



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday 31st May 2026
The Most Holy Trinity
Year A

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday Vigil	6pm
Sunday	10am
Monday - Thursday	9am
Friday (Y5)	10am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday	5.30-5.50pm and at call
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THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

First Reading

Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9

Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion

Responsorial Psalm

Daniel 3: 52-56 R 52

To you glory and praise for evermore.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 13: 11-13

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come.

Gospel

John 3: 16-18

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved.

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 passage from the Book of Exodus we hear in our first reading for this Trinity Sunday is one of the really central passages of the Bible. In Judaism, the special name of God (sometimes written 'Yahweh') is never spoken. For two reasons. It is too sacred and awesome to be pronounced, for the name somehow makes the personality present. It is also too intimate: we do not bandy around in public the special family name by which we are affectionately known by our nearest and dearest. So where the name occurs in the Bible, a conventional 'the Lord' is used. The name itself was revealed to Moses at the Burning Bush, but not its meaning. In today's reading, for the first time, the meaning is given: 'The Lord, the Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion.' Only when God has to forgive Israel for its first, heinous but rapid, rebellion, is the meaning of the name revealed. And this meaning is echoed again and again down the scriptures, in Deuteronomy, in the Psalms, in Jeremiah. Even Jonah has to admit it when, to his fury, Nineveh is forgiven! This is the way Israel loves to picture its God, as a God of forgiveness. The Prologue of St John's gospel and the Parable of the Prodigal Son sit firmly in this tradition!

Sunday Coffee Mornings: Join us for a warm welcome, a brew and a chat after Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month. Our next coffee mornings are today, 7th June and 21st June. Everyone is welcome.

Altar Servers new altar servers are always welcome, especially any recruits from this year's First Holy Communion class. There will be a short training meeting after the Sunday Mass on Sunday 13th June.

First Communion: We will welcome all the children on the First Communion programme to 10am Mass on 7th June.

As one first communion course draws to a close, we are already planning dates for next year's programme. Over the summer months details will be published for a September start. Watch this space!

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.

Heart to Heart Walk Sunday 12th July:

Our walk from Sacred Heart Church Westhoughton following 10am Mass, to Sacred Heart Church Hindley Green (avoiding main roads wherever possible) is for families and individuals of all ages to socialise whilst enjoying some gentle exercise and fresh air. No sponsorship is needed. The route is approximately two and a half miles. Our friends at Hindley Green have offered a warm welcome and use of their indoor and outdoor facilities including a field area for (bring your own) picnic lunch. Tea and biscuits will be available. It is important for us to have a good idea of the number of walkers taking part. A register of interest has been put on the church noticeboard. Anyone who is interested/intending to take part in this activity please sign the register. Thank You.

Exploring the Catholic Faith: our next session for those thinking of becoming Catholic is on Tuesday 2nd June at 7.30pm when we will look at prayer. All welcome.

Finance and Property Committee: We are making good progress with maintenance work to keep the site safe and looking tidy. This week we reset the coping stones atop the front perimeter wall as some had become loose and posed a danger. We have also started to repaint the picket fence. (Any volunteers to help?) If you do notice any faults or items which need repair, there are some forms on the parish notice board to report these.

Parish Adoration Chapel. After some careful thought and discussion with the parish finance and property committee, I have decided to discontinue the Adoration Chapel, instead leaving the doors to the church unlocked for anyone who wishes to come during the day and visit the Blessed Sacrament in Church. The door code for entry through the main doors remains the same, and if anyone wishes to have the code, please speak with Fr Christopher. The prayer books and books of Christian poetry that were in the adoration chapel remain where they were and can be accessed when you visit.

Children's Mass Bags: We hope families with young children are enjoying sharing the Mass Bags. If you have any suggestions for other items that could be included or books you'd recommend, please speak to one of the stewards. Each week there are also two children's newsletters that help children to focus on and learn more about the Mass.

HCPT Quiz Night: Thank you to everyone who attended the fundraiser for HCPT on Friday night, it was a great success, and raised £492.

Feast of Sacred Heart: The feast day for our parish this year is on Friday 12th June. As usual we will celebrate with a mass in school at 10 am and an evening Mass at 7 pm followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome. Please come and make this a true parish celebration.

World Cup 2026 Predictor Game: Please take a game sheet from the back of Church. For each game in the group stages, predict the final score. 3 points if you get it exactly right, 1 point if you guess the result (game winner or draw). £2 per entry, and prizes for first, second, and third places. Please invite family and friends to take part. Proceeds to parish funds.

Music Night with vocalist Jim Berry: Our next big social event is Friday 19 June at 7.30 pm. This will be a superb

evening of music, stories and comedy featuring the outstanding talent of Jim Berry who is a member of the Houghton Weavers and a night not to be missed. Tickets on sale from today priced at £8 including hot supper. Demand is expected to be strong so don't delay. All proceeds will go towards church and parish funds.

Future Social Events: save the date! June 19th Music Night with vocalist Jim Berry; July 12th 'Heart to Heart' parish/family walk; Aug 12th Afternoon Tea; Sept 25th Parish Quiz Night; Oct 23rd Songs from the Musicals, Three Towns Choir; Nov 27th Bingo and Beetle Drive.

Diocesan Safeguarding Audit Report: Earlier this year the independent Catholic Safeguarding Standards Authority (CSSA) conducted an audit of the diocesan safeguarding arrangements, including provisions at diocesan and parish level. The CSSA have published their findings on their website and graded the diocese as 'Exceeding expectations,' a grading that describes safeguarding practice as 'consistently strong and often goes above minimum requirements. There is evidence of positive outcomes, proactive risk management, and well embedded systems. Leadership demonstrates a strong commitment to safeguarding, and practice is robust and forward-looking.'

This is a positive affirmation of the commitment shown across our diocese by clergy, staff and volunteers to ensure that safeguarding is embedded in our culture, leadership and daily practice. The inspection highlights strong safeguarding arrangements, a shared sense of responsibility, and a clear focus on creating safe environments for all.

Importantly the report also identifies areas where further development is needed, particularly in strengthening consistency and quality assurance.

The full report can be found on the CSSA website: catholicsafeguarding.org.uk and the diocesan website, dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Thank you to everyone who works to establish and maintain our parish as a safe and welcoming environment for all. If you have any concerns or suggestions please speak to Father Christopher or our parish safeguarding rep, Cathy Ward.

Giving Made Simple: If you currently give in cash, thank you - your support is truly valued and makes a real difference to our parish. We are gently encouraging

those who are able, to consider giving by standing order instead, as even small regular amounts help reduce the amount of cash we hold and need to bank each week. Standing order forms are available at the back of church, or you can set this up easily online if you prefer. Thank you, as always, for your continued generosity and support.

Caritas Volunteer Week: From 1st - 7th June it is national Volunteer Week, with various celebrations and activities taking place across the UK. Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, has a wide range of volunteering opportunities available to help support their work with people in Greater Manchester and Lancashire who are experiencing homelessness, poverty and discrimination. If you have a passion or skillset you'd like to share with others, you can find out more about the volunteering opportunities available on their website at www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer or contact Matt Yates at m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk

Donate in memory this Father's Day: Donating to our diocesan charity Caritas Salford in someone's name is a special way to honour their memory while supporting people experiencing poverty, homelessness or isolation in our parishes. This Father's Day, if you'd like to make an 'in memory' donation, please visit the special space on the Caritas Salford website for remembering a loved one. This also includes setting up a funeral collection in lieu of flowers and creating a personalised tribute memory page to save photos and messages. Please visit caritassalford.org.uk/InMemory to access the relevant links or contact Kirstie Davidson for more information on 0161 817 2281.

HYMNBOARD

Entrance: 708 Holy God we praise thy name

Kyrie: 502

Gloria: 1013

Offertory: 605 Take our bread

Holy Holy: 1014

Communion: 720 Be still for the presence; 317 Father in my life I see

Lamb of God: 1019

Recessional: 316 How great is our God

Please note: Hymns are subject to last minute changes!