



Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Westhoughton

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 250037



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday 30th August 2026
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

Saturday Vigil	6pm
Sunday	10am
Monday – Bank Holiday	10am
Tues, Wed, Fri	9am
Thursday – Requiem	10.30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-9

The word of the Lord has become for me a reproach.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6. 8-9. R2b

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-2

Present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Gospel Acclamation

Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which he has called us. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27

If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself.

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 last time we heard from the prophet Jeremiah was few weeks ago (the twelfth Sunday of the Year), when he was having a tough time telling the citizens of Jerusalem that their city was to be besieged and destroyed, and that they themselves were to be dragged into exile. It was an unwelcome message, and as the messenger he was held responsible. Jeremiah even tried to evade his duty of announcing this dire message, but the Lord gave him no peace, no matter how much he tried to drive the message from his mind. Today we hear Jeremiah's complaint to God. He feels God overpowered or deceived his prophet and so compels him to proclaim the message. Yet Jeremiah knows that doing God's will, although it is tough, nevertheless makes it a joyful compulsion. Jeremiah almost has a sort of love-hate relationship with the Lord. In the same way, St Paul says he has no choice but to proclaim the message of Christ. In the gospel reading, Peter suggests to Jesus that he should avoid the way of suffering, but Jesus is having none of it. In all these cases, the natural human tendency to take the easier path crashes headlong into the brick wall of God's will. We are always slow to accept the way of suffering. In the gospel, each time Jesus teaches that he can achieve his glory only through suffering, the disciples seem to refuse to listen. Dare we accept the Cross when it is before us?

Forthcoming funeral: The Requiem Mass for Janine Murray will take place at Sacred Heart on Thursday 3rd September at 10.30am. Please remember Janine and her family and friends in your prayers at this time.

Our Schools: Sacred Heart welcomes back its pupils to the new academic year on Thursday, 3rd September. St Joseph's High School welcomes back years 7 & 11 on Wednesday, 2nd September and all year groups on Thursday, 3rd September. We wish everyone a wonderful journey of discovery as they step forward into the new school year.

Friday Morning Mass: starting on Friday, 12th September the Friday morning Mass will once again be at 10am. Over the next few weeks children from school will join us to celebrate weekly Mass.

Sunday Coffee Mornings: Join us for a warm welcome, a brew and a chat after Mass on the first, third & fifth Sundays of the month which are this Sunday 30th August and next Sunday, 6th September & 20th September. Everyone is welcome.

Newsletter and Parish Communication: Over the summer members of our parish

newsletter team have been busy thinking about how we communicate parish news. If you follow us on Facebook you may have seen a few changes, and look out for changes to this newsletter and a new website coming soon!

Children's Liturgy of the Word: restarts next Sunday, 6th September. Children aged from 3 until they have made their first Holy Communion are invited to celebrate God's Word together during our Sunday Mass. Children will start Mass with their families. Just before the First Reading Father will invite those children who wish to take part in the Children's Liturgy of the Word to come forward. He presents them with the Children's Lectionary and they will then go in procession to the parish hall where a worship space has been prepared for them. The children continue to follow the same structure of the Mass until after the intercessions when the group processes back into church as part of the Offertory Procession, returning the Children's Lectionary to Father and then returning to their families. Please make sure you

register your child as you arrive for Mass and read the notices about the procedures to follow if there was ever a need to evacuate the building in an emergency situation.

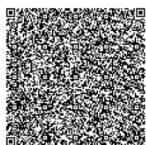
Exploring the Catholic Faith: Our next session for those thinking of becoming Catholic is on Tuesday, 8th September at 7.30pm in the parish hall. Please speak to Father if you are interested in finding out more about these sessions.

CAFOD Meeting: On Tuesday, 15th September at 7.30 pm the parish CAFOD Team are hosting a meeting for volunteers from other parishes to meet with Simon Holleron, the Diocesan CAFOD Support Coordinator who will be talk to us about the work of CAFOD and how we can fulfil the call to tackle poverty and social injustice globally through future fundraising events. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

First Communion 2026-27: The information sheet for parents and carers for our next preparation programme is available at the back of church. The programme is open to baptised Catholic children living in our parish who will be in Year 3 in September, or older. We are holding a Parent's Information Session on Friday, 25th September at 3 pm in school.

Parish Quiz night: Our next social event is the Parish Quiz on Friday 25th September at 7 pm. Tickets will be on sale next weekend. They are £6 each, which includes a hot supper. This annual event is always a great night, all proceeds go to parish funds. You are welcome to bring your own drinks.

Macmillan Coffee Morning. On Sunday, 27th September after 10 am Mass there will be an extra coffee morning to enable us to support Macmillan's annual fundraising appeal. Our fundraising pack has just arrived. Please put the date in your diaries, if you've not been to one of our coffee mornings before this is your chance to come along for a chat and a brew and meet other parishioners whilst raising funds for a fantastic cause. There are currently more than 3.5 million people living with cancer in the UK. This is the QR code to the Parishes Justgiving page if you wish to donate online.



Afternoon Tea: The social team were thrilled with how the afternoon tea went. There were lots of fantastic

sandwiches, cakes & scones and everyone had a lovely time. Thank you to the team for organising it, a huge thank you too those who contributed by making sandwiches & cakes and most of all thank you to those who came along to enjoy the fun.

Future Social Events: save the dates: 23rd October - Songs from the Musicals, Three Towns Choir; 27th November - Family Bingo and Beetle Drive.

Parish Facebook: If you are on Facebook please make sure you are following The Parish Facebook Page @SHJWParish, you can find us by searching Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Westhoughton. There are regular posts including - changes to the week day Mass times, the weekly newsletter, social events including our coffee mornings and other parish activities eg Exploring the Catholic Faith sessions. Once you are following us, please make sure you 'Like' the posts. Any comments on posts will be replied to within a couple of days. If you have any suggestions about the Facebook page please message us.



Outdoor Mass at Laudato Si Centre: Mass will be held at 10am in the gardens of the Laudato Si' Centre on Tuesday 1 September to mark the start of the Season of Creation, and all are welcome to attend. Laudato Si' Centre, Wardley Hall Road, Worsley, M28 2ND

A Talk on the Characteristics of Franciscan Prayer: Sr Joan Kerley FMSJ will be giving an online talk on the Characteristics of Franciscan Prayer on Thursday 17 September from 7pm. Please visit the diocesan website to register your place: dioceseofsalford.org.uk/talk-on-franciscan-prayer/

Could you be called to serve the church as a Permanent Deacon? If you are a Catholic man interested in learning more about the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Salford, please come along to the next 'Come and See' event. There will be opportunities to talk to some of our deacons and find out more about their journey and the ministry without committing to anything further. For more information, please email diaconate@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Resources from University of Manchester: Salvation and Creation Care: As we approach the start of the Season of Creation on 1 September, the Diocese of Salford and The University of Manchester have launched a new

collection of Catholic formation resources designed to help parishioners, schools and other groups deepen their understanding of creation care and translate faith into practical action. The resources include a ready-to-use, three-session course built around three short videos, a participants' booklet and a detailed leader's handbook. These resources and more information about the course can be found using this link: <https://research.manchester.ac.uk/en/projects/formation-and-training-resources-salvation-and-creation-care/>

Become a CAFOD School Volunteer: Do you have a passion for faith, justice, and inspiring young people? CAFOD is seeking volunteers to visit local Catholic schools to lead assemblies and workshops about our work and mission. Help children and young people learn how they can make a positive difference in the world. Full training and support provided. For further information, please contact Anna Letizia on 07710 094449 or email aletizia@cafod.org.uk.

Caritas Conference: Tackling poverty and injustice in the Diocese of Salford: Caritas Salford invites you to join them for a free day of learning and reflection on the social teaching of Pope Leo XIV. This conference will be held on Saturday 10 October from 11AM to 3.30PM. Guest speakers will be present with a free lunch provided. For more information and to book your place please visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/CaritasConference

HYMNBOARD

Entrance: 970 Be thou my vision
Kyrie:
Gloria: 1013
Offertory: 600 All that I am
Holy Holy: 1014
Lamb of God: xxxx
Communion: 749 From heaven you came & 964 You shall cross the barren desert
Recessional: 877 Will you come and follow me

Please note hymns are subject to last minute changes

Collections: The offertory collection for July was £2772.99 and the total for the Annual Mission appeal conducted by the Missionary Society of St Paul was £581.10. Thank you for your generosity.