



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



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Sunday 16th November 2025
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday	6 pm
Sunday	10 am
Monday – Tuesday	9 am
Wednesday – Deanery November	7 pm
Thursday - Requiem	10.30am
Friday	10 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.30 – 5.50 pm
and at call

THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Malachi 4: 1-2a

For you the sun of righteousness shall rise.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 98: 5-6, 7-8a. 8b-9b. 9cd

The Lord comes to judge the peoples with fairness.

Second Reading

Thessalonians 3: 7-12

'If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.'

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 21: 28

Straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

Gospel

Luke 21: 5-19

'By your endurance you will gain your lives.'

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

With the feasts of All Saints and the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica both falling on Sundays this year, today is the first Sunday of Ordinary Time for three weeks. This means we have missed reading the first two passages from St Paul's second letter to the Thessalonians and we pick up the epistle with today's passage. In his first letter to this community Paul had warned them that the 'Day' would come 'like a thief in the night', like an unexpected trap suddenly being sprung. The recipients of the letter seem to have been so panicked that some simply downed tools and sat waiting. So now Paul chides that anyone who does not work should not eat either. This charge does not refer only to earning our bread and butter; it is also symbolic. Paul himself, after all, both earned his bread and butter by his leather working and set the fire of the gospel alight all around the eastern Mediterranean. In all his writings, he is acutely aware of the pressure from the end point, although he has no idea when it will come. We don't get any nearer perfection, or any nearer the state in which we would like the Lord to find us, simply by sitting and waiting. Even those who are chair bound, and can indeed only sit and wait, can at the same time mightily advance the Kingdom by bringing the light and joy of Christ to their surroundings.

Sunday Coffee Mornings: Join us for a warm welcome, brew and a chat after Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month. Our next coffee morning is this Sun 16th Nov. and 7th of Dec. Everyone is welcome.

Forthcoming Funeral: The requiem Mass for Ray Thornley will be at Sacred Heart on Thursday 20th Nov. at 10.30am. Please remember Ray and his family and friends in your prayers at this time.

November List: If you would like deceased family and friends remembered in our parish prayers during this month of November please place their names in the box on the sanctuary. Envelopes are available on the tables at the back of church.

Mass of Remembrance A Deanery Mass of Remembrance for November will be celebrated here on 19th November at 7pm. Followed by light refreshments. All welcome. (No morning Mass)

Finance & Buildings Committee: are wondering if there are any parishioners who are experienced plumbers, electricians or joiners who would be willing to be included in a list of contractors we could call on to carry out

minor repairs to the building. If you are suitably qualified and interested, please speak to Father Christopher or email the Newsletter Team who will pass on your details. Jim Maxfield who has been keeping our financial records in order for many years is moving away from the parish in the next few months. If anyone has any bookkeeping experience and would be willing to take on this role, please speak to Jim or Father Christopher. The role includes counting cash once a month, recording income & expenditure using Xero, banking any cheques/cash received, claiming Gift Aid on donations and providing quarterly/annual reports to the F & B committee and Diocese. The role could be split between 2 or 3 people as it needs a minimum of two for counting the cash.

We are also looking to increase the number of people in our Winter Site Team who help to keep our church and grounds safe and welcoming throughout the winter months. This includes helping to grit the pedestrian path to make sure the church remains accessible for worship and parish activities. If you would be willing to help, please speak to

Father Christopher or email the Newsletter Team.

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.

Sacred Heart School - Future Year

Groups at Friday Mass: 21st Nov. – Reception; 28th Nov. – Y4; 5th Dec. – Y5; 12th Dec. – Y3; 19th Dec. – Y1

St Joseph's RC High School are calling local creators and small businesses to join them for their Christmas extravaganza - festive cheer, music, mulled wine and minced pies, handmade gifts and community spirit. If you'd like to purchase a stall to sell your goodies - whether it's crafts, art, baked treats, jewellery or Christmas gifts – they'd love to have you join them. Date: Thurs 11th December at St Joseph's RC High School 5.30-7.30pm. Stall cost: £20. To book a stall please contact spepperday@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk

CAFOD have sent us the Christmas Gift catalogue, which is available at the back of Church where you will also find a selection of Advent calendars and Christmas cards.

Quarant'ore - 40 Hours with the Lord St Mary's, the Hidden Gem, invites you to a special period of prayer - 40 hrs of Adoration of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Join us between Fri 21 Nov – Sun 23 Nov for Solemn Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each day, with celebrations of Holy Mass and confessions on each of the three days. The Quarant'ore will end with with Solemn Sung Mass at 12 noon, followed by a short Blessed Sacrament Procession and Benediction. For more information, please contact the Parish by calling 0161 8343547 or email anthony.kay@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

A Talk on Pedro Ballester The Catholic Chaplaincies of Manchester University (MUCC) and the Holy Name Church have invited Pedro Ballester's father to deliver a talk about his son's life, legacy, and love of God. Pedro Ballester Arenas, born in Manchester in 1996, was devoted to his lifelong faith as instilled in him first by his parents, and later through classes of Christian formation at Greygarth Hall. He went on to become a

numerary member of Opus Dei and was deeply faithful to his vocation until his untimely death from cancer in 2018 at the age of 21. This illuminating talk will take place at Holy Name Church on Tuesday 25 November at 6pm – for more information please visit dioceseofsalford.org.uk/a-talk-on-pedro-ballester/

A Day of Reflection on the role of Sacred Music in the Liturgy On 29 Nov, a practical day course will be held on understanding the use of Sacred Music within the Mass. It starts at 11am and finishes with sung Mass 5:15pm. The morning session will take place at St. Augustine's, Grosvenor Square, and the afternoon session and Mass will take place at St. Mary's, the Hidden Gem. The cost is £20 per person, including a buffet lunch and light refreshments. To book and for more information please email rosemarie.darby@manchester.ac.uk

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises: Mens' retreat, 4 & 11 February 2026: A fantastic opportunity to experience St Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises in a shortened form. The retreat will be guided by the monastic community of St Joseph's Abbey, Flavigny, founded with the specific charism of offering this version of the Exercises and with a particular apostolate to men. It is open to men in all states of life, who wish to seek God's will through a deepened detachment from the world. christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-retreat-spiritual-exercises-of-st-ignatius

Diocesan Synod Update - Calling Young Adults: We're calling on young adults across the diocese to join one of several working groups that will explore how best to implement the recommendations of our Diocesan Synod. Join us 2-5pm on Sunday 23 Nov. at Cathedral Centre, Salford (M3 6DP), for an introductory meeting. Email youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk for details.

Service of Remembrance for Lives Cut Short: will be held at Manchester Cathedral to honour and commemorate those who have died as a result of homicide. Organised by the friends and families of those lost in this tragic way, the service will take place on Mon. 24th Nov. at 7.30pm. Any person wishing to commemorate a loved one by name as part of the service is invited to contact organiser Steve Williams on 07757 441377 or st.gab.prest@gmail.com

Advent Talks: Reflecting on *Dilexi Te*:

During Advent, we are pleased to be joined by Sr Joan Kerley and Maria Kidd for a series of talks reflecting on Pope Leo's Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi Te*. Join us every Tuesday between 25 November and 16 December as we consider how we welcome the birth of the Messiah into a world of multifaceted poverty. The venue for this year's talks will be Our Lady and Lancashire Martyrs Church Hall, M38 0DL, and will take place from 10:30am - 12:30pm. Please email joankfmsj@gmail.com or phone 07934 816796 to register your interest.

The Diocesan Vocations Team is delighted to share its latest newsletter exploring updates on vocations to diocesan ministry, which includes the priesthood and permanent diaconate. For more information, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/vocations/>

'Neurodiversity and Our Faith' Research: The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales and Birmingham Newman University are conducting research into Neurodiversity and our Faith. If you are an adult neurodivergent Catholic or a caregiver of one, they would like to hear from you. To find out more and to complete the short surveys, please visit: www.godwhospeaks.uk/neurodivergent-catholic-surveys/

HYMNBOARD

Entrance: 12 Alleluia, sing to Jesus
Offertory: 465 Take me, Lord
Communion: 515 Though the mountains may fall, 397 Our God loves us
Recessional: 205 Our God reigns

Please note: Hymns are subject to last minute changes!