



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday 27th April 2025
Second Sunday of Easter
(Divine Mercy)
Year C

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Monday-Thursday 9am
Friday 10am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Acts 5: 12-16

More than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118(117):2-4.22-24.25-27

Give praise to the Lord for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

Second Reading

Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

I died, and behold I am alive for evermore

Gospel Acclamation

John 20: 29

You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Gospel

John 20: 19-31

Eight days later, Jesus came.

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 Thursday.



THE WORD THIS WEEK

The first reading during Eastertide is from the Acts of the Apostles and is about the beginnings of the Church. During this season of Eastertide in Year C the second reading is about the end and completion of the Church, taken from the Book of Revelation. This, the last Book of the Bible, was written to assure Christians, struggling under persecution from the Roman Empire, that the Risen Christ would eventually bring his Church to triumph and release them from all sorrow and sadness. It uses extravagant cosmic imagery to emphasize God's total control of the universe, heaven and earth, and all that is in them. It is very imaginative, drawing heavily on the imagery of the Old Testament and on the symbolism of numbers. The narrator is the Apostle John, exiled to the Greek island of Patmos, and it begins with a vision of the Risen Christ in all his glory. 'Son of man' was Jesus' favourite way of referring to himself. Here the 'Son of man' is also reminiscent of the Son of man in the prophet Daniel's vision, to whom God gives all power over the universe. The seven lampstands (seven is the perfect number) represent the seven local Churches of Asia to whom the Book was primarily addressed.

grant that your departed servant Pope Francis,
whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd of your Church,
may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven
the mysteries of your grace and compassion,
which he faithfully ministered on earth.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen

Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace.
Amen.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen.

Children's Liturgy of the Word
recommences this Sunday during 10am Mass.

Coffee Mornings - our next coffee mornings will be on Sundays 4th & 18th May after 10am Mass. All welcome.

First Holy Communion Masses:
Beginning this week, for 3 weeks, the children who have been preparing this year to receive Jesus in the Eucharist will be making their first holy communions. Some benches will be reserved for them and their families. I'm sure you will make all our visitors very welcome. Please continue to pray for the children at this special time.

Feast of the Divine Mercy
A special celebration for the Bolton area will be held at the parish of St Cuthbert, St Thomas of Canterbury Church, 7 Eastbourne Grove, Heaton BL1 5TR today, Sunday 27th April 1- 3.50pm. there will be exposition, confessions, special prayers and Holy Mass at 3.10pm

Assisted Suicide Bill the Assisted Suicide Bill recently completed its Committee Stage in the House of Commons and is expected to be voted upon again by the whole House of Commons at the end of April. The Bishops of England and Wales have written a Pastoral Letter on this matter and renewed their plea that we should contact our MPs and express our opposition. There is a page on the Bishops' Conference website with the latest information and details of how to

contact your MP. www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/

Parish Social Events. Thank you to everyone who came and supported our event on Friday evening.

Sacred Heart School reopens after the Easter holidays on Wednesday 30th April.

Knights of St Columba have written to thank everyone who supported the recent visit of the relics of Saints Andrew, Columba and Margaret of Scotland.

Accessibility and our parish. April is the Jubilee month for disability inclusion and accessibility. Caritas Salford, our diocesan charity, is working to support people and parishes to develop their understanding of accessibility and disability and inclusion. Being accessible is pivotal to access the sacraments and parish life, to maximise positive experiences and ensure that everyone can participate in ways that best suit them. For the Jubilee, Caritas has developed a resource which can be downloaded here: www.caritassalford.org.uk/JubileeAccessibility

Caritas is encouraging parishioners to come forward to support parish accessibility and help raise awareness. Often, a small change can make a world of difference to a person – can you help make the change possible? If you are interested in helping, or if you want to indicate an accessibility barrier, please email accessibility@caritassalford.org.uk or visit www.caritassalford.org.uk for more information.

Red Boxes In 2024, Sacred Heart Parish raised £1,225.00 through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Our missionary community here at Sacred Heart is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries overseas through prayer and financial assistance. Your support of Missionary Priests, like Fr Glenn MHM working with a rural community in Tompong, Cambodia, enables people to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to work together to improve the lives of the whole community. Visit missio.org.uk to find out more.

Sick and Retired Clergy Fund Our Sick and Retired Clergy Fund is a vital resource that provides key provision for our priests after years of dedicated service to our diocesan community. As the number of priests reaching

retirement age has grown, this fund has never been more needed to ensure our clergy can enjoy the happy and dignified retirement they so deserve. We invite you to find out more about this fund and read our newsletter by visiting: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/sick-and-retired-clergy-fund/>

Mercy in the Holy Year The Diocese of Salford has produced several resources to help us learn more about the theme of mercy and reconciliation in the Jubilee Year, including an FAQ sheet on Plenary Indulgences. To find out more, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/plenary-indulgences>

Mass to Celebrate Jubilee Wedding Anniversaries. Are you celebrating a special anniversary this year? Join us on Tuesday 3 June at 7pm at St Bernadette's in Whitefield. Couples celebrating a Jubilee Wedding Anniversary during this Holy Year of Jubilee are invited to join us for this special celebration and to acknowledge this wonderful Sacrament. Friends and family are welcome, and everyone is invited to join for refreshments after Mass. For more information please email: formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Laudato Si' Centre E-News The Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre has created a new E-Newsletter to help you stay up to date on the latest events and activities at the Centre. Sign up now at <https://laudatosicentre.org.uk>

Collections: On Maundy Thursday, at the Mass of the Lord's supper, the collection is take 'for the poor'. This year we sent £252.32 to CAFOD for their work in Myanmar following the recent earthquake. This total includes any other monies received for CAFOD since their appeal for Myanmar was launched. On Good Friday the collection is taken for the 'Shrines of Palestine' and the total sent for this cause is £377.82. Thank you for your generosity.