



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

8 LORD STREET, WESTHOUGHTON, BOLTON, BL5 3SE

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Christopher Dawson

01942 812174

Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday 7th July 2024
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	6 pm
Sunday	10 am
Monday – Thursday	9 am
Friday	10am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm
and at call

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Ezekiel 2: 2-5

The sons are defiant and obstinate and they shall know that there is a prophet among them.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 122 r.2

Our eyes are on the Lord till he show us his mercy.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 12: 7-10

I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me.

Gospel

Mark 6: 1-6

A prophet is despised only in his own country.

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Suggested items for inclusion in future editions of the newsletter may be emailed to SHJWesthoughtonNewsletter@outlook.com

Please submit items for inclusion by midday on Thursday.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

In our second reading we have reached the final part of St Paul's second letter to the Corinthians where Paul is defending his apostolate against a rival group of preachers whom he caricatures as 'super-apostles'. They claim to have authority greater than his. Paul replies by claiming that he is more fully a servant of the Lord Jesus. Most of his claim is an invaluable autobiographical sketch. He grounds his claim on three factors. First, he outlines the sufferings and persecutions he has undergone in the service of Christ. Just as Jesus sees himself as the Suffering Servant of the Lord prophesied by Isaiah, so, by his sufferings, Paul sees himself as the servant of the Lord Jesus. Second, Paul speaks of his heavenly vision, the experience or revelation of 'words that may not and cannot be spoken by any human being', obviously the core inspiration of his life. Third, in this passage, he stresses his own weakness, which makes him rely on God's strength. What this weakness was we do not know. Neither is its exact nature significant. The point is that it prevented Paul becoming proud and made him rely on God's strength to counteract it. We probably all need a whacking great fault or failure to curb our pride. I'd be too ashamed to tell you mine!

Forthcoming Funerals: On Monday 8 July the funeral service for Amanda Hesketh will take place in Church at 1pm and on Wednesday 10 July the funeral service for Maria Midgley will take place at Overdale Crematorium at 2pm. Please remember Amanda and Maria, their family and friends, in your prayers at this time.

Euro '24 Football Predictor Game

Congratulations to the winners of our parish Euro '24 prediction game. First prize goes to John Ritchie with the fabulous score of 38 points, Catherine Butterworth and Frances Settle share second place with 34 points. Please see Fr Christopher for your prizes. If you scored 25 points or more you did better than most (I scored 16 points!)

Parish finance Committee there will be a meeting of the parish finance and property committee on 17 July at 7pm.

Altar Servers: I would like to recruit some new or returning altar servers who will help with our celebration of Sunday Mass. If you are interested, please see Fr Christopher.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

continues this Sunday at the 10 am

Mass. This is an opportunity for children from 3-8 years and who have not yet made their first holy communion to celebrate the Sunday's scripture readings in an age-appropriate way. I am grateful to the volunteer catechists who have made this possible. Please register your child as you arrive for Mass.

Sacred Heart School - Class led assemblies continue with RR on Friday 12th July at 3 pm.

On Friday the Year 6 Leavers will join our parish Mass at 10 am. All parents welcome.

St Joseph's High School. You're the one that we want! The Performing Arts department at St Joseph's would like to invite you to our production of Grease the musical. The event will take place **next week** in our school hall on the evenings of 9th, 10th and 11th of July at 7pm. Our fantastic pupils have been working super hard and it's going to be something you won't want to miss. Tickets are available via the EventBrite link <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/venueplan/RdiEJKhzXNnT> or by using your phone to scan the QR code on the poster in the church

entrance. Get ready to hand jive your way back to the 1970s!

Advanced notice - Confirmation of students from St Joseph's will take place on Thursday 26 September 2024 at Sacred Heart, Westhoughton. Bishop John will be in attendance to celebrate this sacrament with our young people.

Volunteer hospital chaplains wanted!

Are you interested in visiting Catholic patients at the Royal Bolton Hospital as a volunteer chaplain? The commitment is modest; just half a day a week - morning or afternoon on a day to suit you. Full support and any necessary training will be given and car parking, when on duty, is free. For more information or a chat contact Fr Bob Hayes at the Chaplaincy Office: email robert.hayes@boltonft.nhs.uk or phone 01204 390770.

Mass for Vocations: Join us for our Monthly Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood at 7.00pm on Thursday 11th July at St Mary Magdalene's RC Church, Burnley. Whether you would like to explore more about a vocation to the priesthood, or simply pray for the future of the priesthood in our diocese, you are more than welcome to attend.

Young Adults Mass: The Diocese of Salford's Mass for Young Adults returns to St Augustine's in Manchester on Sunday, 14th July. Fr Mark Paver will lead the Mass at 5.30pm which will be followed by a relaxed social. Join other young adults from across the diocese this July as we gather together for our final Young Adults Mass before the summer break. All are welcome to attend!

Salford Lourdes Pre-Departure Mass. Whether you're travelling to Lourdes or are looking to join in prayer at home, you are welcome to join us on Sunday 21st July as we gather together in prayer for the Pre-Departure Mass of our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. Mass is at 5.30pm at St Patrick's church, Collyhurst and will be celebrated by Canon Michael Cooke along with clergy from the diocese, with music from our wonderful Lourdes Choir. There will be refreshments and a chance to catch up with friends after Mass.

Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst – 'Living Catholicism Today' course, 1st – 4th August. How do we interpret the sources of Christian morality? Why is the Church 'obsessed' about human sexuality? What is the significance of the virtues? Part of the CHC's "Faith & Reason" series, this course will explore morality and the Christian life, with Dr Caroline Farey, Dr Andrew Beard and Stefan Kaminski. Find more information at <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/faith-and-reason-series/>

Can you help bring back a child's smile this summer?

Over 330,000 children in our diocese are now living in poverty. Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, has found demand for its services to support them and their families has grown significantly recently, with hardworking families significantly affected and experiencing acute crisis. This is unacceptable in 2024 - can you help? Find out simple ways you can take action, or make a donation to help children in your area now here: www.caritassalford.org.uk/child-poverty

Invocation at Adoremus We're delighted to announce the return of Invocation at Adoremus this September! Taking place at St Mary's College, Oscott, on 15 September, this beautiful day is designed specifically for adults discerning a particular vocation or direction; providing them with an opportunity to pray, to talk about their journey, and to find support and resources to help them along the way. Find out more and register online at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/invocation-adoremus-2024/> or email youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Free Webinar - Promoting and supporting integration and wellbeing of refugee children To mark World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Caritas in partnership with the Caritas Social Action Network, will be hosting a national webinar aimed at equipping communities with the knowledge, skills and resources to effectively support children who are refugees or seeking asylum. The webinar is aimed at teachers, school leaders, school family support workers, social workers, counsellors, therapists and governors. Clergy and others involved

in supporting people in their local community would also find the session beneficial. The webinar will take place online on Wednesday 25 September at 4pm. To book your place and find out more, visit <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/welcoming-classrooms/>

Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee 2025 Pope Francis has announced that 2025 will be a Year of Jubilee – an event that happens every 25 years. To find out more about the Jubilee and this preparatory Year of Prayer, please visit: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/>

August Please note that there will be one newsletter for the whole month of August. Please ensure all notices, even for the first week of September, are submitted before the end of July for inclusion.

Job Vacancies - Caritas, Salford Find out more and apply at <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/about/careers/>

Counsellor (Caritas Schools' Service) **Appointment Type:** Term Time Only, Permanent

Working Hours: 22.5 hours per week, with potential to increase hours

Location: Schools-based across the Diocese of Salford

Salary: £30,529 - £36,072 per annum (pro rata for term time and part time)

Social Worker (Caritas Schools' Service) **Appointment Type:** Term Time Only, 12 month Fixed Term Contract **Working Hours:** 37.5 hours per week – 5 days a week **Location:** Schools based across Greater Manchester and Lancashire **Salary:** £30,529 - £36,072 per annum (pro rata for term time)

June Collection: The offertory collection for June, including standing orders and payments made through the card machine totalled £2697.13. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish. During June we also received £5923.63 for our 2023/24 Gift Aid claim, so thank you to everyone who is part of that scheme. If you would like to sign up for Gift Aid the parish can claim 25p back for every £1 donated so long as you pay income tax or capital gains tax. Please speak to Fr. Christopher or Jim Maxfield for more information.