



SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH

Westhoughton

8 LORD STREET † WESTHOUGHTON † BOLTON † BL5 3SE

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Barry Lomax

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Mass times are as published below:

Mon | Tues | Thurs | Fri: 10:00am

Wed: No Mass

Sat 6:00pm (Vigil Mass)

Sun: 10:00am

Holy Days: 6:00pm (Vigil) | 10:00am

Confessions: Sat (before Vigil Mass)

Chapel of Adoration: 10:30am-5:00pm, daily,
excluding Wednesday & Sunday.

*Note that weekday Mass times are subject to change as
announced at Mass. For any change, please see revised times
posted in the Narthex window.*

Please pray for our brothers and sisters who are sick.

*Heal Thy Servants, O Lord, who are sick, and who put their
trust in Thee. Send them help, O Lord, and comfort from Thy
holy place.*

Please remember and keep in your prayers all those
who have died recently and all those whose
anniversaries occur around about this time.

*Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Social media: Follow our social media at:
<https://www.facebook.com/SHJWParish> and
<https://twitter.com/shjwparish>

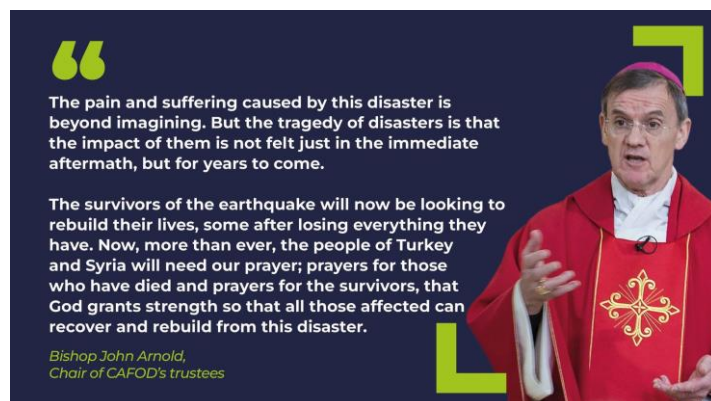
LENTEN APPEAL: Thank you to all who have
contributed to the [CAFOD Lent family fast day appeal](#),
and to recent appeals for Caritas Sunday and the
[Turkey-Syria Earthquake](#) DEC collection.

*Plant in us, Lord, seeds of solidarity, so that, rejoicing in your
gifts, we may cherish your presence in each other and all creation.*

*Root us, Lord, in compassion and justice. Pour your Spirit down
like gentle rain, softening our hearts, washing away division and
selfishness.*

*Cultivate in us, Lord, attentiveness to your call. Give us hope to
dream of a better world and strength to play our part to make it
a reality.*

*Grow in us, Lord, your ways of peace and courage, so that in this
time of Lent, we may bear witness to your love, revealed to us in
Jesus. Amen.*



Church redecoration: The redecoration of our
church and sacristy is now complete. This means that
every room and worship area have now been painted
except for the general office. Thank you to Steve who
repaired two of our stations of the cross – making a
new whip for station 1 and spear for station 10.



Bulletin: Our newsletter is published monthly. To
register for a copy to be e-mailed, please complete the
form at <https://bit.ly/SHBulletin2022>. All bulletins
are uploaded to our website at: [https://www.sacred-
heart.bolton.sch.uk/parish-bulletin-social-media/](https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/parish-bulletin-social-media/)

Fr. P Quinlan RIP: Friday 10th March marks the first anniversary of death of Fr. Quinlan. Mass will be offered using his own chalice & paten (given to the parish by Fr. Quinlan's brother, Mgr. Michael Quinlan) at the Friday morning Mass. Requiescat in Pace.



Sacramental Programme: Please continue to keep our Sacramental Programme children in your prayers. On Sunday 5th March, the children will gather at 10am Mass to celebrate Unit 2, We are people who pray. They will then celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday 14th March 2023, as they remember ‘we are people who celebrate forgiveness’...

Live-streaming: For those who are housebound or unable to be here in person due to illness or self-isolation, Mass is streamed live via Church Services TV: <https://www.churchservices.tv/westhoughton>

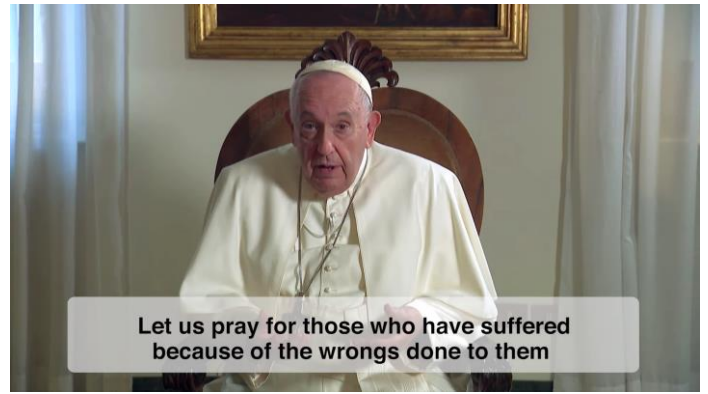
Mobile phones: Please do remember to switch your mobile phone off when you enter church.

Toilets: In interests of safeguarding, please accompany your child to the toilet.

Pope Francis’ monthly prayer intention: Pope Francis dedicates his March prayer intention to all those who have been victims of abuse, especially abuse committed by members of the Church, and he prays that they may “find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.”

Read more and watch the video at:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2023-03/pope-s-march-prayer-intention-for-victims-of-abuse.html>



In response to cases of abuse, especially to those committed by members of the Church, it's not enough to ask for forgiveness.

Asking for forgiveness is necessary, but it is not enough. Asking for forgiveness is good for the victims, but they are the ones who have to be “at the centre” of everything.

Their pain and their psychological wounds can begin to heal if they find answers —if there are concrete actions to repair the horrors they have suffered and to prevent them from happening again.

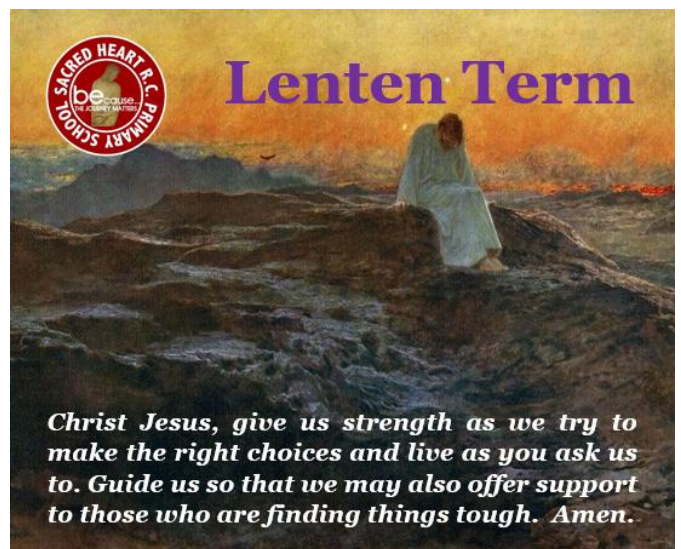
The Church cannot try to hide the tragedy of abuse of any kind. Nor when the abuse takes place in families, in clubs, or in other types of institutions.

The Church must serve as a model to help solve the issue and bring it to light in society and in families.

The Church must offer safe spaces for victims to be heard, supported psychologically, and protected.

Let us pray for those who have suffered because of the wrongs done to them from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

SCHOOL NEWS:



FAST: Our next FAST meeting, as part of the **UNITE** strategy, will be held on Friday 24th March 2023 at 3:35pm. All are welcome.



Please join us for:

- Class 3E Assembly, Friday 10th March, 3pm
- Class 2A Assembly, Friday 24th March, 3pm
- **Celebration assemblies:** Friday 3rd March 2023 & Friday 17th March 2023, 3pm
- **Music Recital:** Wednesday 29th March, 2pm.
- Please keep in your diary our celebration of Christ's Passion on Friday 31st March 2023 at 1:30pm.

Y5 at Lindisfarne: Last week, our Y5 pupils enjoyed their residential to Northumberland, stopping off at the [Angel of the North](#) sculpture in Gateshead. At Ford Castle, our children took part in medieval activities. As part of their pilgrimage experience our children spent the day on the [Holy Island of Lindisfarne](#), reflecting on the [Lampedusa cross](#) in St Aidan's Church; and visiting the [Flodden battlefield and memorial](#).



Foundation Governor vacancy: A further foundation governor vacancy has arisen. If you are interested in becoming a governor at our school, please contact us or speak to Fr Barry. More information can be found at <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Governor-Recruitment-Leaflet.pdf>



website at: <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/newsletters/> where you can access the weekly 'Sacred Heart Standard' which is published each Friday.

Keep up to date with our news: by visiting our



DIOCESE & OTHER NEWS:

News: Keep up to date by visiting <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/>

"What is My Mission Today?" **Bishop John's Homily on Ash Wednesday:** Bishop John celebrated Mass for Ash Wednesday at Salford Cathedral. In his homily the bishop called for Lent to be a positive experience, rooted in love for one another. He challenged us to discover our mission day-by-day throughout the Lenten season, discovering how we can be ambassadors for Christ in our everyday lives:

For too many years as a younger man I always seemed to think of the Lenten season as something rather negative and just penitential. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving all seemed to be introverted and looking to a quitter time, more introvert and a little bit gloomy, to be quite honest. And I'm not sure that that is what Lent is all about. I think Lent should actually be a very positive, challenging time.

You may have heard me quote this before, but one particular meditation of St John Henry Newman is very important to me. It begins: "God created me to do him some definite purpose. He committed some work to me he has not committed to another. I have my mission." I think that's a rather extraordinary statement, but I believe it. For God loves each one of us so much, that he's given us our own individual mission. And because he's given us a mission, we can be sure that he's given us the gifts and the talents and the strength and the energy to fulfil that mission. But are we discovering it for what it is, day by day. Are we actually asking God:

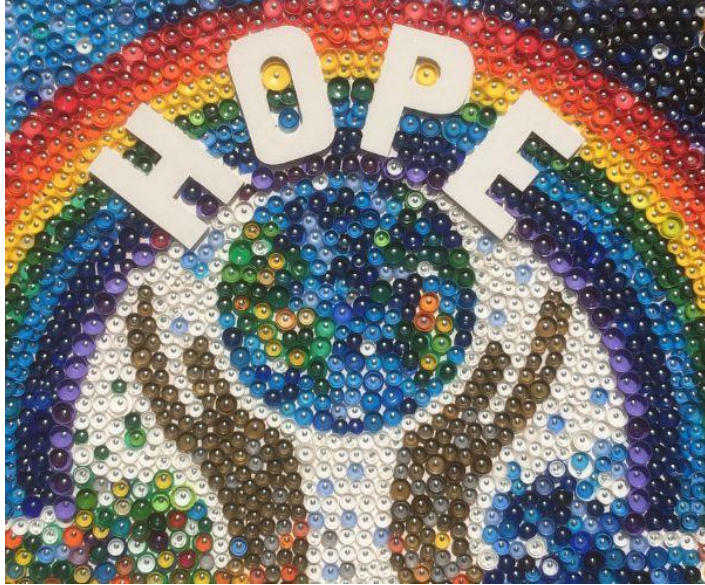
What's my mission today? What are you asking of me? What opportunities are you giving to me to be nothing less than, as St Paul says in that second reading, an ambassador for Christ.

I think Lent needs to be a time of very positive thinking. How can I be an ambassador for Christ today? And when we've got our own mission that doesn't mean it's written on a card somewhere and that's your life-long story seen to, that's your mission. No, I think our mission is very flexible because it's one that's built on love, and love is a very flexible opportunity. Each day, how do I love the person that God has put in my life today? How can I show kindness to this person in this situation?

So, I challenge you, as I'm challenging myself on Ash Wednesday. What is my mission? Our mission, today? And are we prepared to ask each day about our mission, so that we are open to all that God may want us to be, all that he has created us to be. Let's think about that and make Lent a very positive

occasion. God bless you all, and let's begin this season of Lent with the very best of intentions to make the most of it this year, in a world that needs the love of Christ all around us.

Hearing the Cry: Responding with Hope: Working together as one diocese united towards creating transformative change and healing for our common home.



In 2021, we shared with you the 'For the Beauty of the Earth' a diocesan year-one programme that was developed to support us as we put our faith in action to heal and care for our common home, as an expression of our commitment to love God through loving and caring for creation and one another.

Informed by the responses we received and the good work already happening across the Diocese, we are now taking the next step.

["Hearing the Cry: Responding with Hope"](#) is our strategic response, providing more details on the commitment to be made in the Diocese. It has one main ask of all of us: that we work together as one Diocese, united towards creating transformative change and healing for our common home.

This document will support us as we work to protect the beauty of God's gift of creation and help us on our journey of ecological conversion as we see that everything is connected.

We are delighted to be able to share this new document – along with additional resources – with you, and hope it will be a support to you on your own individual journey. The document, and a video from Bishop John can be found at:

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/hearing-the-cry-responding-with-hope/>

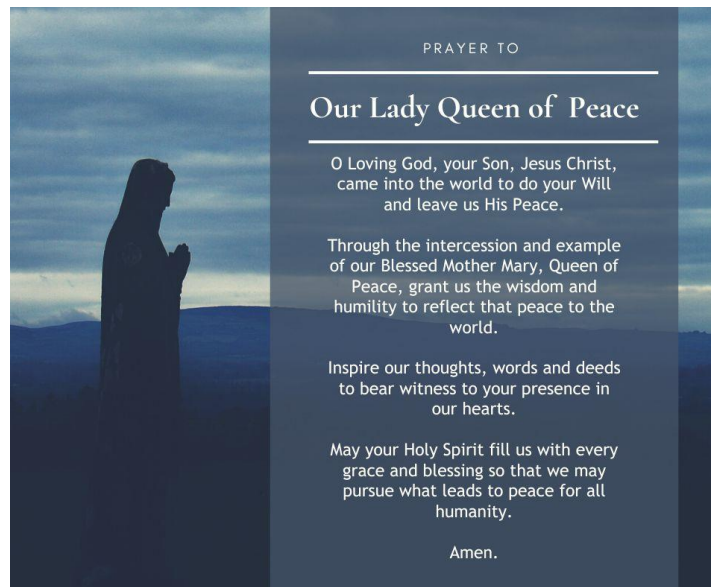
The parish roadmap can be read at:

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Parish-Roadmap-270223.pdf>



Let's #PrayTogether for the victims of the shipwreck this morning, off the Calabrian coast, including many children, and for the other surviving migrants. I thank those who have brought relief and are providing shelter.

Pope Francis, Twitter @ Pontifex, 26th February 2023.



Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: O most holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore you, I love you and with a lively sorrow for my sins. I offer you this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure, and wholly obedient to your will. Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you. Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions; give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, your blessings on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Within your heart I place my every care. In every need let me come to you with humble trust saying, Heart of Jesus, help me. Amen.

With every blessing for the coming month.
Fr Barry.