



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 28th July 2024
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	6 pm
Sunday	10 am
Monday – Thursday	9 am
Friday	No Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm
and at call

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Kings 4: 42-44

They will eat and have some left over.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 144: 10-11, 15-18 r.16

You open wide your hand, O Lord,
and grant our desires.

Second Reading

Ephesians 4: 1-6

One Body, one Lord, one faith, one
baptism.

Gospel

John 6: 1-15

Jesus gave out as much as was
wanted to all who were sitting ready.

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

Last Sunday we heard Jesus decide to take his disciples away, so they could be by themselves. But his plans were thwarted by the crowds who guessed where he was going and got there before him, so he set to teach them as they are like sheep without a shepherd. We now leave Mark's gospel for 5 Sundays and listen to what happened next as told by John. John's version of the miraculous feeding reminds us of the Eucharist, when Jesus 'said the blessing' over the bread. Since this gospel has no account of the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, it is here particularly significant. The feeding is also described as one of the 'signs' that Jesus works. The first part of the Gospel of John is often called 'the Book of Signs' because Jesus works a number of signs which show his true identity. First comes the sign at the marriage feast of Cana, where his sign of turning the water into wine is a sign of the messianic banquet. Other signs are the raising of the royal official's son, a sign of Jesus' gift of life, and the cure of the blind man in the Temple, as sign of Jesus' gift of light and revelation. Several of the signs are followed by an extended discourse, explaining the meaning of the sign, just as this feeding miracle is followed by the discourse on the Bread of Life, explaining the significance of Jesus' gift of himself as the Bread of Life, the Wisdom of God received in the Eucharist. It is this discourse we will listen to in the coming weeks.

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 25th anniversary of my ordination and I decided I would undertake the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius Lyola, 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 weekend Masses and 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 01204 468209; 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 simple bookmark with a suggested scripture passage to reflect on for each of 30 days taking you through the life of Christ. Why not join me in making August a time of encounter with the Lord?

Children's Liturgy of the Word

continues this Sunday at the 10 am Mass but will take a break for the month of August. 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. Please register your child as you arrive for Mass.

Congratulations to Michael Haycocks and Charlotte Whittle were married here on Saturday.

Coffee Mornings – there will be a coffee morning after Sunday Mass on every 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month. In August they will be on the 4th and the 18th.

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

St Joseph's High School - school reopens on Tuesday 3 September. 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.

Diocesan Department of Education

The 2024-2025 Diocesan Department for Education Professional Development & Formation booklet is available for course bookings. New programmes include: 'Thinking about leadership posts in Diocese of Salford Catholic schools?' and 'Caring for Creation across the Diocese of Salford'. The booklet has been uploaded to our school's website at: <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/parish-bulletin-social-media/>

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.

Lourdes at Home. This week, we will be celebrating the centenary of our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. To help people across the diocese join our Lourdes pilgrims in prayer during our centenary pilgrimage, we are delighted to share a range of Lourdes at Home resources for people to pray with at home or in parish groups. These resources can be found on our website <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lourdes-at-home-2024/>

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

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 several 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/>

Caritas Salford Volunteering

Opportunities. Are you - or is someone you know - looking for a local charity where your team can spend the day giving something back? Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, is delighted to welcome supportive teams of people for a full or half day session at Caritas projects in Bury and Manchester. Read more about their team days here caritassalford.org.uk/corporatevolunteers or call Rachel Taylor if you'd like to get involved 0161 817 2250 and press 1 for fundraising.

Diocesan Job Vacancies: Find out more and apply at dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies

Grant and Bid Writer - Diocese of Salford.

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).

Plus: Skilled Maintenance Operative & Maintenance Operatives roles.

Closing Date for all: 12 noon, 20th August.

Gift Aid is a way in which charities can claim back tax paid on donations. Last year we managed to claim almost £6000 from the government on this scheme. All that is required is that you sign up for the scheme and donate in a way that the donation can be traced back to you. This can be through the offertory envelopes, standing orders or card payments. If you would like to sign up so the parish can claim 25p back for every £1 you donate, so long as you pay income tax or capital gains tax, please speak to Fr. Christopher or Jim Maxfield for more information. Alternatively you can access the form online here <https://www.sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk/parish-bulletin-social-media/> or by scanning the QR code below with your phone camera.

