



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday 7th June 2026
The Most Holy Body
and Blood of Christ
Year A

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday Vigil	6pm
Sunday	10am
Monday - Thursday	9am
Friday in School	10am
In Church	7pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

First Reading

Deuteronomy 8: 2-3, 14b-16a

'He fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20. R12a
O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10: 16-17

'Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body.'

Gospel Acclamation

John 6: 51

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.
If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever.

Gospel

John 6: 51-58

'My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.'

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

In our second reading today, St Paul is writing to that difficult and divided community at Corinth, where he chides the people for their disunity and selfishness. There were some rich members of the community, who got to the Eucharist early, took all the best places, and proceeded to unpack their hampers and feast, while the latecomers—presumably the workers and slaves—justifiably felt excluded and remained hungry. In the strongest terms, Paul insists that the Eucharist must be the symbol and expression of unity, and that those who prevent it being so are making themselves 'answerable for the body and blood of the Lord'. Paul seems to use 'the body of Christ' interchangeably of both the Eucharistic bread and the Eucharistic body, which is the community, united in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is difficult to see when he means one, and when the other. He obviously regards them both as equally important and equally sacred. Later in the Letter he will explain that the community is an organism, in which everyone has their own, individually special part to play, all living with the Spirit of Christ as the life-giving principle. Unless this life is truly shared it is distorted and fails of its purpose.

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 and 21st June. Everyone is welcome.

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.

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 14th June.

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 16th June at 7.30pm when we will look at the papacy and church structure. 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 notice any faults or items that need repair, there are forms on the parish notice board to make a report.

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 you are finding the resources are helping to quietly support child/ren to learn more about Jesus and engage with the Mass. The resources are aimed at children up until they begin preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. The books in a couple of the bags are aimed at very young children, however, the other books are suitable for mixed ages. If the contents of the first bag you pick up are a bit 'young' or 'old' please feel free to swap the bag for another one. Each week there are also two children's newsletters that help children to focus on and learn more about the Mass.

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. Please ensure all entries are returned by the start of the first game this Thursday, 11th June.

Music Night with vocalist Jim Berry: Our next big social event is Friday 19th 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! 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:

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.'

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.

Heart to Heart women's retreat, 19th – 22nd June 2026:

A fantastic opportunity for Catholic women: three days of guided prayer, discernment and silence in beautiful surroundings, led by Fr Bernard Murphy, CFR and the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal. The retreat will offer space for attentiveness to the Lord based on principles of Ignatian spirituality. For further information see: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/heart-to-heart-retreat/>

Free Will & Grace retreat, 28th - 31st

August 2026: Join us for a theological and philosophical deep dive on one of the great themes of the Christian Faith: human freedom and Divine grace. With lectures and workshops building on St Thomas Aquinas' writings, the course will also explore questions of conscience and the problem of evil. This year's guest speaker will be Rev. Dr Simon Gaine, OP. For further information see: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/free-will-grace-course/>

Fancy a walk? Caritas Salford is organising a 6-mile scenic, circular sponsored hike in Lancashire, along the delightful Downham Trail. Taking place on 5th September, the walk is an undulating route with the potential for expansive views from the summit of Beacon Fell. To register, visit: www.caritassalford.org.uk/LancsWalk

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.

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: 629 I am the bread of life
Kyrie: 502
Gloria: 1013
Offertory: 609 In bread we bring you Lord
Holy Holy: 1014
Communion: 627 This is my body, 643 Gifts of bread and wine
Lamb of God: 1019
Recessional: 922 Bind us together
Please note: Hymns are subject to last minute changes!

