



# Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

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Parish Priest: Rev Fr Christopher Dawson

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**26<sup>th</sup> 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 6: 1a, 4-7**

The revelry of those who now stretch themselves out shall pass away.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 145: 6c-7. 8-9a. 9b-10. R. 1b**

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

### **Second Reading**

**1 Timothy 6: 11-16**

Keep the commandment until the appearing of our Lord.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**2 Corinthians 8:9**

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: 19-31**

You received good things, and Lazarus bad things; now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.



**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**

'Alas for those who lounge in front of the telly, munching their crisps and slurping their lager. Alas for those who zoom the streets, singing raucously along with their blaring radios.' Is the prophet Amos, the author of our first reading this weekend, simply a middle-aged spoilsport, castigating the evils of his time? The real question is whether the TV watcher manoeuvres themselves off the couch for the sake of the needy person at the door, or whether the noisy driver springs out of the car to help the blind person across the road. Following that, Amos asks us each to think, 'what can I do to help remedy the fundamental ills of our society, whatever I might conceive them to be?' What can I, helpless and half-hearted as I am, do to build on the ruins? How far can Jesus push me? One thing is sure, it is always one step further than my comfort zone! The Lord may not want me to go and be a Charles de Foucauld, an Oscar Romero, or a Mother Teresa, but he always wants me to go one step nearer, whatever my state of life, one step at a time out of my comfort zone in response to his challenge. I can never say I have done all I need to do!

**Pastoral Letter** Bishop John has written a Pastoral Letter for us for this weekend where he discusses the next steps in our Diocesan synodal journey. Copies are available on the tables at the back of Church. Please take one with you.

**Congratulations** to Frs Theo Sharrock and Paul Chisnall who were ordained to the priesthood for our Diocese on Saturday. Please remember them in prayer as they begin their priestly ministry.

**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 are on the 5th and 19th of 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.

### **First Holy Communion Programme**

**Registration:** Parents/carers wishing to register their child on the First Holy Communion programme for 2025/26 are

asked to return a completed registration form after Mass. Closing date 19 October.

**Accessibility:** We are committed to making the church accessible to all. As part of that process, an induction loop or hearing loop system is available during mass. Signage will be set up in suitable locations to bring this to your attention. Please look out for the following:

Please let us know your feedback and for more information on hearing loops and if your device supports this function, please visit <https://rnid.org.uk/>

**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>

**Sacred Heart R.C. Primary School open afternoon tours:** Prospective parents are invited to a learning walk around school on Tuesday, 21st of October at 1:15-2:15PM or 2:15-3:15PM. Please book on the tour by emailing [office@sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:office@sacred-heart.bolton.sch.uk) or phoning 01942 634 681

**Future Year Groups at 10am Friday Mass**

3 October – Y4  
10 October – Y5  
17 October – Y3  
24 October – Y1

On 22 October there will be a whole-school Mass in school at 9.30am. All welcome

**CAFOD Family Fast Day - 3 October 2025:** CAFOD is highlighting its work with communities in Ethiopia facing climate challenges, where our donations fund vital water infrastructure projects. This is alongside CAFOD's continued response to urgent needs in the Holy Land, Ukraine, and Sudan through trusted local Church partners. For more information visit [cafod.org.uk/parish](http://cafod.org.uk/parish).

**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.

**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/](http://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](mailto: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 <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god>

**Volunteer Van Driver needed for Caritas Salford:** Our diocesan charity Caritas Salford is in urgent need of a volunteer van driver. Could you please spare a few hours to help them to transport donations in their electric van? To find out more, please contact volunteer coordinator Matt on [m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk) or visit [www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer)

**The Mercy Brothers:** Enjoy a family-friendly night of musical entertainment with clergy band, The Mercy Brothers. The concert will raise funds for our Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund, which supports our sick pilgrims and medical team. The concert takes place on Friday 3rd October at St Michael's RC Parish, Whitefield. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets cost £15 for adults, £10 for 16-21 year olds, and free for under 16s. Food will be provided and included in the cost. Book now by emailing [Lourdes.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:Lourdes.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

g.uk or phone the pilgrimage office on 0161 817 2209.

**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](http://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies)

**HYMN BOARD**

Entrance: 433 Seek ye first.  
Offertory: 317 Make me a channel of your peace  
Communion: 50 Be still for the presence of the Lord;  
135 Gifts of bread and wine  
Recessional: 551 Whatsoever you do.

**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



St Luke continues week after week to prod our consciences about how generous or forgiving we are, and about how we use material wealth at the service of the gospel. The man called Lazarus, lying at the doorway of the rich man's house, is no mere fictional character. He is one of many who sleep on the streets of our cities each night.