



# 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 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025**  
**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year C**

## **MASS TIMES THIS WEEK**

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Saturday        | 6pm  |
| Sunday          | 10am |
| Monday – Friday | 9am  |

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm

## **THIS SUNDAY'S MASS**

### **First Reading**

**Genesis 18: 1-10a** O Lord, do not pass by your servant.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 14: 2-3a, 3b-4b, 5** O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

### **Second Reading**

**Colossians 1: 24-28** The mystery hidden for ages but now revealed to his saints.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

#### **Luke 8: 15**

Blessed are those who hold fast to the word of God

### **Gospel**

**Luke 10: 38-42** Martha welcomed him. Mary has chosen the good portion?

## **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 letter to the Colossians, begun last Sunday and read over four Sundays, is one of the latest of the Pauline letters. Some scholars think it was written not by Paul but by a disciple, thoroughly familiar with his thought, applying his master's ideas to a new situation. In any case, it is part of inspired scripture. The mystery revealed only at the end of time, which Paul was commissioned to proclaim, is that the salvation promised to Abraham and his kin now extends to all people. This is the riches of his glory. Paul is also very aware that his own sufferings and tribulations in the apostolate mirror and complete those of Christ. When he says that he is 'completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions' he does not mean that Jesus' Passion was somehow faulty or deficient. Rather, he means that, as the Body of Christ, the Church in every age must be a suffering Church. His confidence rests in his sufferings, for they enable him to say that he is the Servant of the Lord Jesus in just the same way as Jesus is the Suffering Servant of the Lord. In 2 Corinthians, when others claim more authority than he has, he replies by saying that he has suffered more.

**Sunday Coffee Morning:** The next coffee morning will be on the 20 July. They will continue over August and will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. All welcome.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** CLotW is now on its summer break and will begin again on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you to all the children and parents who have attended this academic year and a special thank you to the leaders and helpers who make CLotW such a wonderful experience for our young children and of welcome to all.

**Sacred Heart Primary School** reopens on Wednesday 3 September.

**Congratulations** to everyone – pupils, staff and governors – at Sacred Heart Primary School on the fantastic Catholic Schools Inspectorate report into the school's Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education, and Collective Worship which was received this week following on the recent inspection. The report is available on the school and diocesan websites. Well worth a read!

**St Joseph's High School** reopens for Years 7 and 11 on Tuesday 2 September and for Years 8-10 on Wednesday 3 Sep.

**First Communion 2025-26:** The Information Sheet for parents and carers for our next preparation programme is

now available on the tables at the back of Church. The programme is open to baptised catholic children living in our parish who will be in Year 3 in September, or older. Please share with anyone you think will be interested.

**Upcoming Social Events: Wednesday August 13** (tbc) - Afternoon Tea; **Friday September 26** - Quiz Night; **Sunday October 5 afternoon** - Mass with the Sick; **Friday October 17** - Retronotes 4-piece live band.

Thank you to everyone who came on Friday for Fr Christopher's talk. If you have any suggestions for future topics please speak to any member of the social committee or Fr Christopher.

**One Newsletter for August:** As people take holidays or generally slow down a little over August the amount of news to include in a weekly parish newsletter dries up! We will publish just one newsletter for the whole month on the weekend of 2/3 August. The next newsletter will be published on 30-31 August. If you have any items please ensure they received in good time.

**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.

**Safeguarding in the Parish:** We are grateful to all who volunteer in any way in our parish. Most roles require at least the completion of an Application Form with some subject to a Disclosure & Barring Services Check. We always welcome new volunteers, but please do not be offended when you are asked to fill in some paperwork. For information on safeguarding please contact Cathy Ward, Safeguarding Representative on 07746296095.

**Careers Talks at St Joseph's** Have you had, or do you have a career that you love. Would you be willing to talk to students at St Joseph's High School about it, to help them learn more about the world of work? Mrs Hancock, Head of Careers, would welcome anyone who would be willing to give a 20-minute talk during the school day, 8.45 until 2.15pm, to students who are thinking about their future careers. If interested, please contact Mrs Hancock on 01204 697456.

**Jubilee for Grandparents and Older People:** The Diocese of Salford's Jubilee of Jubilees series continues this month of July as we celebrate the Jubilee for Grandparents and Older People by sharing a fantastic resource from our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford. For resources, activity ideas, prayers, key contacts, and more, head to <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/calendar/>

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

**Salford Lourdes Pre-Departure Mass at St Patrick's Church, Livesey Street, Collyhurst, Manchester, Sunday 27 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 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.

**Silent Retreat:** Join the Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre between 9.30am - 3.30pm on Friday 1 August for a prayerful silent retreat. Begin the day with a tour of Wardley Hall and the Laudato Si' Centre before spending time in silent prayer, reflection, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The day ends with Outdoor Mass and reflection. For further information email: [laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**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 2 August, which begins with 12 noon Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation. For more information visit <https://prolifepilgrimage.org/>

**Family Forest Fun Mornings:** Gather the family together to celebrate God's creation with Family Forest Fun Mornings at the Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre. Taking place between 10am-12.30pm over the first three Tuesdays of August, these sessions are packed with a range of activities that teach us about the wonder of creation. Find out more and register at <https://laudatosicentre.org.uk/events/family-forest-fun-mornings/>

**Family and group stays at Castlerigg manor this august:** Castlerigg Manor is a Retreat Centre in the Lake District, owned by the Diocese of Lancaster. This summer they are opening their doors to family groups, individuals and other small groups. A good option for anyone looking for a budget get-away in a beautiful part of the country. Book at <https://castleriggmanor.com/open/> or contact [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

**What is God? Philosophical, Christian and Islamic Approaches, 22 – 25 August 2025.** Our annual course in partnership with CEPHAS will examine 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/>

**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 explores the sights of the Tolkien Trail in the Ribble Valley. Find out more at [www.caritassalford.org.uk/lancswalk](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/lancswalk)

**Certificate in Catholic Pastoral Leadership** Are you involved in any form of ministry in the Church? Are you interested in doing more or would like to expand your skills in pastoral leadership? Liverpool Hope University has partnered with several Catholic dioceses, including the Diocese of Salford, to help people gain fresh perspectives on Scripture and Church teaching. You can follow the two-year course online and also opt to take this course as a postgraduate certificate. To find out more: [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk).

**80 Afternoon Teas for 80 Veterans** The Westhoughton branch of the Royal British Legion are hosting an Afternoon Tea Party for Veterans living in the BL5 post code area on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August. There will be 2 sittings during the afternoon starting at 12.30pm. The event is being held at Westhoughton Lions Rugby Club, The Den, Cunningham Road, Westhoughton. BL5 2AN. Please email the following address for your free ticket: WESTHOUGHTON.SECRETARY@RBLCOMMUNITY

**Summer Reading:** If you are looking for some summer reading, why not think about one of the books on the following list that develop Catholic themes, such as the work of Grace in our lives, redemption and salvation, sin and forgiveness, vocation and meaning?

First, a couple by Evelyn Waugh: 'Brideshead Revisited' explores themes of faith, family, and social class through the story of Charles Ryder's experiences with the Flyte family.

'Helena' is a historical novel about St. Helena, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, offering a look into a fascinating period of history.

'The Power and the Glory' by Graham Greene, develops themes of vocation and the power of Grace, while 'Therese' by Francios Mauriac looks at themes of sin and purpose of life.

Diary of a Country Priest by Georges Bernanos looks at the themes of service and Grace.

There are many more possibilities, the above are just a few to plant the idea... Happy reading!