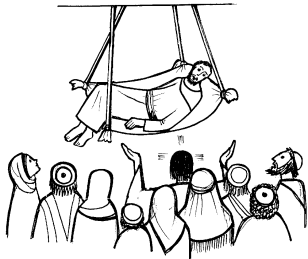


**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD  
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS  
19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2012  
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



There are many “themes” running through the Gospel today—faith, perseverance, healing—which seem dramatic to us. But the theme highlighted by our first reading is that of the power of Jesus to forgive sins—something that would perhaps have been more remarkable in his own time. Saint Mark is clearly revealing to us something important about Jesus of Nazareth—something which shocks and surprises the scribes listening to Jesus. Such an immediate forgiveness of sins was, to them, new and disturbing. Perhaps we need to ask ourselves if we take forgiveness for granted sometimes: when the paralytic, after all the struggles and efforts of his family and friends, heard Jesus say, “Your sins are forgiven”, was he disappointed or delighted?

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b>		<b>Prayers Please</b>
<i>Sunday Cycle B (Missal pages 238 &amp; 241); Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 3 Patmos Room - St John's (SJ); Harbour Room - St Brendan's (SB)</i>		<p><b>Sick:</b> Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Bill Kay, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Baby Guy, Bernard Edmundson, Jonathan Rimmer, Maria de los Angeles, Paul Preston, Elizabeth Patterson, Eunice Brierley, Betty Boyle, Bernard Callaghan, Judith Oldham, Kathleen Humphreys, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Paul Whittle, Caroline Vickers, Bill Sharples, George Cowley, Marie Donnelly, Alice Coyne, Robin Tootill, Gerard Walker, Elzie Ball, Karen West, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Alf Isherwood, Bernard &amp; Rita Holder, Michael (six year old), Baby Rose, Calum Russell (baby), Margaret Edge, Frank Brazel, Graham Roberts, Eileen Murphy, Brendan O'Grady, Tommy Lenihan, Pauline Bowling, Paul Buckley, Margaret Walsh, Joan Plumbley, Graham Turner, Jim Birch, Jane Dent, Mary Keighley, Emma Turner (12yrs old), Bishop Brain, Vincent Wood, Margaret Wood, Patrick O'Donnell (new-born baby) and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Philip Blackburn, Bob Horrocks, Noel Walsh, Margaret Brandwood, Mary Houghton (Fr Dorran's sister)</p> <p><b>Anniversary:</b> Thomas Baker, Mary Rowson, Terry Brooks, Christopher Hailwood, Billy Hodget, Albert Lomax, Joy Marsh, Samuel Cooke</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Thomas Baker, Philip Blackburn, Mary Rowson, Terry Brooks, Christopher Hailwood, Billy Hodget, For a speedy recovery, Bob Horrocks, For a successful operation, Albert Lomax, Margaret Brandwood, Joy Marsh, Special Intention, Recovery from an operation, Patrick O'Donnell (new-born baby)</p> <p><b>Cycle of Prayer Part 2 (of 6):</b> We pray especially for: peace on earth; Christian unity; the sick and those who care for them; students and teachers; the unemployed</p>
Sunday <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SB)	
Monday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	3pm Funeral Service for Margaret Brandwood (SJ) 7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	9.30am Mass (SJ) <i>Day of fasting and abstinence</i> 6.30pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm Talk on Walsingham (Longsight Methodist Hall) 7.30-8.30pm Youth Group (Patmos Room)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB)	
Friday	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday	5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 3.30pm Queen's Diamond Jubilee Service (Parish Church)	
<b>Collections, Donations, Gift Aid</b>		
<i>All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's or St John's as appropriate. If you are a tax-payer, the parish can claim back the tax you have paid on any donations you make if you simply sign a Gift Aid form once. Please ask. Thanks.</i>		
<b>Find out about our Parishes, Masses, Events, Groups and so much more: <a href="http://www.sbsj.org.uk">www.sbsj.org.uk</a></b>		

**Archbishop Kelly:** Our former bishop, now Archbishop of Liverpool, celebrates his golden jubilee of priestly ordination this weekend. Greetings and congratulations have been sent to him from the Diocese of Salford. Please spare a prayer for him this weekend.

**Congratulations:** To Tom Brendan Connaughton and Joe Philip Williams who were baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that they and their families may continue to grow in faith.

**Sunday Missals:** These new missals contain all the Sunday readings for the three-year cycle. At £6 each, they presented the most cost-effective way of replacing our existing Mass books and moving on from having to juggle three books every week. I bought 200 for each church and am extremely grateful to the anonymous donor who has paid the £1200 for the books at St John's. *Fr Cooke*

**Walsingham:** Turton Local History Society present a talk on *The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham* by David Leeming at Longsight Church Hall, Harwood at 7.30pm on Wednesday 22 February. [Hence our Ash Wednesday evening Mass is at 6.30 rather than 7]

**Winterwatch:** Just to update you, the response to the appeal for UHT Full-fat Milk has raised 428 Litres so far. Our youth group are aiming to collect 500 Litres in total, so any further contributions would be gratefully accepted.

**SVP Party (SB):** Sunday 4 March in St Brendan's School.

**Born to Sing:** An evening of entertainment by *Nobow Productions* at Dunsar Conservative Club on Friday 9 March at 7.30pm. Tickets on sale at both churches at £6 (including refreshments). Please do support this event.

**Readers:** If any readers no longer wish to be on the rota, or wish to swap to a rota for a different Mass, or if there are other people who would like to be on the rota at either church, please contact Alison Howarth on 308492. Thanks. *Fr Cooke*

This Newsletter is sponsored by

**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**

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638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.  
BL1 7AL  
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**Lent 2012**

**Walk with Me**

Please take the special booklets and calendars to help you through the Lenten season

**Lenten Activities**

**Churches in Harwood Lent Course**

Monday Evenings 7.30-9pm

St Brendan's is hosting the first meeting on Monday 27 February

**Stations of the Cross**

Tuesday Evenings 6.30pm at St Brendan's from Tuesday 28 February

Sunday Afternoons 2pm at St John's from Sunday 4 March

Ecumenical Stations of the Cross  
Monday 2 April 7pm at St John's

**Deanery Station Masses**

Wednesday Evenings 7.30pm (Confessions from 7pm)  
(Details in next week's newsletter)

**Friday Morning Mass**

In St John's School from Friday 2 March

*All are welcome to attend any of these activities*

**Easter Triduum**

Last year we celebrated Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil at St John's for both parishes.

This year we will again have a joint celebration but at St Brendan's

**Think Vocations**

Many priests, religious and lay people serve as chaplains in the name of Our Lord to the people in our hospitals and care homes. Such work brings great comfort and joy to those who receive it. Let us pray for all those who work in this area of life to be given the strength and encouragement they need and be reassured of our prayers and support.

C	A	P	E	R	N	A	U	M	E	CAPERNAUM	ROOF	CROWDS
R	I	S	C	R	I	B	E	S	Y	PARALYTIC	STRETCHER	FAITH
O	S	T	R	I	P	P	E	D	T	HEARTS	SCRIBES	CHILD
W	F	R	Y	I	D	A	L	S	I	AUTHORITY	WALK	FORGIVEN
D	W	A	K	L	B	F	O	O	R			
S	E	E	I	W	A	L	K	I	O			
R	E	H	C	T	E	R	T	S	H			
K	C	I	P	O	H	E	A	S	T			
G	N	I	H	C	A	E	R	P	U			
E	N	E	V	I	G	R	O	F	A			