



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 8th September 2024
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm
and at call

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7 The ears of the deaf shall be unsealed and the tongues of the dumb shall be loosed.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 145:7-10r.1 My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Second Reading

James 2: 1-5 God chose the poor to be the heirs to the kingdom.

Gospel

Mark 7: 31-37 He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

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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

The Letter of James, which we are reading in our second readings these weeks, has been described as 'a manifesto for social justice', and among all its pieces of advice this is certainly a strong emphasis. Concern for the poor and the less fortunate runs right through the Bible. Human beings were created in the image of God, and concern for others is one of the ways in which this image must be respected. So Israel is constantly told: 'You must treat the stranger among you as I treated you when you were strangers in Egypt.' Similarly, widows and orphans are the special object of God's care. In the beatitudes of Luke's gospel, the poor, the hungry and those who weep are assured of God's blessing. In more modern times the great Papal Encyclicals on social issues gave the first official teaching anywhere on the rights of exploited classes after the Industrial Revolution, the right to a just wage, to healthcare, to form trade unions, and so on. However, it is always instinctive and natural—as today's witty and poignant reading shows—to give more honour to the Lord Mayor at the front than to the poor person who shuffles in at the back of the Church, forgetting that in God's eyes they have just the same value.

Children's Liturgy of the Word will recommence this weekend at Sunday's 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. Please register your child as you arrive for Mass.

Coffee Mornings – The next coffee morning after Sunday mass will be on September the 15th.

Quiz Night – the parish Social Committee have organised a family quiz night on Friday 20th September at 7.30 pm in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome either as individuals, to join with others to make teams or as a team. Teams can have any number of members. Tickets are £6 per person and are available after weekend masses and from Joe Roberts on 07402332955. You may bring your own drink. Keep an eye out for future social events!

Sacred Heart School – has reopened after the summer holidays. We look forward to welcoming school groups to mass here on Fridays.

St Joseph's High School 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.

CAFOD – The Harvest Family Fast Day is on Friday 4th October 2024. Donation envelopes will be available in Church soon.

Young Adults Mass - Our Young Adults Mass returns to St Augustine's in Manchester this September after our summer break! Join us at 5.30pm on Sunday 8 September as we gather together for our Mass and the start of a series of talks entitled 'The Thrill of Orthodoxy', based on G K Chesterton's book 'Orthodoxy'. The series will unpick how an exploration of religious, philosophical, social, and political ideas leads us to embrace our Christian faith.

Beekeeping sessions - The Bee Together Community Centre and Garden, of the Parish of the Nativity in Failsworth and Limeside, is organising Family Beekeeping

sessions. The next session will take place on 8 September 2024 at Church of the Holy Family, Roman Rd, Hollinwood, Oldham, OL8 3PY. Interested participants are requested to email beetogetherhollinwood@gmail.com to book their place. Everyone is welcome.

Diocesan Synod Update We are now entering into the Exploration Stage of our diocesan synod. Over the next four months, we will closely explore the four key themes to have emerged from our Big Listen responses. The themes are: Nurturing Faith for Tomorrow's World, Building Connections, Enabling Access, and Fostering Christ-like Care. To find out more about the first of our themes and how to get involved, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/synod-theme-1>

Caritas Salford Sponsored Walk - Caritas Salford is organising a sponsored walk around beautiful Whalley, Lancashire, on Saturday 14 September. The walk will cover a moderately challenging route of 14km, with a shorter option available for those who prefer. Every step you take will also help local people experiencing homelessness, poverty and discrimination. To sign up to join the walk, visit: www.caritassalford.org.uk/lancswalk

Invocation at Adoremus - You can now register to join us at 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/> If you would like to enquire about transport options, please email youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Catholic Association for Racial Justice 40th Anniversary - To mark the important milestone of their 40th anniversary, the Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ) is holding a free conference in Oldham on Saturday 21st September. The 'Agenda for Change' conference will

build on the experiences and learning of the past 40 years and put forward a strategy for bringing about greater equality and creating a racially-just Church and society. Find out more at www.carj.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 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/>

Season of Creation - This September, our diocese joins Christians across the globe in celebrating Season of Creation - a month-long campaign inviting us to renew our relationship with God and His Creation. This year, we will be celebrating by sharing updates on key diocesan projects, as well as top tips to support your efforts at home. Follow our news pages to stay up to date. <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne Discover the fascinating history of our Northern Saints with this one-off pilgrimage to Lindisfarne, Ripon, and Durham in celebration of our 2025 Year of Jubilee. Led by Bishop John, the pilgrimage will take place between 15th-17th May 2025. Find out more about this and all of our pilgrimages during our Jubilee year at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/pilgrimages/>

World Youth Day Rome 2025 - Are you aged 16-35? Are you looking for an unforgettable opportunity to share your faith with other young Catholics? Pope Francis has announced a special World Youth Day in Rome next summer to celebrate the Church's Year of Jubilee and our diocesan Youth Ministry team invites you to be

part of this once-in-a-25-year event! The pilgrimage will take place between 28 July and 3 August. To register your interest, visit <https://tinyurl.com/wydrome>

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) Campaign

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is leading a campaign calling on the government to end the two-child credit cap. To find out more about this campaign and to sign the petition, please visit <https://www.spuc.org.uk/end-benefit-cap>

Manchester-based charity seeks new trustees Out There - a Manchester-based charity founded by the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul - is looking for two new recruits for its board of trustees to help guide the charity's mission to offer support to families affected by the imprisonment of a family member. To find out more about the position or the charity, please visit www.outtherecharity.org/volunteer/

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

Skilled Maintenance Operative - Appointment Type: Full-time, Permanent **Working hours:** 35 hours per week, Monday-Friday. Flexible working will be required. **Location:** Around the Diocese of Salford. **Salary:** £29,525 – £32,735 depending on skills and experience.

Maintenance Operative - Appointment Type: Full-time, Permanent **Working hours:** 35 hours per week, Monday-Friday. Flexible working will be required. **Location:** Around the Diocese of Salford. **Salary:** £21,840 – £24,343 depending on skills and experience. Both closing dates: 12 noon on Wednesday, 11th September 2024.

Cleaner - Appointment Type: Part-time, Permanent. **Working hours:** 21.15 hours per week to be worked Monday to Friday, 7.45 am – 12 pm. Some flexibility may be required. **Location:** Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP. **Salary:** £12 per hour. Closing date: 12 noon on Friday, 20th September 2024.