



# Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

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Parish Priest: Rev Fr Christopher Dawson

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2024**  
**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year B**

## **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**

**Jeremiah 23: 1-6**

I will gather together the remnant of my flock and raise up shepherds for them.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 22**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

### **Second Reading**

**Ephesians 2: 13-18**

Christ Jesus is the peace between us.

### **Gospel**

**Mark 6: 30-34**

They were like sheep without a shepherd.

**Facebook: @SHJWParish**

**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**

The Letter to the Ephesians celebrates the unity of the Church, returning again and again to this subject. In the passage we hear in today's second reading, the 'you that used to be so far off' denotes the gentiles, and the 'us' the Jews. The two groups of Christians, sprung from Jews and gentiles, which formerly were so much at loggerheads, are united by the blood of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit to form the single 'new man' which is Christ's Body, the Church. This particular division between believers (Jew and Gentile) is no longer the prime worry in our problem of Christian disunity, for the scandal of disunity within Christendom becomes more acute as the proportion of Christians in the world population shrinks. However, the uniting of these two groups brings to mind that Christ won salvation for all the whole world. In some mysterious way, all who are saved are saved by Christ, even if they are not explicitly aware of this. One great theologian called such people 'anonymous Christians'. One wonders whether believers who seek the truth in other ways would be happy to be so described! Is it enough that they should profess Christ's values and be aware of our human inadequacy to save ourselves?

**August** during the month of August and the first week of September this year I will be on an extended retreat. Last year I marked the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my ordination and I decided I would undertake the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius Loyola, which is a 30-day retreat spent in silence. I felt this was a good time for me to make this retreat as it affords an opportunity for deep listening to the Lord and to recommit to his will for me. During August Mgr Paul Smith will be with you for the weekends. I know you will make him welcome. Should you need a priest at another time while I am away the other local priests in the area can be contacted. Fr Andrew Pastore at St Vincent's, Over Hulton on 01204 436702; Fr Richard Howarth at St Mary's, Horwich on 01204468209; Fr Chris Gorton, St Cuthbert's Bolton on 01204 497068 or Fr Morrough O'Brien, the Dean, at Christ the Redeemer on 01204 62316.

Please pray for me while I am on retreat as I will be sure to pray for you all. One of the features of the 30-day retreat is reflection on the life of Christ. On the tables at the back of church you will find a bookmark with

a suggested scripture passage to reflect on for 30 days taking you through the life of Christ.

**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.

**Congratulations** to Michael Haycocks and Charlotte Whittle who are to be married here next Saturday.

**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.

**Sunday Coffee Mornings.** After the 10 am Mass on Sundays on the first and third Sundays of the month. In August our Coffee mornings will be on 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> August.

**Sacramental Programme 2024-25** the introductory information meeting for parents of the 2024-25 First

Communion Programme will be at 3 pm on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September in Sacred Heart School.

**Sacred Heart School** - school reopens for the new academic year on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September. To all staff and pupils - have a good rest over the summer.

**St Joseph's High School** - school reopens on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024. Advanced notice - Confirmation of students from St Joseph's will take place on Thursday 26 September 2024 at 6pm 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](mailto:robert.hayes@boltonft.nhs.uk) or phone 01204 390770.

**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 21<sup>st</sup> 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/>

**Caritas Diocese of Salford Summer Appeal** Our diocesan charity, Caritas Diocese of Salford, has launched its summer appeal as new research reveals child poverty to be at an all-time high across Greater Manchester and Lancashire. To find out more about the appeal and how you can support families across our diocese, please visit [www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/child-poverty](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/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](mailto: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/>

**Stay in the know.** Want the latest news from parishes and schools across the diocese? Would you like to keep up to speed with upcoming events and key projects and resources from the Diocese of Salford? Head to the Diocese of Salford's website at <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk> or find us on Facebook, Instagram, and X!

**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/>

**Diocesan Pilgrimages for 2025 Year of Jubilee** We are delighted to announce a number of pilgrimage opportunities in celebration of the 2025 Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee. From Lourdes and Lindisfarne, to Walsingham and Rome - and a wealth of opportunities on our very doorstep - there is something for everybody in this upcoming Year of Jubilee. Bookings for Rome will open on Monday 5th August with bookings for our other pilgrimages opening soon. Please stay tuned for further information on how to book or find out more at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/pilgrimages/>

**Lourdes at Home - Stations of the Cross** To celebrate the centenary of our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, our Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage Coordination Team is delighted to offer an opportunity for people across the diocese to join in prayer with our pilgrims in Lourdes. Join us at Salford Cathedral's Temporary Church at 4pm on Sunday 28th July as we pray the Stations of the Cross before Mass at 5.30pm. All are welcome!

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

**Grant and Bid Writer - Diocese of Salford (Replacement Role)**  
**Appointment Type:** Full-time,  
Permanent **Working Hours:** 35 hours per week to be worked Monday to Friday **Location:** Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP **Salary:** £36,338 - £40,289 per annum (depending on skills and experience)  
**Closing Date:** 12 noon, 20<sup>th</sup> August