



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

8 LORD STREET, WESTHOUGHTON, BOLTON, BL5 3SE

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Christopher Dawson

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday 1st October 2023
26th Sunday of Ordinary
Time, Year A

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday: 6 pm

Sunday: 10 am

Monday – Friday 9 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30-5.50 pm

and at call

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Ezekiel 18: 25-28

When the sinner renounces sin, he shall certainly live

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 24(25): 4-9

Remember your mercy, Lord.

Second Reading

Philippians 2: 1-11

Be united in your love.

Gospel

Matthew 21: 28-32

Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you.

Facebook: @SHJWParish

Suggested items for inclusion in future editions of the newsletter may be emailed to
SHJWesthoughtonNewsletter
@outlook.com Please submit by
midday on Thursday.

www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Our second reading this week is the wonderful hymn of Christ's self-emptying and his exaltation and vindication by the Father found in St Paul's letter to the Philippians. It is probably an ancient Christian hymn celebrating the triumph of Christ, which Paul adopted and used for himself. In the first half of the reading, Paul shows the warmth of his joy as a pastor in the fellowship of his young community at Philippi, although the fact of this strong appeal for unity may suggest that he is painting an optimistic picture of their single mindedness! He also gently chides them for their vanity, and the reason why he includes the hymn is to show that the path of humility is the way to exaltation. The hymn itself contrasts Christ, the Second Adam, with Adam himself who stand for all humanity. Adam fell because he wanted to be like God, he tried to escape death, tried to exalt himself and was humbled. The last verses are one of the clearest statements in Paul of the divine character of Christ. A verse from Isaiah 45:23 is applied to Christ. In Isaiah, the verse describes the homage due to the Lord alone, and no one else. In the hymn, this divine homage is paid to Christ – and this is to the glory of God the Father. The concept of divinity is expanded to include Christ.

Induction as Parish Priest I am grateful to Fr Morrough O'Brien, the Dean of Bolton Deanery, who will come to here to celebrate Mass and formally induct me as Parish Priest on Tuesday 10 October at 7pm. All welcome.

First Holy Communion Programme

The initial meeting for parents who wish their child to participate in the 2023/24 first Holy Communion Programme will take place at 3pm on Friday 6 October in Sacred Heart School. Parents of children not at Sacred Heart school, please speak with Fr Christopher.

Parish Newsletter: On this page you will find an email address, if you have any items you would like to be considered for inclusion in the newsletter, please send them to this address. We cannot guarantee to include every item submitted.

Altar Servers I would like to see a return to having some altar servers at both the Saturday evening and Sunday morning masses. If you have served in the past and would

like to return, or if you have not served before but would like to learn how to serve Mass, please speak with Fr Christopher. Those over 18 will need to complete the diocesan volunteer safe recruitment process and have a DBS check.

Parish Finance and Property

Committee: I am grateful to those who have helped in the past with parish finances and maintenance of parish property. I would like to formalise a Parish Finance and Property Committee. If you would like more information, please speak with Fr Christopher.

Coffee Morning after the 10 am Mass on the First Sunday of the month. All welcome.

Sacred Heart primary school important dates.

Friday 6th October 3pm – 5A assembly

Monday 9th October – New Starter Open Day 1pm or 2:15pm

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day is Friday 6th October. Please pick up an envelope and prayer card as you

leave. The envelopes may be returned in the collection basket over the next couple of weeks. Thank you for your generosity to our sisters and brothers in the less developed parts of our world. More information on this year's appeal is available at <https://cafod.org.uk/>

Five First Saturdays Devotion You are invited to join the Legion of Mary on the 1st Saturday of every month.
10.00am Sacrament of Reconciliation, Exposition and Rosary. 10.30am - Holy Mass Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the intention of making reparation for the offences against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, at Sacred Heart RC Church, Hindley Green. Refreshments will be available in the Gordon room afterwards.

The month of October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary
You are invited to join the Legion of Mary to Pray the Rosary Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries with scripture readings on Monday 2nd October 2023 in Sacred Heart RC Church, Hindley Green from 10.30 am. Refreshments will be available. Everyone is welcome to join us at any time.

Volunteering opportunities with Caritas, Diocese of Salford As we head into a new season, now might be the perfect for a new challenge! Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, is looking for more volunteers to support its work across Greater Manchester and Lancashire. There are a range of different opportunities available to meet individual needs and skillsets, and full training and support is given every step of the way.

If you're interested in finding out more, please contact Matt Yates: m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk or visit the Caritas website: www.caritassalford.org.uk

Caritas, Diocese of Salford's Big Sleep Out The Annual Caritas Big Sleep Out is back! This autumn, people across the diocese are being challenged to sleep out under the

stars for one night only to raise funds and awareness of people experiencing homelessness in our diocese.

Taking place on Friday 13th October, this is one of the most important events in the Caritas annual calendar, helping our diocesan charity make a very real impact on the lives of local people. Find out more and register at <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/big-sleep-out-2023/>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Save the date The Diocese of Salford is delighted to announce the date for our next annual pilgrimage to Walsingham. Next year's day pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 4th May. We are also pleased to once again offer an overnight option, following the popularity of this year's two-day pilgrimage. To register your interest, please email walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Have you seen the new Caritas website? Caritas, Diocese of Salford, our diocesan charity, has launched a brand new website, packed full of information on how you can support people in your local community, as well as useful free resources, events and other ways to get involved. You can visit the website now at www.caritassalford.org.uk and you can also sign up to their e-newsletter by filling in the box at the bottom of the website homepage if you'd like to receive regular news on their activities in communities across Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

Season of Creation Service Join us this October as we bring our Season of Creation to a close with a prayerful service reflecting on how we might live out our role as stewards of creation in our diocese: at St John Fisher's, Manchester Road, Kearsley, BL4 8QQ Wed 4 October, at 7pm. Find out more at <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/season-of-creation-service/>

Regular Day Retreat Programme returns taking place at the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella, Lostock Hall. Facilitated by experienced retreat leader, Donna Worthington, this fascinating series

is a wonderful opportunity to discover more about our faith through the study of scripture, prayer, and other religious texts. The first session takes place on Wednesday 18 October, 11.30am - 3pm, with a focus on The Feeding of the 5,000. The retreat costs £20 per retreat and booking is recommended by calling 01772 335387 or emailing office@saintgerards.org.uk. Find out more at <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/retreat-programme-2023-2024/>

Job Vacancies: the Diocese of Salford is currently recruiting for the following positions. You can find out more and apply for all of them at <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

Financial Accountant (replacement role)

Appointment Type: Full time, permanent

Working hours: 35 hours per week - to be worked Mon-Fri, though some flexibility is required.

Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP

Salary: £43,260 - £53,178 depending on skills and experience.

Closing Date 2nd Oct 2023

The Pope's Prayer Intention for October is 'For the Synod'.

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Baptism/Marriage: Please speak to Fr Christopher after Sunday Mass if you are a parent and would like to have your child baptised or if you are hoping to get married either in this parish or elsewhere (a minimum of six months' notice for weddings is required).

Offertory Collection: during the month of September the total offertory collection – standing orders and Sunday collections – was £3,266.01. Thank you for your generosity to the parish.