



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 22nd September 2024
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	6 pm
Sunday	10 am
Monday - Requiem	11 am
Tuesday - Thursday	9 am
Friday	10 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm
and at call

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Wisdom 2: 12, 17-20

The wicked prepare to ambush the just man.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 53: 3-6, 8

The Lord upholds my life.

Second Reading

James 3: 16-4: 3

The wisdom that comes from above makes for peace.

Gospel

Mark 9: 30-37

Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me.

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 reading from the Letter of James first contrasts quarrelling and ambition, and their evil effects, with the true wisdom which brings peace. Then it goes on to some stern words about prayer that is not heard, 'because you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires'. Is it wrong, then, to ask God for what we want? What about 'Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find'? The problem of unanswered prayers of petition is a difficult one. We do not really believe that we can change God's mind and intentions by praying. Nevertheless, we express to God our needs and desires, although we are well aware that he knows them already. This is what a child does to a loving father, 'Please, please!' We even link arms with our mother, Mary, or even our brother and Saviour, Jesus, to increase the persuasive power. But every prayer of petition, just as a child's prayer to a loving father, contains the hidden text that our Father knows best. The child or the praying Christian can want something desperately, but for true prayer must submit in obedience, sometime puzzled obedience, to the Father. Only so is the prayer an expression of trust and affection.

Children's Liturgy of the Word 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.

Sacramental Programme: This year's programme to prepare children for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be starting soon. The programme is open to children in Year 3 of primary school or older. There will be an initial meeting for parents and carers on Friday 27 September at 3pm in Sacred Heart School when full details and registration forms will be available.

Confirmation: congratulations to the 23 candidates from St Joseph's School who are to be confirmed this Thursday at 6 pm by Bishop John. All welcome. Please remember them in your prayers.

Forthcoming Funerals. The Requiem Mass for Dorothy Morris is on Monday 23 September at 11am and the funeral service for Veronica Harrison will take place at Howe

Bridge Crematorium on Friday 4 October at 12 noon. Please remember Dorothy and Veronica, their family and friends in your prayers at this time.

10 am Mass on Friday this week will be a Mass of welcome for the new Reception Class at school, with their parents and carers. All welcome.

Coffee Mornings The Sunday Coffee Morning on Sunday 6 October will take place after the Mass with the sick and housebound at 2pm.

Quiz Night: Many thanks to everyone who came and supported our Quiz Night on Friday, especially our Quizmaster Simon and the scorers. Keep an eye out for future social events!

Mass with Sick and Housebound on Sunday 6 October at 2pm, followed by light refreshments. Please spread the word to anyone you know who may wish to join us.

Sacred Heart School: We look forward to welcoming school groups to mass here on Fridays at 10am.

CAFOD – The Harvest Family Fast Day is on Friday 4 October 2024. Donation

envelopes are available on the tables at the back of Church.

St Bede's College Sixth Form Open Evening: 26 Sep 6-7.30pm M16 8HX.

The event provides an opportunity to discover the wide range of experiences available including EPQ, university entrance support, clubs, competitions, trips, outreach programmes and more. Our teachers will also be on hand to help you explore the A level subjects we offer. The College offers Academic Scholarships to students entering our Sixth Form. A Grade 9 in three GCSE subjects, accompanied by at least five additional GCSEs at Grade 6 and above, grants a 30% fee reduction. Each additional Grade 9 allows for a further 10% off fees. Tickets can be booked here:

<https://fixr.co/event/sixth-form-open-evening-tickets-203488979>

Please enter through the main entrance of the Vaughan Building on Alexandra Road South. Parking will be available in the yard, accessible via Alness Road.

Permanent Diaconate We are delighted to share with you a new leaflet on the permanent diaconate. Including an introductory message from Bishop John, FAQs, case studies on our deacons, and more, this is a great way to find out more about this remarkable vocation. Read now at <https://tinyurl.com/permanent-diaconate>

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, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/synod-theme-1>

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>

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/

Mass in honour of Our Lady of Walsingham To celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady of Walsingham, Bishop John will celebrate a special Holy Mass on Tuesday 24 September at St Patrick's church, Collyhurst, at 7pm. Refreshments will follow after the Mass.

Prayer and Action: A Camino Challenge Bolton priest, Fr Chris Gorton, is set to embark on an incredible 924km running pilgrimage along the Camino de Santiago to raise funds for diocesan charity, Caritas Salford. Inviting us to be part of his journey, Fr Chris has shared a range of tools and resources to help us join him in prayer and action over the coming weeks. Find out more at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/a-camino-challenge/>

Gregorian Chant Workshop for Singers A popular choral workshop is returning to St Augustine's in Manchester with a particular focus on Our Lady. The event, led by Manchester University lecturer Dr Rosemarie Darby, will take place on Saturday 26 October (11.30am - 4pm). It is of particular interest to parish choirs who wish to expand their repertoire of Marian music. No prior experience is required but registration is essential by emailing stphilipnerisingers@yahoo.co.uk

Northern Diocesan Environment Group (NDEG) The Northern Diocesan

Environment Group is organising an online meeting to discuss 'Diocesan and schools Laudato Si' developments; responses to having a Diocesan Climate Strategy in Salford'. The meeting takes place on Thursday 26th September at 7pm and features a member of our diocesan environment team as one of the presenters. If you are interested in joining this online meeting, please email climate.ndeg@gmail.com and they will send you the link for the Zoom meeting.

Online Prayer Series: Walking in God's Creation This autumn, Steve Hoyland of the Jesuit Institute is working with the Diocese of Salford on a special online prayer series with the theme of pilgrimage and Creation. These themes will be woven together with the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola to form a unique online prayer journey. The next session takes place on Wednesday 18 September between 8pm and 9pm. Find out more: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/online-prayer-series-walking-in-gods-creation>

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 15-17 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! Taking place between 28 July and 3 August. For more information please email youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Offertory Collections The offertory collections for July and August, including standing orders and payments made through the card machine totalled £2,970 (July) and £2,545 (August). Thank you for your continued support.