



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

8 LORD STREET, WESTHOUGHTON, BOLTON, BL5 3SE

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Christopher Dawson

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday 12th October 2025
28th 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

Second Book of Kings: 5: 14-17

Naaman returned to the man of God and confessed his faith in the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 97: 1. 2-3b, 3c-4

The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

Second Reading

Second letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

If we endure, we will also reign with Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

1 Thessalonians 5:18

In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Gospel

Luke 17: 11--19

No one was found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner.

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.



visit <https://rnid.org.uk/>

THE WORD THIS WEEK

The little excerpt from the Second book of Kings which forms our first reading this week is the stub end of one of the most delightful stories in the Bible (read it!). It pairs with the gospel reading. In his opening proclamation in the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus declares that he has come to save the gentiles too, just as Elisha did, citing Naaman as an example: 'there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha; and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.' The Holy Bible (San Francisco Revised Standard Version; Second Catholic Edition 2006) Lk 4:27.. Today we read just the cure itself. The odd bit about 'two mule-loads of earth' is the result of the belief, still persistent at that time, that the God of Israel could be worshipped only on the soil of Israel—so take some soil with you! Naaman wants to express his gratitude at home, too. At that time the Lord was accepted as God of Israel, the Sovereign and Protector of Israel, but this implied nothing about other nations. It was not until the Babylonian Exile, when Israel was confronted the multiple gods of Babylon, that Israel advanced a step and saw that the Lord was the God of the whole earth, the whole universe, and that all the other deities, such as sun and moon and stars, were simply timing devices plugged into the vault of heaven by the Lord himself. God reveals himself to Israel, and to us, gradually.

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 morning is the 19th of October. Everyone is welcome.

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.

CARITAS campaign to end child poverty

This autumn Caritas Diocese of Salford, our own diocesan charity, is asking for your help to end child poverty in our diocese. A recent report showed more than 1 in 3 local children are going to school with empty tummies (Loughborough University, Local Child Poverty Statistics 2025). Would you take one of the cards available at Mass today to pledge a future where no child is left behind? Or visit caritassalford.org.uk/AddMyVoice Cards can be returned to church over the next couple of weeks.

World Mission Sunday is next Sunday, donation envelopes to support the Church's work to bring the Good News to all people are available at the back of

Church and may be returned over the next couple of weeks.

Deanery Formation for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on 22 November at St. Thomas of Canterbury. More details nearer the time.

Safeguarding: Reminder to all parents, that children should always be accompanied by an adult when they use the toilets. This is for Safeguarding reasons. Thank you.

Forthcoming Funerals: Requiem Mass for Lawrence Owens will be on Monday 20th October at 12 noon. Please remember Lawrence and his family and friends in your prayers.

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 is this Sunday, 12 October.

Donations for raffle prizes: are now being accepted for our Christmas raffle. Please leave prizes with the apparitors as you enter or exit church. Thank you.

Wrap Up Bolton 2025: The Westhoughton Rotary Club will be collecting coats to help keep people in Bolton warm this winter. Fr Christopher has kindly agreed that The Wrap Up Box will be located in the narthex from now, until Sunday, 26th October. All the coats collected will go to Bolton Community Kitchen, which provides meals every Wednesday night throughout the year for about 70 homeless or needy people in the town. Several staff past and present at Sacred Heart Primary School are key workers for the charity. Please place your unwanted coats for adults and children in the Wrap Up Box.

Mass with the Sick: Our Mass last Sunday got great feedback. Thank you to all who made it possible: - Fr Christopher and our musicians for a lovely Mass, Anyone who helped in any way on the day and/or provided the fabulous refreshments, and of course all who attended.

Parish Talks on the Mass: Many thanks to those who have attended the first two talks in this series. We will take a break for a couple of weeks and restart on 7 November – The Liturgy of the Word; 14 November – The Liturgy of the Eucharist. Talks begin at 7.30pm, all welcome.

Future Social Events: This Friday, the 17 October – Live music with The Retronotes (four-piece band). Tickets available after Mass.

Finance & Buildings Committee: This week committee members met to carry out the quarterly Premises Check in preparation for the committee meeting, which is being held on Wednesday, 22nd October at 7 pm in church.

Sacred Heart R.C. Primary School open afternoon tours: Prospective parents are invited to a learning walk around school on Tuesday, 21 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 or phoning 01942 634 681

Future Year Groups at 10am Friday Mass
17 October – Y3
24 October – Y1
On 22 October there will be a whole-school Mass in school at 9.30am. All welcome

Diocese seeks volunteers for new survivor-led safeguarding panel:
The Diocese of Salford is looking for volunteers to join a new safeguarding panel, which seeks to ensure the voice of

survivors plays an integral role in how we safeguard against all forms of Church-based abuse, and how we continue to provide meaningful support and healing to those affected. Details of all panellists will be confidential and volunteers can choose to engage anonymously.

To find out more or to enquire about becoming a volunteer panellist, please contact the diocesan Department for Safeguarding by emailing safeguarding@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or calling 0161 817 2206. Read more at dioceseofsalford.org.uk/survivors-panel-announced/

The Catholic Experience of Pilgrimage Medieval to Modern: Dr Kathryn Hurlock from M'cr Met University will give a talk on 'The Catholic Experience of Pilgrimage Medieval to Modern' at St Ann's Parish Centre (M32 8LF). The talk, which had been postponed, will now take place on Saturday 18th October starting at 10.30am. More details from Fr Ged Murphy - Gerald.Murphy@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Young Adult Service Day - St Vincent de Paul Youth Society: The St Vincent de Paul Society Youth Team will be holding a service day on 1 November and would like to invite those aged 18-35 to join. Beginning at 11am, following 10am Mass, the day will offer a chance to give back to the community with kindness. The service day will be taking place at St Vincent's Centre in Leeds, and a travel bursary is available to support those who wish to get involved. To register, please email KeziaH@svp.org.uk or call on 07917 923605.

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 christianheritage

centre.com/events/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god

Celebration of Human Dignity - Free Event. Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford is holding a free event on Sunday 26 October from 10.30am to 3pm at Sacred Heart Church and Parish Centre, Gorton, Manchester, M18 7WJ. The 'Celebration of Human Dignity' event, which is aligned with the memorial of St Pope John Paul II who championed human dignity and the value of human life in his many works, will include music, thought-provoking sessions and Sunday Mass celebrated by Bishop John Arnold. To find out more and book your free place at the event, visit: caritassalford.org.uk/event/humandignity/

Laudato Si' Centre Gardening Club: You are invited to join Laudato Si' regular Friday gardening club to learn more about how to care for our common home over the coming months. For top tips on seasonal gardening, sustainable techniques, and how to care for the land and biodiversity during the winter months, sign up to our friendly sessions by emailing laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk.

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 or visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer

HYMN BOARD

Entrance: 49 Be still and know
Offertory: 9 Alleluia, Alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord
Communion: 27 Amazing grace & 54 Bind us together
Recessional: 341 Now thank we all our God.

Please note: Hymns are subject to last minute changes!

Vacancies: Building Surveyor - Diocese of Salford Full-time, permanent. 35 hours per week, Mon-Fri, with some flexibility Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 5DP Salary: £47,664 – £58,628 Find out more and apply at dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies_