



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 21st September 2025
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm
and at call

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Amos 8: 4-7

Against those who 'buy up the poor for money.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 112: 1-2,4-8 r. 1.7

Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 2: 1-8

Prayers should be made for all people to God, who desires all people to be saved.

Gospel Acclamation

Jesus Christ, though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

Gospel

Luke 16: 1-13

You cannot serve God and money

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

Amos is one of the first of the prophets whose sayings were gathered and written down. He was peacefully pasturing sheep in the southern hill country near Bethlehem, when the Lord summoned him to trudge northwards and denounce the racketeering of the rich against poor in Samaria. Archaeologists have shown us the traces of it. The capital was moved westwards to link with Mediterranean trade: marriage alliances with merchant princes, grand palaces displacing slum dwellings, expensive (and idolatrous) ivory inlays on the furniture. The fat cats would not listen to Amos, told him he was not welcome in their country, sent him packing and continued to fleece the helpless poor, for they controlled the money supply and the means of exchange—until the mighty power of Assyria swept down and destroyed them all. For us today perhaps the equivalent is rich nations profiteering from poor, unequal business deals, unfair trade, 'international aid' packages to dispose of excess production, the rich growing richer, the poor growing poorer in a thousand ways. The message of Amos is linked to the gospel by the final sentence: use wealth to make friends in heaven by your generosity.

Sunday Coffee Mornings: Join us for a warm welcome and a cuppa after Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month. Our next coffee mornings will be after mass this Sunday and 5th October. Everyone is welcome — it's a lovely opportunity to meet fellow parishioners and catch up with friends old and new.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Children aged from 3 until they have made their first holy communion are invited to celebrate God's word together during our Sunday Mass. Please register your child as you arrive for Mass.

Forthcoming Funeral the funeral service for Denis Keegan will take place at Sacred Heart Church on Thursday 25 September at 1pm. Please remember Denis and his family and friends in your prayers at this time.

Mass on Friday will be a special occasion for our new Reception classes as they join us for the first time. Parents and carers are especially welcome.

Macmillian Coffee Morning: You are invited to a Macmillian Coffee morning at Sacred Heart School on Friday 26 September from 9.30-10.30am

First Holy Communion 2025–26: The Parent Information Session for this

year's First Communion preparation programme will be held on Friday 26th September at 3pm in school. Parents who wish to register their child/ren are invited to attend. The programme is open to baptised Catholic children living in our parish who will be in Year 3 this September, or older. Please share this with any families who may be interested.

Parish Quiz Night: Our next social event is on Friday 26th September. The ticket price of £5, includes refreshments. Please bring your own drinks. Tickets on sale now!

Mass with the Sick: is being held on Sunday 5th October at 2pm. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

Parish Talks: Thank you to everyone who made suggestions for the next Parish talk. One of the most requested topics was 'The Mass' which is too big a topic to do justice in just one session, so this autumn we will have 4 talks on the Mass on 3rd, 10th October 7th and 14th November. The first talk will look at the history of the Mass from the Last Supper to today, then the other three talks will go through the Mass: Introductory rites, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Talks begin at 7.30pm, all welcome.

Future Social Events: Friday 17th October – Live music with The Retronotes (four-piece band) More details to follow.

St Joseph's R.C. High School: Community Day on Sunday 5th October 10am-1pm. Gardening volunteers are invited to join Miss Roberts and Mrs Jackson in getting the garden ready for everyone to enjoy, helping to turn St Josephs into a vibrant Forest school and outdoor learning area. Volunteers are asked to bring waterproofs and sturdy shoes and can bring their own tools if preferred, including wheelbarrow's as there is a limited supply. Some jobs include heavy lifting, so please read the declaration in the sign-up form. Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information go to: <https://forms.office.com/e/JTP6k0NniJ>

Notice about scam text: The Diocese of Salford has shared a warning about a scam text that has been circulated to some parishes in our diocese, purporting to be from the parish priest. Please be aware that this is not a genuine text. If you come across any such text, please do not engage with it and simply delete and report it.

Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham: Join us in celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham with a special Mass at St Luke's Church (M6 7WR), in Salford, on Wednesday 24th September. Mass, which will be celebrated by Bishop John, will begin at 7pm. There will also be an opportunity to find out more about next year's diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham.

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday: celebrated on Sunday 21 September - calls us to be joyous in proclaiming our faith. It is a Sunday more commonly known as Home Mission Sunday, a day for us as the Catholic community in England and Wales to celebrate the beauty of our faith, and our shared commitment to witness to the fullness of life in Christ. Celebrating 1,700 years since the Council of Nicaea, the theme for this year is 'I believe...' as the heart of mission. More details about this can be found on the Bishops' Conference website -www.cbcew.org.uk/evangelii-gaudium-sunday.

Life in the Spirit Seminars: Discover more about what it means to live in the Holy Spirit with a series of seminars heading to Manchester this autumn. This series of Life in the Spirit Seminars will be taking place at Our Lady's Church, Moss Side, from Wednesday 24th September 7.30pm-9.30pm. To find out

more, please email ourladys@btinternet.com or call 0161 226 1730

Mass for the Care of Creation: This Season of Creation, the Diocese of Salford and the Laudato Si' Centre are joining with the Columban Missionaries in Britain for a special Mass to pray for the future of our common home. Join us at 6pm on Thursday 25th September at Salford Cathedral's Temporary Church as we pray the new Mass for the Care of Creation, approved by Pope Leo this summer. All are welcome to attend!

Food, Music, and Games with the SVP! On Saturday 27 September, the St. Vincent DePaul Society is holding a festival at All Saints Park on Oxford Road, beginning with Mass at 11am at St. Augustine's Church (M15 6BW). Everyone is invited to the celebrations, where there will be fun and games for the whole family! The SVP is a charity whose volunteers visit the lonely, feed the homeless, and provide help for those in need. Come down and see how faith is put into action.

A Decade of Laudato Si': The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales are hosting an ecumenical event to celebrate 10 years of Laudato Si'. Join Christian leaders across Greater Manchester, including our own Bishop John, as they meet with Greater Manchester Mayor, Andy Burnham, to discuss the environmental progress of the past decade and the road ahead. This free event takes place at 6pm on Tuesday 14th October at Methodist Central Hall in Manchester. Find out more and register at dioceseofsalford.org.uk/a-decade-of-laudato-si/

Mass for Catechists: In celebration of our Jubilee for Catechists this October, we are holding a special Mass to pray for the catechists of our diocese. The Mass will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 15 October at St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst. To help with planning, please email formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk if you would like to attend.

Be Still and Know that I am God, 14 - 17 November 2025: A three-day retreat at the Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst, led by Fr Roger Dawson, SJ. Aiming to help participants find a greater attentiveness and disposition to God's presence in their lives through a disciplining of the mind and awareness of the present moment. For more information go to christianheritagecentre.com/events/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god

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) Location: Ss Peter & Paul Church, Park Road, Pendleton, Salford M6 8JR and St Luke's Presbytery, Swinton Park Road, Irlams o' th' Height, Salford M6 7WR Salary: £12.60 per hour, 25 holidays, plus statutory bank holidays and 5 Diocesan closure days (Pro-rata for part-time) Closing Date: 12 noon 26/09/25

Communications Officer - Diocese of Salford (Maternity Cover) Appointment Type: Full-time, fixed-term. Contract for Maternity Leave Cover. Working Hours: 35 hours per week. Usual pattern Mon-Fri. Some flexibility for evenings and weekends as needed. Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP Salary: £26,232-£32,246, 25 holidays (pro-rata), plus statutory bank holidays and 5 Diocesan closure days. Closing Date: 12 noon 26/09/25

Parish Administrator - St Joseph's, Reddish. Appointment Type: Part-time, permanent. Working Hours: 12 hours per week over 3 days, with some flexibility. Location: St Joseph's Presbytery, 23 Gorton Road, Reddish, Stockport, SK5 6AZ Salary: £13.23/hour, 60 hours holiday (equates to 5 weeks), plus bank holidays and 5 closure days (subject to pro-rata for part-time employees) Closing Date: 12 noon 01/10/25. For all vacancies and to find out more or apply see: dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies

HYMN BOARD

Entrance: 369 O Lord all the world belongs to you
Offertory: 223 In bread we bring you Lord
Communion: 285 Longing for Light,
397 Our God loves us
Recessional: 445 Sing it in the valleys

Please note: Hymns are subject to last minute changes!

Do you play an instrument?
Would you like to join our music ministry? Please speak to one of our musicians or Fr Christopher