



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 8th October 2023
27th Sunday of Ordinary Time,
Year A

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday: 6 pm
Sunday: 10 am
Monday: 9 am
Tuesday: 7 pm
Wednesday – Friday: 9 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30-5.50 pm
and at call

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Isaiah 5: 1-7

Against the Lord's vineyard

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 79 (80): 9,12-16,19-20

The vineyard of the Lord is the
House of Israel

Second Reading

Philippians 4: 6-9

If there is anything you need, pray
for it

Gospel

Matthew 21: 33-43

This is the landlord's heir: come, let
us kill him

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

A vineyard needs a lot of devoted care, pruning, manuring, tying back and careful harvesting. In the rocky soil of Israel, even more special care is needed, such as gathering stones to form retaining walls to keep the soil from eroding, building a lookout tower against thieves and a vine press for crushing the grapes. Then the right fruiting vine then has to be grafted onto the sturdy stock. In our first reading this week we hear about the efforts of the vine dresser to graft on fine grapes and produce a harvest. Imagine his disappointment when all he gets for his pains is inedible wild grapes! After this haunting parable of Isaiah, the vineyard became a stock image of Israel, swathed in God's loving care, and all the dwellers in the rich vines of the hill country of Israel would be aware that it was an image of the love lavished on the vineyard. So when Israel goes into Exile, Psalm 80 laments: 'You brought a vine out of Egypt. Why have you broken down its fences? Every passer-by plucks its grapes. Wild beasts feed on it.' The prophets also, especially Ezekiel, use the image. Jesus' hearers would immediately recognize what he meant.

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

First Holy Communion Programme Please hand completed registration forms to Fr Christopher after Mass. Registration closes on 22 October.

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.

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

Class 6B Assembly Friday 13th Oct

Musical achievement recital Wed 25th Oct. 2pm

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 at Sacred Heart Hindley Green. Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Litany of the

Blessed Virgin Mary, in reparation for the offences against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Refreshments will be available in the Gordon room afterwards

Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood

*Friday 20th October, 7pm
St Edward's, Spring Lane, Lees, OL4 5AJ*

Each month, our diocesan vocations team travels to a different deanery to hold a special Mass for the future of the priesthood in our diocese. Whether you're discerning a vocation to the priesthood, know someone who is, or would like to pray for vocations to our diocese, we would love to see you there!

Catholic Youth Ministry internships

Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Retreat Centre) is looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their internship programme. The scheme lasts for one or two years and gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the English Lake District. For more information contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Save the date

Next year's day pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 4th May. We are also pleased to 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

Caritas, Diocese of Salford's Big

Sleep Out 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 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/>

Let's End Poverty Regional Assembly - Caritas Salford

Saturday 14th October, 11am - 1pm

Join our diocesan charity Caritas Salford this month as it unites with people across Manchester in a call to build a future without poverty. Let's End Poverty Regional Assembly gatherings take place in many cities across the country to help bring a focus to building community momentum to tackle poverty across the UK. To find out more, email k.ansley@caritassalford.org.uk or visit <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/lets-end-poverty-assembly-2/>

Volunteering opportunities - Caritas Diocese of Salford

As we head into a new season, now might be the perfect time 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

Diocesan Day Retreat - The Feeding of the 5,000

Wednesday 18th October, 11.30am - 3pm

Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella's, Lostock Hall

The Diocese of Salford's Department for Formation is delighted to announce the return of its regular day retreat programme. Join experienced retreat leader Donna Worthington as she explores the Gospel story of The Feeding of the 5,000 in our first session. Retreats cost £20 per person and booking ahead is advised. Please contact the parish office on 01772 335387 or email office@saintgerards.org.uk to book your place.

Hope in the Future Legacy Booklet

Thank you to everyone who joined the diocesan Department for Formation for its Hope in the

Future Celebration last week and to all who have been involved in the programme. We are delighted to share with you our Hope in the Future Legacy Booklet, which follows our journey over the past six years and provides resources and information for parishes wishing to continue or begin their own project. You can view a copy of the booklet online at <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Hope-in-the-Future-Legacy-Booklet.pdf>

National SVP Young Adults Retreat 24th-26th November

Hebron Hall Christian Centre, Dinas Powys, CF64 4YB

Join the SVP for a weekend of meeting others who are passionate about making a difference in their local communities. It will be a weekend of prayer and reflection with times of volunteering and action, including a visit to St Vincent's, Ely Bridge. Cost: £50 To find out more and to book, email:

youngvincentians@svp.org.uk

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).

Welcome to our parish: If you are new to Westhoughton, or are visiting us just for the weekend, you are very welcome! Please introduce yourself to Fr Christopher after Mass.

CAFOD Fast Day envelopes may be returned via the offertory collection.

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.