

**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS
6TH MAY 2012
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Sunday Missal	
Opening Prayer.....	762
Readings.....	765
Preface.....	44
Eucharistic Prayer III.....	19
Post Communion Prayer.....	771



Last week it was sheep: this week, the vine. Jesus offers us another (agricultural) image to explain the mystery of his offering of himself, and our belonging to him, our being part of him, which comes about through the sacrament of Baptism. This is, as was stated earlier, the period of Mystagogy, when the newly baptised are helped to see what life in Jesus Christ really means. Today this comes out strongly for all of us, with two of the three readings emphasising the moral aspects of life in Christ: it is not simply enough to “belong” to him: our belonging must be shown by the works we do, by the fruits we bear - while remembering of course that we cannot bear fruit except in him.

Liturgy & Activities This Week		Prayers Please
<i>Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 1 Patmos Room - St John's (SJ); Harbour Room - St Brendan's (SB)</i>		
Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SB)	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Bill Kay, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Edmundson, Jonathan Rimmer, Eunice Brierley, Elizabeth Patterson, Bernard Callaghan, Judith Oldham, Kathleen Humphreys, Betty Boyle, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Joseph Walton, Jean York, 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 & 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, Jane Dent, Emma Turner (12yrs old), Vincent Wood, Margaret Wood, Patrick O’Donnell (new-born baby), Joan Rankin, Bernard Cummings, Guy (3yrs old), Fr Francis McCauley, Maria Stott, Fiona Preston, Kathleen Hopwood, Fabrice Muamba, Trevor Gee, Catherine Crowley, Gerard Dobson and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Fr Graham Turner, Francis Smith, Tom & Evelyn Rabbitt, Elaine Greenhalgh, Mary Linskey</p> <p>Anniversary: Ron Higson</p> <p>Mass Intentions: David Gracie (Birthday Remembrance), Ron Higson, Len Wallwork (Birthday Remembrance), In honour of Our Blessed Lady, Peter Rowland Coles (50th Birthday Remembrance), Allan Guest (Birthday Remembrance), Francis Smith, Tom & Evelyn Rabbitt, Sheila Chadwick, Special Intention, John & Brian Hamer</p> <p>Cycle of Prayer Part 4 (of 6): We pray especially for: new members of the Church; vocations; the right use of the media; the Church; human work</p>
Monday	No Mass today <i>Bank Holiday</i>	
Tuesday	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9am Mass (SJ) – <i>Please note earlier time</i> 7.30-8.30pm Youth Group (Patmos Room)	
Thursday	9.15am School Mass in Church (SB) 7.30pm CAFOD Meeting (Patmos Room)	
Friday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 10am Coffee Morning for Francis House (Patmos Room)	
Saturday	Bromley Cross Summer Fayre (Last Drop) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) <i>Day of Prayer for Vocations (SB)</i> 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SJ)	
Collections, Donations, Gift Aid <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>		
<p>For two more weeks, any money given to CAFOD will be matched by the Government (UK Aid)</p> <p>For three more weeks, you can make private donations to the Ecclesiastical Education Fund</p>		

Thanks: I would like to thank all my friends at St Brendan's who offered prayers and condolences following the death of my mother, Mary Linskey. Your cards and messages of support were very much appreciated. *Barbara Owen*

Father Graham Turner RIP: Graham's family and Cardinal O'Brien have asked me to convey their thanks to parishioners for all the support offered at this difficult time, especially to those who attended the Requiem Mass.

CAMEO Group: Next meeting is on Wednesday 16 May (2-4pm) in the Harbour Room. Fun quiz and afternoon tea. All are welcome.

SVP (SJ): The next outing for the elderly and housebound will be to English Martyrs, Whalley on Sunday 20 May 2012. There are lists in the Patmos Room for names of those wishing to attend and for volunteers willing to help with transport.. Alternatively please inform any member of St John's SVP.

Gift Aid: Please let us know if you have changed address in the past three years, so we can update our records.

Bromley Cross Fayre: Saturday 12 May at Last Drop

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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Lourdes 2012

The 80th annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop Brain, will take place between Tuesday 31 July and Monday 6 August 2012 and it is hoped that people from all over the Diocese of Salford will travel with the bishop and priests to Our Lady's shrine at Lourdes in France. Travel options include overland and by air, with an additional option for an overnight stop in Calais for those wishing to travel by train. Prices are available for overland travel from £510 (7 nights) and for air travel from £600 (6 nights).

We have a group travelling from St Brendan's and St John's, staying at the Hotel Irelande (close to the Domaine). If you are interested in joining us, please contact Terry Smith on 01204 531197

Places for Sick Pilgrims

Places are still available for sick pilgrims who wish to stay in the Accueil Marie St Frai under the care of our Medical and Nursing Team.

A kind benefactor has given me some money to support a sick person from our parishes joining in this pilgrimage. If you would like to avail of this help, please contact me in the strictest confidence. *Fr Cooke*

Further Information

For further details about all aspects of the pilgrimage and for booking forms please contact the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office (0161 817 2209) or our local contact Terry Smith on 01204 531197

See also www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lourdes or www.salfordlourdes.co.uk

Prayer for Vocations

Next Sunday is the date assigned to St Brendan's parish on the diocesan calendar of days of prayer for vocations. We will fulfil that by having a special focus on vocation at our Masses next weekend.

Ecclesiastical Education Fund

Thank you for the collection last week for the fund that is used to train our future priests. That collection remains open for a further three weeks for private donations.

Think Vocations

It is understandable how difficult the disciples found Saul's radical change of heart and direction towards Christ. Even today the Lord can invite people to radically change their way of living to serve in the Church. Let us ask St Paul's guidance and help for those who feel called to radically change the direction of their lives.

Government Consultation on Marriage

Coalition for Marriage has set up a simple, easy web form that allows you to send your response directly to the Government's public consultation on redefining marriage. **The consultation will play a key role in whether the proposal goes ahead or not.** This is your chance to tell the Government you want to keep the true meaning of marriage.

The core issue – whether or not marriage should be redefined – is covered by Questions 1 and 2 of the consultation. Other questions cover the mechanics of how, not if, marriage should be redefined. We are urging our supporters to respond to the first two questions covering the core issue.

The consultation runs until 14 June. It is important that we get as many people as we can to respond. Virtually half-a-million people have signed our petition against the plans. It is vital that people also respond to the consultation to say they disagree with the proposal.

So please, use this link www.c4m.org.uk/consultation and share it with others by email, on Facebook, on Twitter, on your blog and by word-of-mouth.

Together we can save the true meaning of marriage.

CAFOD

Our fundraising since the middle of February has raised the following for the "Give it Up" appeal:

Sunday Morning Coffee	430.51
Coffee Morning	160.00
Commission from Fairtrade Stalls	5.05
Profits from Piety Stall	200.00
Fast Day & Lent Boxes	3086.98
Total	3882.54

The gift-aid declarations associated with this giving should bring in another £233.25

UK Aid: If you are thinking of making any further contributions, please do so in the next 2 weeks so that CAFOD gets the benefit of the extra funding from the Government matching donations £ for £. Thanks.