



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 29th June 2025

St Peter & St Paul

Year C

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday	5.30 – 5.50 pm
----------	----------------

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Acts 12: 1-11

Now I know the Lord has rescued me from the hand of Herod.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 33: 2-9 r.5

From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

Second Reading

2 Tim 4: 6-8, 17-18

There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.

Gospel Acclamation

Matt 16: 18

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Gospel

Matt 16: 13-19

You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

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 early chapters of the Acts of the Apostles show the first generation of believers at Jerusalem being led by Peter. The later chapters recount the mission of Paul to the gentiles. The story we hear in our first reading today tells of a near disaster, averted by divine intervention. Had Peter, as well as James, been martyred at this early stage, the Church might have been left without leaders and could hardly have survived. It is one of the many accounts of divine intervention to free the apostles from the prisons to which their fearless witness to Christ brought them. Several times the whole group of apostles had been imprisoned by the Jewish authorities for their witness and miraculously released. This full account is paralleled by the release of Paul from prison in Thessalonika through an earthquake; the stories of Peter and Paul are parallel in many ways. The lesson is that the Holy Spirit was guiding the Church at every stage and was looking after its members as they proclaimed the gospel. The story is superbly told, with the amusing picture of Peter, still half-asleep, being guided at every step by the angel, like a sleepy child, woken up in the middle of the night.

Sunday Coffee Morning: The next coffee morning will be after Sunday Mass on 6 July and 20 July. They will continue over August and will be on 3 & 17. All welcome.

Forthcoming funeral: the funeral service for Alan Crompton will take place at Sacred Heart on Friday 4 July at 12 noon. Please remember Alan and his family and friends in your prayers at this time.

Upcoming Social Events: Friday 18 July - Social Evening including 'Church Hierarchy' Presentation/Q&A with Fr. Christopher. **Wednesday 13 August** (tbc) - Afternoon Tea; **Friday 19 September** - Quiz Night; **Sunday 5 October afternoon** - Mass with the Sick. **Friday 17 October** - Retronotes 4-piece live band

Children's Liturgy of the Word: The celebration of God's word for young children takes place 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.

Congratulations to the young people, students at St Joseph's High School and Thornleigh College, who were confirmed this week. Please continue to pray for them.

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

Altar Servers: if anyone – especially any children who have just made their first communion this year – would like to join our team of altar servers, please have a word with Fr Christopher. New servers always welcome.

Safeguarding in the Parish: We are very grateful to all those who volunteer in any way in our parish. Please be aware that most roles require at least the completion of an Application Form, and some requiring additional safeguarding procedures, are subject to a Disclosure & Barring Services Check (DBS). We always welcome new volunteers, but please do not be offended when you are asked to fill in some paperwork. If you would like more information about Safeguarding in the Parish please contact Cathy Ward, Safeguarding Representative on 07746296095.

Parish Accessibility: 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.

School Masses: Children from Sacred Heart Primary School will attend Mass at Church on the following dates. Everyone welcome. **Friday 4 July** – Year 5, **Friday 11 July** – Year 6 Leavers' Mass – families are welcome to attend.

Reading with St Joseph's High School students: Do you have a passion for reading? Would you be interested in sharing your love of reading with the young people of St Joseph's? Our young people need to build their enjoyment of reading again. We are looking for people who can bring a book to life and who are willing to give up an hour a week to read with some of our young readers. We can work the sessions around the volunteers so that the arrangement works well for both parties, but the sessions will need to be between 8.45 and 2.45 and a DBS check will be required. We will provide the reading materials - we just need someone full of enthusiasm and patience. If you are interested, please email your name & contact details to office@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk marking it for the attention of Mrs H Howe, Literacy Lead.

Southern Cemetery Mass: The Diocese of Salford is delighted to announce the return of its Cemetery Mass at Southern Cemetery- the first since before the pandemic - providing a wonderful opportunity to come together in faith and remember our loved ones who have gone before us. Join us at 12 noon on Monday 25 August outside the Roman Catholic Chapel in the cemetery. Seating will not be provided, so please bring a chair if you require one. In the event of poor weather, Mass will be celebrated in St Ambrose Church.

Fancy a Walk? Our diocesan charity Caritas Diocese of Salford invites you to take part in a leisurely 7-mile walk for adults (18+) to raise money for people experiencing poverty, homelessness, and disadvantage in our diocese. The walk takes place on Saturday 13 September and takes in the beautiful sights of the Tolkien Trail in the Ribble Valley. Find out more at www.caritassalford.org.uk/lanctswalk

Jubilee for Children and Families This month, we join Catholics around the world in celebrating the Jubilee for Children and Families. As we come together in this Holy Year, we invite you to pray for all families in our diocese. May we look to the love of the Holy

Family to guide us in our vocation to family life, praying for the grace to love with peace, gentleness, and hope in the face of all our challenges

Pilgrimage to Walsingham in Prayer for the Sanctity of Life Catholics around the country will be heading to Walsingham this August to pray and reflect on the sanctity of life. Bishop John Keenan, Bishop of Paisley, will lead the pilgrimage on Saturday 2nd August, which begins with 12 noon Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation. For more information visit <https://prolifepilgrimage.org/>

Summer Retreats at Boarbank Hall The Canonesses of St Augustine, based at Boarbank Hall near Grange-over-Sands, has shared details of two retreats this summer. Join them from 26 July - 2 August for a retreat exploring more about the spirituality of our new Augustinian pope, Leo XIV, or perhaps join them between 18-22 August for an opportunity to read and reflect on the spiritual writings of St Augustine. To find out more about these retreats and other opportunities at Boarbank Hall, please visit <http://www.boarbankhall.org.uk>

What is God? Philosophical, Christian and Islamic Approaches, 22 – 25 August 2025. Our annual course in partnership with CEPHAS will look at the nature and knowledge of God from a pre-religious, philosophical understanding, before comparing the Islamic concept of God with the Christian, leaning on St Thomas Aquinas' elaboration of the Trinity and the Incarnation. For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/what-is-god/>

Madonna Del Rosario Procession: The annual Madonna Del Rosario procession will take place on the 6 July. The procession will begin at 1.15pm from The Halle St Michael's, George Leigh Street, Ancoats. It will continue through Manchester City Centre to St Peter's Square, where Mgr Anthony Kay will lead a short service. All are welcome.

WeBelieve Festival: Celebrate the Jubilee at WeBelieve, a festival of Catholic Life gathering the Church to share the hope that we have in Christ. From 25th-28th July, join us for music, keynotes, conversation & worship at St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham. Featuring Dr Gianna Emanuela Molla (daughter of St Gianna Molla), Fr Paul Murray, Msgr Michael Nazir-Ali, AnMari, The Southwell Consort, Fr Toby Lees &

more. Early Bird Tickets available at www.webeliefestival.com

Rosa Mystica Devotions: Sat 12 July at St Mary's Standishgate, Wigan WN1 1XL. Mass 12 noon Devotions, Procession and Benediction 3pm. Bring packed lunch.

Salford Lourdes Pre-Departure Mass at St Patrick's Church, Livesey Street, Collyhurst, Manchester, Sunday 27th July at 5.30 pm. Whether you're travelling with us to Lourdes or are looking to accompany us in prayer at home, join us as we gather together in prayer for our Pre-Departure Mass for this year's diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop John, along with clergy from the diocese, with music from our wonderful Lourdes Choir.

Hope for our Common Home Pilgrimage: The Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre is teaming up with the Columban Missionaries in Britain for a special pilgrimage opportunity to celebrate the Season of Creation in this Holy Year of Jubilee. Taking place on 25/11/2025. This prayerful experience offers opportunities for everyone, whether taking on our nine-mile pilgrimage walk, joining us for our liturgies throughout the day, or receiving our virtual pilgrimage pack to explore in your own time. To find out more please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/hope-for-our-common-home/>

Vacancies: Cathedral Site Officer

Appointment Type: Full-time/permanent

Working Hours: 35 hours per week, Tuesday – Saturday with some flexible work.

Location: Salford Cathedral Estate including the cathedral, Cathedral Presbytery (Cathedral House)

Salary: £26,232 - £32, 246 per annum

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

 Did you know we are on Facebook? Like our page <https://www.facebook.com/SHJWParrish>

