Sun – Baptism of the Lord	11 Jan	11:00am	Sacred Heart	Shaun Hargreaves
Monday	12 Jan	12:00pm	Sacred Heart	FUNERAL – SANDRA WHITTLE
Tuesday	13 Jan	10:30am	St Richards	Janina Herko
Wednesday	14 Jan	10:30am	Sacred Heart	Wendy Legget
Thursday	15 Jan	10:30am	St Richards	NO MASS (Deanery ALL day meeting)
Friday	16 Jan	10:30am	St Richards	NO MASS
Saturday	17 Jan	5.00pm	Sacred Heart	Christian Allen
Sunday – 2nd OT	18 Jan	9.30am	St Richards	Jean and Ken Gorse
Sunday – 2nd OT	18 Jan	11:00am	Sacred Heart	Peter Edwards

Special Coffee Morning – 11 January 2026 – Coffee and tea will be served after Mass on Sunday at St Richards parish centre. In aid of pancreatic cancer charities.

First Holy Communions 2026 – This year ALL children in year 4 and above who are **baptised** and wish to receive Holy Communion for the first time will need to be registered at a **REGISTRATION MASS** either at Sacred Heart church- Hindley Green or St Richards church – Atherton, over the two weekends of **SUNDAY 25TH JANUARY** and **SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2026**. Registration forms will only be available through church and not school.

Diocesan Parish Strategy Plan for 2026 I will be attending an all-day meeting on Thursday 15th January with other Deanery priests, to discuss a strategy plan for the deanery in the coming years. It is likely that our Deanery will be chosen this year to begin developing that strategy. This strategy will inevitably have a direct impact upon both Sacred Heart and St Richards churches and the future ‘shape’ of our parish. I will be calling a meeting of the parish to discuss the strategy and possible impact upon us in the next few weeks. This is a diocese wide strategy impacting everyone and to plan a way forward into the future.

One Hundred Years Celebration - St Richards 2027 Next Year celebrates the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone at St Richards. Fr Thomas Allen arrived in 1908 and built the house. The present church was developed by Fr Thomas Almond, who was at St Richard's for 46 years. Archbishop Keating laid the foundation stone on 1 October 1927 and Bishop Dobson opened the church on 13 May 1928. **With this in mind, I would like to form a group of volunteers who would be willing to plan some celebration activities for our centenary year** and providing fitting activities across the year. If you would be interested in helping in any way please come forward and let me know. It would be great if we could think of ways to celebrate St Richards across the century!!

Important news - Sacred Heart – Hindsford - I have received some important news about the future of Sacred Heart church – Hindsford. Following months of work between the Archdiocese, the Charity Commission and myself we are now able to provide the following statement. **“The Charity Commission have given permission for the site of Sacred Heart Church to be marketed, to then allow the Trustees of the Archdiocese of Liverpool, in their capacity as trustees of Sacred Heart Church, to consider what offers and options come forward. The object of the charity under which Sacred Heart Church is held is now: For the public benefit, the advancement of the Roman Catholic religion and education in accordance with the principles of the Roman Catholic faith in the local Parish of St John Rigby as the Trustees or Trustee for the time being shall think fit. Any sale proceeds would be subject to the pursuit of this object.** We will be appointing an agent in the new year and look forward to seeing what options present themselves for the future of the site.