



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

August 2024

18th – 21st Sundays in Ordinary

Time Year B

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	6 pm
Sunday	10 am
Monday-Friday	No Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm
and at call

THIS MONTH'S MASSES

Gospel 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

John 6: 24-35

He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.

Gospel 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time

John 6: 41-51

Anyone who eats this bread will live forever

Gospel 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time

John 6: 51-58

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Gospel 21st Sunday of Ordinary time

John 6: 60-69

Who shall we go to? You are the holy one of God

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 MONTH

After the account of the miraculous feeding of the 5000, Jesus explains the significance of the event. First, he stresses that its importance lies not in the food that has been given, which goes bad, but rather in that of which it is a sign. The crowds are to understand the sign value of the food, its ultimate fulfilment in Jesus of the manna in the desert: we live not by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. The whole explanation is built on a contrast between Moses and Jesus, between the food given by Moses and that given by Jesus. Jesus is the bread of life not only as the Eucharistic bread, but first of all as revelation of God.

We always think of this Bread of Life Discourse as centred on the Eucharist, but the first part of it—just like the Liturgy of the Word in the first part of the Mass—is centred on the bread of life, which is the revelation of God, personally to each believer. The Lord will sow in our hearts individually the knowledge of himself, so that each of us has a personal, secret link, to be cultivated by prayer. If we listen to the Father and learn from him, we come to Jesus, who has seen the Father.

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 Howard 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 this year a time of encounter with the Lord?

Children's Liturgy of the Word 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.

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

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.

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.



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.

Caritas Diocese of Salford Summer Appeal

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 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 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, governors, clergy and others involved in supporting people in their local community. 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!

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome 2025

We are delighted to announce a number of pilgrimages to celebrate the 2025 Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee, including a pilgrimage to Rome in September. Bookings for the pilgrimage, led by Bishop John, will open on Monday 5th August. Please email info@northernstartravel.com or call 0161 773 2115 to book your place. Please note, places are extremely limited. For more information on our other pilgrimages at home and overseas, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/jubileepilgrimages/>.

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.

Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage

Centenary Window Our Salford Lourdes Coordination Team is delighted to announce the commission of a beautiful stained-glass window, which will be installed in our newly-restored cathedral, commemorating the centenary of this much-loved pilgrimage. You can be part of this wonderful legacy by donating in memory of a loved one, as a gift, or in your family name, with names being recorded in a special commemorative book. To find out more visit: <https://www.salfordlourdes.co.uk/centenary-window>.

Accessibility and your parish

Caritas Salford, our diocesan charity, supports people in our diocese to develop their understanding of accessibility, disability and inclusion of people with access needs. Being accessible is important to maximise positive experiences and so everyone has opportunities to participate in ways that suit them. Caritas is looking for people from our parishes to help advocate for positive accessibility with a view to encouraging positive solutions. If you are interested, please email accessibility@caritassalford.org.uk or visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer to find out more.

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.