



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 11th February
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday: 6 pm
Sunday: 10 am
Monday: 9 am
Tuesday – Requiem 11 am
Ash Wednesday
10 am in Sacred Heart School
7 pm in Church
Thursday 9 am
Friday 10 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30-5.50 pm
and at call

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday 7pm

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46

The unclean man must live outside the camp.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 31: 1-2, 5, 11

You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10: 31-11; 1

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

Gospel

Mark 1: 40-45

The leprosy left the man at once, and he was cured.

Facebook: @SHJWP parish

Suggested items for inclusion in future editions of the newsletter may be emailed to

SHJWesthoughtonNewsletter@outlook.com

Please submit by midday on Thursday.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

The second reading this week is the last reading this year from St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. It is the end of a section of the letter and Paul is summing up. He has just quoted a slogan that that difficult community threw in his face: 'Everything is permissible.' This was the conclusion they drew from the abolition of the restrictions of the Jewish Law. Paul's principle was that the Spirit was an inner guide, so that no external restrictions were necessary. With their slogan, the Corinthians jumped to the conclusion that there were no limits, so Paul now adds various pieces of guidance: 'Do everything you do for the glory of God!' If the glory of God is always before our minds, we can hardly go wrong. 'Never be the cause of offence', that is, never lead anyone else into sin. It is easy sometimes to put people in a situation in which they are bound to fail, through fear or anger or frustration, or just because they are unequal to the task. 'Take me as your pattern, as I take Christ for mine.' To us moderns, this may sound arrogant, but Paul regarded himself as the Servant of the Lord Jesus, just as Jesus regarded himself as the Servant of the Lord. So Paul is encouraging the self-confident Corinthians to put themselves in a position of servants, serving the community for the glory of God. No matter what our position, we can always do something more for the community.

Ash Wednesday and Lent at Sacred Heart:

Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday. There are the Walk With Me booklets available at the back of Church with a prayer and reflection for every day of Lent. Also the Lenten Calendars for our younger parishioners. Please take one.

There are two parish Masses for Ash Wednesday. At 10 am Mass will be in Sacred Heart School, and at 7 pm Mass in Church. Blessing and distribution of Ashes at both Masses.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. The law of fasting binds all Catholics from age 14, and the law of abstinence binds all from 18 – 60.

Stations of the Cross: during Lent: we will gather to pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7pm. All welcome.

Requiem Mass for Margaret Finn is on Tuesday 13 February at 11 am. Please remember Margaret and her family and friends in your prayers at this time.

Annual Mission Appeal: each year one of the Church's Missionary

Orders or Societies makes an appeal in the parishes of our diocese. This year it is the turn of the Society of African Missions – the SMA Fathers. We will welcome one of the SMA priests to our Masses here on the weekend of 24/25 February when there will be a second collection to support their work.

Childrens' Liturgy of the Word Thank you to all who have volunteered to assist with the Children's Liturgy of the Word. Once the DBS process has been completed we will be able to set a date to commence.

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.

Sacred Heart Primary School Class led assemblies continue this term with 2W on Friday 16th February 2024 at 3pm.

St. Joseph's High School 60th Birthday Celebrations continue on Friday 16th Feb at Rivington Barn. Tickets available by 'googling' Eventbrite St Joseph's Alumni or follow the link

from St. Joseph's school Facebook page.

Prayer in Lent - Our Father: The first of a series of prayer workshops is set to begin this February with a focus on the Our Father. In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee, Pope Francis has designated 2024 as a Year of Prayer, calling people to revisit the basics of the prayer and, in particular, the Our Father. The first of these workshops invites you to rediscover this beautiful prayer on Friday 16th February, 10am, at Wardley Hall. To book or find out more, visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lent-prayer-programme-1/>

St Joseph's Penny and Lent appeal: Caritas Salford has lots of information and resources on its website about how you can join in with this year's Lent and St Joseph's Penny appeals. Get the latest news and resources - as well as your free St Joseph's Penny box to collect coins to donate during Lent - at www.caritassalford.org.uk/SJP

Caritas Salford Every Step Campaign. If you're looking for a new challenge for the New Year, why not check out the Caritas Salford website? Their brand new Every Step campaign is encouraging us all to pledge to do something this year that pushes us out of our comfort zone, and there are lots of ways you can get involved. Whether you take on a baking challenge, a 10k run or the ultimate quiz-a-thon, there's something for everyone, and the charity also has places in the Great Manchester Run and Manchester Half Marathon as well as a range of other runs available. Visit the website <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/every-step/> for more information.

Gregorian Chant - A Workshop for Singers: A wonderful opportunity to discover more about Gregorian Chant is coming to St Augustine's, Grosvenor Square, Manchester, this month. Dr Rosemarie Darby, from the St Philip Neri Singers, will lead the workshop on Saturday 24th February (11.30am – 4pm), helping singers to learn more about this enchanting style of music and how it can be used to complement the Liturgy. For details of registration, or for more information, please contact Dr

Rosemarie Darby by email: stphilipnerisingers@yahoo.co.uk

Salford Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Centenary Year Fundraiser - The Mercy Brothers Join us for a family-friendly night of musical entertainment with the fabulous 'Mercy Brothers' band on Friday 9th February, 8pm (doors 7.30pm), at The Hough End Centre, Mauldeth Road West, Chortlon-cum-Hardy, Manchester, M21 7SX. The band is made up of members of the clergy from around the diocese. Tickets are priced at £15 (over 16s) and free for under 16s. Money raised will go to the Centenary Pilgrimage Fund and in support of our sick pilgrims and medical team. To book visit www.salfordlourdes.co.uk/fundraisin g. or phone the pilgrimage office on 0161 817 2209

Day Retreat Programme: Introduction to Christian Meditation The Diocese of Salford's Day Retreat Programme returns in 2024 with a particular focus on Christian Meditation. The retreat takes place on Saturday 10th February 2024 between 11.30am and 3pm at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella's in Lostock Hall. Places are limited, so please book ahead by calling 01772 335387 or emailing office@saintgerards.org.uk.

ECT Primary Pool 2024 Are you looking for a career in teaching? Do you know someone who is training for a career in primary education? ECT (Early Career Teachers) due to gain Qualified Teacher Status in Summer 2024 are being invited to apply for recommendation for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for September 2024. Email education@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more and apply. Closing date 17th February 2024.

Liturgy of Blessing for Engaged Couples On Saturday 17th February, the Saturday nearest to St Valentine's Day, Bishop John invites those getting married in the churches of our Diocese, or who are being prepared in our parishes for marriages elsewhere, to come to a Liturgy of Blessing. In this celebration, we will seek God's blessing on them as they begin their married life. The Service will take place at St. Patrick's Church, Livesey St, Manchester at 2:30pm.

Free energy advice service for local people As the cost-of-living crisis continues to hit our communities hard, Caritas Salford, our diocesan charity, has introduced a new service to support people with energy advice. The service includes advice on saving money on utility bills, as well as practical support such as insulation methods, support with condensation and damp, LED bulbs and draught excluders. For more information on the service or to find out when and where sessions will take place, contact energyadvice@caritassalford.org.uk or call 0161 817 2250.

Job Vacancies: St Joseph's RC High School in Horwich require an Exam Invigilator. This is a casual paid position. Full training will be provided. Required for internal and external examinations throughout the year. Please contact Mrs Sheenagh Currass at the school for an application form and additional information – office@stjosephs.bolton.sch.uk

Communications Assistant: Appointment Type: Full-time, 12 month fixed term. Working hours: 35 hours per week, some evenings and weekends required Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP Salary: £22,672 - £24,343. Closing date Tue 20th Feb

Chef Cathedral House: Appointment Type: Part-time, permanent Working hours: 12 hours over three days per week, Friday - Sunday Location: Cathedral House, 250 Chapel Street, Salford, M3 5LE Salary: £21,840 - £24,343. Closing date Mon 19th Feb

Find out more and apply at <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

Collections: In January the total of Sunday collections and standing orders was £2607.53; the Collection for Caritas Sunday was £293.40; and Christmas Crib offerings totalled £87.25. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

