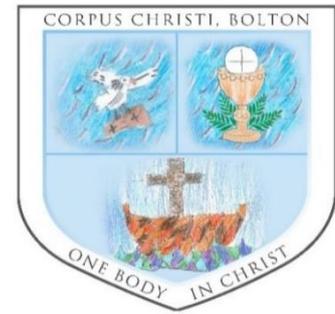


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

St John, the Evangelist, Bromley Cross, St Columba's, Tonge Moor
and St Brendan's, Harwood

19 February 2023

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Holiness is not something we think deeply about. We tend to live our lives to the best of our ability, loving each other when we can, being good to our neighbours, as long as they do not interfere with our lives, and being good citizens. To most people this is the natural way to behave, we try to get on

with our lives and survive as best we can. But is this enough? Today's readings call us to respond a higher power, a call that asks us to use whatever gifts we may possess for a greater good. They question our attitudes and our responses.

The Lord speaks to Moses. He commands him to remind the people that they are holy as God himself is holy. There follows a list of signs of holiness. Each one speaks of our attitude to our neighbour. These signs are much more than merely getting on with each other, they are signs of love, the love that we should have for each other; and for ourselves, because hatred not only destroys love but it can destroy ourselves.

Paul takes these ideas to a whole new level. He calls us "Temples of the Holy Spirit"; we are not just human but sacred to God, and God protects those who love Him. Paul then goes on to consider the wisdom that we proclaim, the wisdom of man is far from the wisdom of God. We cry vengeance on those who hurt us, God asks for Forgiveness. We belong to God and as His chosen ones we need to follow His ways even when this seems like foolishness in the eyes of men.

The Gospel reading follows on from last week as Jesus continues to teach His disciples about how they should act in the face of sin. He sees the evil that exists in our world, but He knows that, unless we forgive, we can only prolong the cycle of misery and sorrow that retaliation can cause. At some point we have to stop, consider, and turn away from prolonging the effects of sin. Jesus is teaching us perfection in the eyes of our Loving Father. God sees the wisdom in forgiveness, we need to learn that each person we encounter is holy to God and our response must always be based in love for our neighbour. *David Frank*

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1
Divine Office Week 3
Roman Missal: p238

Sunday 19 February

9.30am Mass (SJ)- With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB)

Monday 20 February

No Mass today

Tuesday 21 February

10am Mass (SB)
7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)

Ash Wednesday 22 February - Day of Fasting & Abstinence

9.30am Mass (SJ)
1pm Harbour Room Book Club (SB)
7pm Mass (SB)

Thursday 23 February

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 24 February

10.30am Requiem Mass for Sheila Derbyshire (SJ)

Saturday 25 February

No morning Mass today due to Priestly Ordination at Salford Cathedral 12noon (all welcome)
5pm Vigil Mass of 1st Sunday in Lent (SB) - With Children's Liturgy

Sunday 26 February - 1st Sunday in Lent

9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB)

Walk With Me

The booklets and calendars are available (free of charge) this weekend. Please take one to help with Lenten preparation.

Parish Contact Details

Parish Priest: Fr Alfred Rebello
Parish Office: St John's Presbytery,
The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9JP.
Tel: 01204 301927. E-mail: office@sbsj.org.uk
Website: www.sbsj.org.uk
Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered
Charity - 250037
Diocesan website: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk



We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends: Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Pat Margiotta, Frances Skemp, Edwin Rankin, Philip Anderson, Vincent Hopkinson, Irene Clappison, Dorothy Killoran, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Wynn & Michael Latham, Irene Sheridan, Thomas Baker, Kathryn Browning, Rachel Edge, Fr Leo Heakin, Peter Hayler, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Mary Fitzgerald, Helen Fraser, Peter Reilly, Helene Draper, Terry Scott, Ken Goodwin
Lately Dead: Sheila Derbyshire, Richard Power, Maureen Heggie, Jose Eduarte,
Anniversaries: Christopher Hailwood,
May They Rest in Peace
Mass Intentions: Christopher Hailwood,

During Ordinary Time, we pray for: Peace on Earth; Openness to the Word of God, Christian Unity, The sick and those who care for them; Victims of trafficking and those who work to combat it; the Unemployed

Let us pray for all victims and those who have been affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. May the families of those deceased find strength and comfort in their suffering. *We continue to pray for peace and an end to the conflict in Ukraine*

Hope In The Future: This week in our Diocese let us pray for our Retired Priests. We thank God for their years of devotion and service and ask God's blessing upon them now and in the future.

Financial Support: We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Thank you
Cheques: Please make all cheques payable to *Corpus Christi*.

Standing Order: Please contact us if you would like to set up a direct payment. *Thank you*



Spring Flower Demonstration: This will be held on Saturday 25 March at St John's Church (1pm-3pm). The proceeds of this popular event will go to the SVP. There are a limited number of tickets which are now on sale at £5 per person.

Marmalade: I am pleased to say we have raised the sum of £100 from the sale of marmalade. I am very grateful for all kind donations (particularly to those of you who paid more than the basic price). I hope your breakfasts are improved as a result! *Peter Barnes*

Destitution Project Lenten Donations: During the 40 days of Lent we are trying to collect 40 of the following urgently needed items: Tinned Tomatoes, Chick Peas, Red Kidney Beans, Bags of Sugar and Bottles of Vegetable Oil. We thank you for all you have donated so far, and we hope to meet this target with your kind help. *Thank you.*

ASH WEDNESDAY

LENT BEGINS

WHAT IS LENT?
 The 40-day period from Ash Wednesday and before Easter Sunday. It is marked by prayer, fasting, abstinence, and other acts of penance.

PRAYING ----- FASTING ----- ABSTINENCE

WHAT IS FASTING?

One meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed one full meal.

WHAT IS ABSTINENCE?

Abstinence is refraining from eating meat. Meat is considered to be the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl.

DAYS OF FAST?

Ash Wednesday Good Friday

DAYS OF ABSTINENCE?

Ash Wednesday All Fridays of Lent

Good Friday

WHO ARE REQUIRED?

Catholics from age < 18 to 59 >

The sick and expectant mothers are excused from fasting.

WHO ARE REQUIRED?

Mandatory for everyone

↑ older than 14 years old

Churches In Harwood: Lenten Course. Come and join us this Lent, as Churches Together in Harwood run their popular course, which this year is entitled *"Holy Habits - Following Jesus"* Each week the time will start at 7.30pm in the following Churches:

- Monday 27 Feb - Christ's Church, Harwood
- Tuesday 7 March - St Brendan's
- Tuesday 14 March Harwood Methodist
- Tuesday 21 March St Brendan's**
- Tuesday 28 March Christ's Church Harwood

The 89th Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 28 July - 3 August 2023.

We are delighted to announce that travel and accommodation booking is now available for this summer's pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop John Arnold. Full details are available on the pilgrimage website: www.salfordlourdes.co.uk. All bookings and enquiries can be made via Joe Walsh Tours, (ATOL 11313), by phone on 0808 1890468, or by email: info@joewalshstours.co.uk

200 Club winners for February:

- £50 C Molyneux (94)
- £25 C Morrison (124)
- £15 J Howarth (191)

Readers For 25/26 February 2023		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
T Proctor	P Partington	K Wilkinson

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

Peel House
 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
 BL1 7AL
 01204 309609

www.hfs.co.uk