



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday 12th July 2026
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday Vigil	6pm
Sunday	10am
Monday - Friday	9am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

The rain makes the earth bring forth and sprout.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 64:10-14 R: Luke 8:8

Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

The creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower; all who find him will live for ever. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-23

A sower went out to sow.

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

This poetic passage from Isaiah about the word of God may be understood on two levels. On one level, it prepares for Jesus' parable in the gospel reading about the sower and the seed. But while Isaiah stresses the effectiveness of the word of God, Jesus reflects on the failure of his word with many sections of his hearers, as well as on the brilliant success of his word in those who bear fruit 'thirtyfold, sixtyfold, a hundredfold'. On another level, it prepares for the meditation on the Word of God in the prologue to the gospel of John: 'In the beginning was the Word; the Word was with God and the Word was God.' This helps to explain just how God, the awesome and inexpressible, can be manifested and active in creation. In Genesis, God created by his Word ('Let there be light, let there be a vault, etc.'), so the Word is seen not as something separate from and independent of God, but as the concrete expression of God's will, the manifestation of divine power. The Word that comes forth from God's mouth and does not return unfulfilled is, on this level, the creative power of God, unstoppably fulfilling the will of God in the world.

Forthcoming Funerals: The Requiem Mass for Dennis flood will take place at Sacred Heart on Tuesday 21st July at 1pm. Please remember Dennis and his family and friends at this time.

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 on 19th July & 2nd August. Everyone is welcome.

Friday Morning Mass please note that from this week the Friday morning Mass usually will be at 9am until the beginning of the new school term in September.

Heart to Heart Walk this Sunday 12th July: Due to the current weather conditions, it has been decided, to cancel this Sunday's Heart to Heart walk. This decision wasn't taken lightly, but hopefully we may be able to postpone it to a future date. Thanks to all the volunteers who have worked hard to prepare everything required, and to our friends at Sacred Heart Hindley Green

CAFOD as part of the Disaster's Emergency Committee, have launched an appeal on behalf of the people of Venezuela after the recent earthquakes devastated parts of their country. We have our mission appeal in just two

weeks so we will not hold a second collection this time, but please remember there is always the CAFOD button on the card machine if you would like to support CAFOD's work.

Finance and Property Committee: The committee's quarterly meeting was held on Wednesday in church. The committee met Martin Heywood, Health & Safety Business Partner for Salford Diocese recently. He was pleased to see how well looked after the church buildings and grounds are. We discussed the quotes we obtained for the installation of a Fire Alarm system and how best to assist those with mobility issues to evacuate the building safely and in a timely manner. We are pleased to say that work on the new fire alarm should begin in the near future.

St John's Cathedral, Salford: the restoration work is finished and the Cathedral will reopen on 16th July, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. On this occasion, Bishop John will dedicate the new altar.

One newsletter for August: The parish newsletter of 1st/2nd August will be for the whole month. Please submit notices intended for the beginning of September in time for inclusion in this edition.

Annual Mission Appeal: The annual appeal of one of the religious orders engaged in missionary work will take place on the weekend of 25th and 26th July when we will welcome Fr Franklin Achionye of the Missionary Society of St Paul. There will be a retiring collection at both parish Masses.



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.

Exploring the Catholic Faith: our next session for those thinking of becoming Catholic is on Tuesday 14th July at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Visiting Blessed Sacrament: Reminder that if anyone wishes to visit the Blessed Sacrament on weekdays, the doors to the church will remain unlocked. Please speak to Father Christopher for the code to the keypad on the main doors. 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.

Piety Stall: Please do take a moment to visit the piety stall after Mass. They have a lovely range of beautiful gifts, cards and religious items for all occasions, with prices starting from just 50p. Stop by, have a browse and perhaps find something special for yourself or someone else.

World Cup Prediction Game: With the conclusion of the group phase of the FIFA Men's World Cup the winners of our parish prediction game can be announced. Congratulations to Nathan Keogh (72 points), Lisa Spann (68 points) and joint third prize winners of Stephen Mullineaux and Natalia and David Atkinson (65 points). Please collect prizes from Father Christopher.

Future Social Events: save the dates! Aug 12th Afternoon Tea; Sept 25th Parish Quiz Night; Oct 23rd Songs from the Musicals, Three Towns Choir; Nov 27th Bingo and Beetle Drive.

Free Catholic Social Teaching webinar: Catholic Social Teaching has been referred to as 'the Catholic Church's best kept secret' (Mark Shea). Many people are unaware of the depth of the Church's teaching on social justice, which applies the Gospel to current social issues impacting our communities. With the

by-election for the Mayor of Greater Manchester set to take place on Thursday 30 July, the time is right to raise our awareness of Catholic Social Teaching and reflect on how it can help to inform the decisions and choices we make in life. Caritas Salford, our diocesan charity, is running a free webinar to introduce you to the basic principles in an accessible way. Book your free place now: www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/cst-webinar

Love knitting, crocheting, sewing or making? Our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, is looking for creative parishioners who might be able to help them raise funds to help support people in our parish communities who are experiencing poverty and homelessness. They're looking for people who can either make items to sell in aid of the charity, or groups of people from our parishes who can be paired with local schools to help knit hats and scarves for pupils to wear in their Big Sleep Out fundraisers. If you can help, please get in touch with the team at fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk or call 0161 817 2250.

Join the Catholic Medical Association: Whether you are a doctor, nurse, student, or allied professional — if you are a Catholic in healthcare, join us to grow in fellowship, prayer and formation together. For more information & upcoming events, visit: catholicmedicalassociation.org.uk

A Night of Music and Fun: The African Priests and Religious of the Diocese of Salford invite you to a concert celebrating African Liturgical and folk music. This is to be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Failsworth, M35 0NN on 31 July 2026 at 7 pm.

Catholic holidays in the lake district this summer: During August and September, Castlerigg Manor in Keswick is opening its doors to families, groups of friends, or private individuals who are looking for an affordable stay in the Lake District. Breakfast and evening meal are provided, and Mass is celebrated on site. For more information check out castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / 017687 72711

St Mary's RC Cemetery & Southern Cemetery Masses: This annual Mass will take place on Monday 31st August at 11 am at St Mary's Cemetery, Wardley. It will be held outside the Chapel and there will be limited seating. The mass at

Southern Cemetery will be on Monday 31st August at 12 noon.

Quiet retreats for adults this October: During October half term, Castlerigg Manor is running a quiet retreat for individual adults who want to spend a few days of peace, relaxation and prayer in the Lake District. Each day there will be a talk, Mass, and evening prayer, and then free time to do as you wish. Book at castleriggmanor.com/events or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Help end Child Poverty in our Parishes: Child poverty is increasing in our area, with the latest statistics from the government showing almost one in three children is growing up in poverty. Our diocesan charity Caritas Salford supports local families facing crisis and is asking us to join them in taking action to help. There are many ways you and your parish can get involved. Please visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/endchildpoverty to find out more.

New Volunteering Role at Caritas Salford: Our diocesan charity Caritas Salford has a team of almost 200 amazing volunteers, all of whom support people in our parishes who are experiencing poverty, homelessness and discrimination. The team is looking for suitable volunteers who would be interested in giving a little time to work alongside families at their young parent accommodation in Blackburn - supporting and facilitating activities with the babies and their parents. All roles will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring check. To find out more visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer or m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk

Collections: The total offertory collection for June was £2718.82. Thank you

HYMNBOARD

Entrance: 974 Colours of Day
Kyrie: 502
Gloria: 1013
Offertory: 979 Oh the word of my Lord
Holy Holy: 1014
Communion: 629 I am the bread of life. 969 Lord of all hopefulness
Recessional: 883 Christ be our light
 Please note hymns are subject to last minute changes