

Caritas Sunday 28th January 2024

Information to be read out at Mass and included on parish newsletters/websites.

Thank you to Father for allowing me the opportunity to make this appeal on behalf of Caritas, the official local charity of the Diocese of Salford.

Thank you for every prayer and for each physical or financial gift you have made over the past year to support local people experiencing poverty, homelessness and discrimination, or disadvantage. In a year that has been so tough for so many people across the diocese, your thoughtfulness and generosity has never been more appreciated.

Caritas Salford has projects all across Greater Manchester and Lancashire, providing a range of services and outreach activities to help communities to transform their lives with dignity.

Like you, we believe that everyone deserves to live in a safe, healthy and secure environment. With your help, we are able to accompany and work with people for the long term, so they can rebuild their lives with dignity. People like Hannah.

Hannah moved into our accommodation for young parents as an emergency referral - a vulnerable, pregnant young person, fleeing an abusive relationship, and facing homelessness on her own. She arrived with few belongings and was very nervous and overwhelmed.

Our team welcomed her and immediately made her feel at ease, supporting her to settle into her new accommodation.

Her confidence grew, thanks to the support and encouragement of the specialist team of staff, and she engaged fully in key worker sessions, accessing all support offered and gaining the knowledge and skills required for effective parenting.

Holistic support is something that's really important and our team continued to support her through a range of issues, including budgeting, mental and physical health support, positive relationship building and healthy eating.

Thanks to her hard work with the team, and the opportunities presented at Caritas, Hannah was able to keep custody of her baby. She's looking forward to bringing up her family in a new home and said: "I would not have got through this without all your help. Thank you."

You will find more examples of people helped by you in the Caritas Impact Report at the back of church. You can also access more details on the Caritas Salford website.

If you are able to, please consider how regular giving or a one-off gift today can support this work. Together, we can ensure that no one is left behind and that Caritas is able to help everyone that comes to them in need. There are collection envelopes at the back of church and a retiring collection after this Mass. Alternatively, you can visit the website to set up a direct debit or make a one-off donation at CaritasSalford.org.uk. All of these details and links are included on the parish newsletter/website, including a contact name and number for Kirstie from Caritas.

Please continue to keep the staff, volunteers and all those who need 'caritas' - love in action - in your prayers at this time in our communities. Thank you.

Caritas Salford

Your diocesan charity, supporting people experiencing homelessness, poverty and discrimination across Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

Did you know...?

Caritas Salford was created in 2008 and has since incorporated the work of Catholic Children's Rescue Service, Catholic Welfare Societies, St Joseph's Mission to Deaf People, Justice and Peace, Racial Justice and Catholic Family Care to bring together the work of individual charities created over more than a century.



Our reach spans

620

miles across
the area.



We run

11

services across the
diocese of Salford.

We support

thousands

of people every year
with our range of
community based
services -

from young families to
school children;
refugees to people
experiencing
homelessness or poverty.



More than

100

staff work with
Caritas



We are supported by
more than

260

amazing volunteers...
perhaps you could
join us too?

Don't just take our word for it. Here's what just a few of the thousands of people who accessed our services in the last year have said:

"Thank you so much for everything you have all done for me, it's really appreciated. I have felt safe, secure and blessed to have been here."

"I can't tell you how much this means to have support. Things are so hard at the moment and I'm really grateful for everything you do. My boys don't know where the food comes from, but they know they will be fed."

"When you see that your children are happy you forget that you are far from your family, in exile...You feel that you have achieved something for them."

"...an empowering experience which was exactly what I needed - to not be defined by a forced migration background but actually valued for my skills and experiences."

"I'm only where I am because you made me feel I could do it and you never stopped believing in me, which is something that hasn't happened much in my life."

To find out more about Caritas Salford, make a donation, or see our latest volunteering opportunities, visit www.caritassalford.org.uk

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Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Charity number: 1125808