

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

27 August 2023

Twenty-First Sunday Ordinary Time



Most people are not born leaders; they tend to look for someone else to lead and make decisions; they are content to follow. This is part of human nature, after all, if you did not make a decision then you cannot be blamed, and you can always criticise those who do. In every situation people come forward to lead, sometimes reluctantly, sometimes hastily, but always with, hopefully, good intentions. However, leadership can change people, some become roaring lions, others meek lambs, we should never take on leadership without considering the nature of the role required.

Peter was a fisherman; the impression given in the Gospels was that he was good at his job, and he had the respect of his companions; when Andrew met Jesus and spent the day with Him, he went afterwards to Peter to tell him about Jesus so that he could meet Him and make his own mind up. This indicates the respect that was given to Peter. On that first meeting Jesus singled out Peter; he calls him Cephas which means rock, from which we take the word Petrus or Peter.

In today's first reading Isaiah speaks of the appointment of a leader, the master of the palace. He calls this new leader a servant, for leaders should serve, he gives him authority, entrusts him with the keys and the power to include or exclude others. A father figure, he should treat all as his sons and daughters, keeping them to the right path. He is there so that the Glory of God can be made manifest. Paul reminds us that God's choice is not our choice; we cannot know the mind of God, never penetrate His motives, or understand his methods. "All that exists comes from Him, all is by Him, and for Him".

The question "Who do people say I am?" is one that each of us must answer. Peter, taking on the mantle of leadership, is clear in his reply "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God". What inspired Peter to this outburst? Was it something that had been growing in his heart and understanding over the months and years spent with Jesus? We cannot know, but from this moment Peter is set firmly on the road of leadership and, for him, there is no turning back.

David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1
Divine Office Week 1
Roman Missal: p 381*

Sunday 27 August

9.30am Mass (SJ)
11am Mass (SB)
12.15pm Baptism (SB)

Monday 28 August - *St Augustine*

10am Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 29 August - *The Passion of St John the Baptist*

10am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 30 August

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)
9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 31 August

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 1 September - *St Edmund Arrowsmith*

10am Mass (SJ)
1.15pm Funeral Service for Terence Warburton (Overdale)

Saturday 2 September

No Morning Mass - Fr Alf at Diocesan Synod Mass
5pm Vigil Mass (SB) - First Mass of Sunday

Sunday 3 September

9.30am Mass (SJ)
11am Mass (SB)
12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

Parish Contact Details

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HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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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, Michael Latham, Irene Sheridan, Thomas Baker, Kathryn Browning, Rachel Edge, Fr Leo Heakin, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Helen Fraser, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Ken Goodwin, Michael O'Connor, Joyce Strickleton, Christine Gardner, Margaret Doreen Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Peter Carroll, Paul Brown, Elsie Shields, Damian Rabbitt

Lately Dead: Joan Bowes, Alina Karakula, Thomas Holmes

Anniversaries: James Dowbakin, Fred Davies, Hayley Warriner

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: James Dowbakin, Fred Davies, Hayley Warriner, Joan Bowes, George Denton (Wedding anniversary), Thomas Holmes, Damian Rabbitt, Jeff Howarth (Birthday Remembrance)

During Ordinary Time (summer), we pray for: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution; oppression & denial of human rights; Europe; Seafarers; Human life
We continue to pray for peace and an end to the conflict in Ukraine

This week as a Diocese we pray for the parishioners of St Joseph and St Edward's parish, Longsight and Rusholme, with Fr Rob Morland, SMA, and Fr Armand Maku, SMA. We pray for the parish primary schools and for Xaverian Sixth Form College, together with the Little Sisters of the Poor, the SMA Fathers and the priests of Opus Dei. May all be welcome in the Church of God.

Offertory: We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially.

Cheques: Please make all cheques payable to *Corpus Christi*. Thank you

Congratulations: To Isabella Mary Leigh who was baptised Last weekend. We pray that both she and her family continue to grow in faith.

Fair Trade Stall: There will be a fair-trade stall before and after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 3 September. One of the principles of fair trade is that all goods are made in ways that minimise their effect on our environment. Thanks for your continued support.

**A Date For Your Diaries-The Woman at the Well
A Retreat Led by Donna Worthington.**

7pm-9pm, Tuesday 10th October 2023

The Patmos Room, St John's Church

There is no cost for this event but any offerings will help towards expenses. Please see the poster in each church for more details.

Places are limited so please book using the parish contacts:

Tel. 01204 301927, Email: office@sbsj.org.uk

Message of Thanks: The Destitution Project have sent us their heartfelt thanks for all the amazing donations we have sent in. As the cost of food parcels have soared, the parcels have had to reduce in size, so everything you donate is really appreciated.

Can you help? The Cancer Research shop (Newport Street, Bolton), have asked if anyone has time to bake some small cakes for a charity day they are having on 2 September. If anyone is willing, please contact jayne.hogan1940@gmail.com Thankyou.

Hope in the Future Celebration Event - Save the Date: Tuesday 3 October, 6:30pm - 9pm The Edge, Riveredge, Wigan WN3 5AB. Join the Diocese of Salford's Formation Department for a special event celebrating our six-year Hope in the Future journey. The event will include praise and worship music, inspirational speakers, small-group discussions, and a time of prayer led by Bishop John. The event is open to all especially for those who would like to learn more about it or begin their own journey, and for individuals seeking to grow as Missionary Disciples. Further details will be available in September.

Celebration of Human Dignity Event and Mass Caritas Diocese of Salford: Saturday 16 September, 10.30am Sacred Heart RC Church and Parish Centre, Gorton, M18 7JW. Caritas Diocese of Salford is inviting people across the diocese to join them in a celebration of human life and dignity. The day will involve hearing from people who have experienced barriers to inclusion, sharing practical examples of how communities can support people. It will end with a Mass for the intention of "The Preservation of Human Dignity", celebrated by Bishop John. Find out more and register at

<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/news/celebration-of-human-dignity/>

Service for the Commissioning of Synod Members Saturday 2 September, St Patrick's Church, Livesey Street, Collyhurst, Manchester, M4 5HF. The details of the Service for the Commissioning of Synod Members, led by Bishop John, are as follows:
11am - 12noon (followed by light refreshments) Please pray for our two Synod Representatives and Fr Alf in attendance at this Mass. If anyone would like to go along, you are most welcome.

Thought for the Week

"Let the Church always be a place of mercy and hope, where everyone is welcomed, loved and forgiven."

Pope Francis

Readers For 2/3 September 2023

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
S Mikolajewski	L Fakanule	F Doloroso