



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 18th May 2025
5th Sunday of Easter
Year C

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	6pm
Sunday	10am
Monday	9am
Tuesday	9:30am
Wednesday-Thursday	9am
Friday	10am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday	5.30 – 5.50 pm
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THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Acts 14: 21b-27

They declared to the Church all that God had done with them.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 145(144): 8-9, 10-11, 12-13b.

I will bless your name for ever, my God and king.

Second Reading

Revelation 21: 1-5a

God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

Gospel

John 13:31-33a, 34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another.

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

From this Sunday through to the celebration of Pentecost our Gospel reading is taken from John's account of the great final teaching of Jesus at the Last Supper about the future of his Church and his disciples. From the sayings of Jesus, the evangelist has composed a great discourse of Jesus about the obligations, duties and dangers that will come on his disciples after his own death and Resurrection. There were probably slightly different versions of this discourse, which were handed down by word of mouth; the slight impression of repetition results from the evangelist putting three versions one after another. As we approach the Birth of the Church at Pentecost we need to listen to how Jesus envisaged his community. This reading gives the essentials. At the head of the Christian community stands the glorified Son of Man, in whom God himself is glorified. But this is no distant figurehead, for he will come to be present among his disciples. And how? In the love his disciples show for one another. One is reminded of the legend about the aged St John, wheeled into the church at Ephesus. When asked for the message of Jesus, all he would say was, 'My little children, love one another.'

Welcome to past and present members of HCPT Group 81 who gather on Saturday to celebrate 50 years supporting and accompanying children to visit Lourdes. Group 81 will join our Saturday mass.

Tuesday Mass On Tuesday of this week we will welcome the whole Sacred Heart school community. Mass will be at the slightly later time of 9.30am. All welcome.

Sunday Coffee Morning: the next Sunday coffee mornings will be this week and then on Sunday 1 June. All welcome.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: the celebration of God's word for young children is celebrated during the 10am Mass each Sunday. If your child is aged 3-8 years they are welcome to attend. Please register your child when you arrive.

CAFOD have written to thank parishioners for your generous response to their appeal on behalf of victims of the recent Myanmar earthquake.

Parish Social Event: Our next parish social event is a Fun Charity QUIZ NIGHT on Friday 23 May at 7.30pm. All

proceeds will go towards supporting the cost of taking a special needs child to Lourdes next year with HCPT. Tickets on sale after Mass. Any number in a team. Don't be shy at coming along and joining in a team with others. You will be assured of a warm welcome.

Thank you to everyone who helped celebrate our recent First Holy Communion Masses. I received many words of thanks from family and friends of the children who made their first communions, especially commenting on the welcome they received from you all.

First Communion 2025-26 the next programme will begin in the autumn for children who will be in Year 3 in September, or older. Further details will be announced over the summer.

Newsletter Team: If you are familiar with using Office 365 particularly, Outlook, Word & OneDrive and have a few hours spare once every 4/5 weeks you would be welcome to join the Newsletter Team. We update the details of the readings, add information from The Diocesan Newsletter, both our schools and any emails and forward it to Father for final editing. Interested

please email the team or speak to Father.

Cleaning Team - We are blessed to have a very small, but extremely dedicated team of cleaners here at Sacred Heart. They meet every Friday after morning mass to mop floors, vacuum carpet areas, dust benches & statues, clean the toilets & polish candlesticks, ensuring that the church is at its best for all our parishioners and visitors. If you can spare a couple of hours on a Friday morning and are interested in joining our team, please speak to Father Christopher. Everyone is rewarded with a hot drink, biscuit and friendly chat after cleaning tasks have been completed.

St Joseph's High School - Please help us to support the work of Fort Alice, by joining in with their Fells Walk on Sat 5 July. For further details see <https://fortalice.org.uk/fortalice-fells-walk>

It is exam time please pray for those who are taking GCSE, A-level, university and other exams at this time. Also for their families and others who support them.

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s and 30s) - **Discerning God's Call in your life. 23rd - 25th May, Liverpool.** The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Abuse Every year the church in England and Wales keeps the Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter as the Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Abuse. This year it falls on Tuesday 20th May. There is an open invitation to people to gather with Bishop John for Mass on Tuesday at 6pm at St. Patrick's church, Livesey St, Manchester to pray for all who are survivors or victims of abuse. Members of parish safeguarding teams are particularly invited.

Whit Walk. The annual Manchester and Salford Ecumenical Whit Walk is set to return for another year of prayerful celebration. Taking place on Monday 26 May, the walk will begin at 9:30am from Manchester Cathedral Gardens, and the group will process to St Peter's Square for an Act of Worship. Individuals, families, and groups are all welcome to attend!

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 Gardening Club The Diocese of Salford's environment hub, The Laudato Si' Centre, is delighted to announce a regular gardening club. Parish groups and volunteers are invited to join the team at the Centre to explore sustainable gardening techniques, top tips, and to come together in shared faith to care for our common home. Email laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more.

Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne. Young pilgrims in Years 7, 8, and 9 are invited to join the Diocese of Salford's Youth Ministry Team for a faith-filled pilgrimage to The Holy Island of Lindisfarne. The pilgrimage will be led by Bishop John Arnold and will take place between 20-22 June. To find out more, please email youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or call 0161 817 2214.

Caritas Salford E-newsletter Did you know that Caritas, our diocesan charity, now has a monthly e-newsletter providing updates, free resources, news and event details, plus much more? To begin to receive it, visit: <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/newsletter/>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Ladyewell The Diocese of Salford's Pilgrimage Office is delighted to announce a prayerful pilgrimage to Our Lady's shrine at Ladyewell, taking place on Saturday 28th June. Join us as we take up the Jubilee call to pilgrimage by visiting this beautiful shrine right on the doorstep of

our diocese. For more information and to register, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/ladyewell-pilgrimage-2025>

Parish Accessibility: Reminder: If you or someone you know finds it difficult to attend Mass due to any disability-related issue, please get in touch to see how we can help make things easier. Lisa Spann is our Accessibility Representative and is happy to chat and explore ways we might be able to support you.

Ecclesiastical Education Fund: the annual collection for the diocesan ecclesiastical education fund which supports those training to be priests and priests asked to undertake further studies remains open: donations can be placed in the offertory basket in an enveloped marked EEF.

Vacancies: Cleaner Parish of Our Lady of Hope, Salford.

Appointment Type: Part-time/Permanent

Working Hours: 6 hours per week.
(Work pattern to be agreed with Parish Priest)

Locations: Ss Peter & Paul Church, Park Road, Pendleton, Salford M6 8JF and St Luke Presbytery, Swinton Park Road, Irlams O' th' Hieght, Salford M67 WR

Salary: £12.60 per hour, 25 holidays, plus statutory bank holidays and 5 days (Pro-rata for part-time) Closing Date: 12 noon. Tuesday 3rd June 2025

Find out more and apply at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies>



A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.