

**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR  
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS**

**8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013  
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



This is a very difficult set of readings. The Gospel itself starts with a saying which many find hard to understand: must we really “hate” our family to be the Lord’s disciples? The point is that it is *relative*: what are we prepared to give up for the Gospel? Are we going to try and make our own cross, or accept whatever we are given? Jesus is probably trying to discourage the crowd of sensation seekers and hangers-on who are crowding round him. He wants real disciples, who are aware of the possible cost: not like the incompetent builder, or the useless king. To be a disciple, one must be prepared to follow Jesus anywhere, whatever it might cost in possessions, family or friends. We may never understand why, but then, “who can know the intentions of God?”

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b> <i>Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 3</i>		<b>Prayers Please</b>
<b>Sunday Missal:</b> <i>page 401; Readings 406; Preface at Priest's choice</i>		<p><b>Sick:</b> Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Edmundson, Jonathan Rimmer, Eunice Brierley, Elizabeth Patterson, Bernard Callaghan, Kathleen Humphreys, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Caroline Vickers, George Cowley, Robin Tootill, Elzie Ball, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Bernard &amp; Rita Holder, Michael, Baby Rose, Calum Russell, Eileen Murphy, Brendan O’Grady, Pauline Bowling, Emma Turner, Joan Rankin, Guy Ryan, Maria Stott, Fiona Preston, Kathleen Hopwood, Catherine Crowley, John Barrett, Bea Gilmore, Roy Smith, Isabelle Karzynski, Fiona Oldham (nee Clappison), Emma Jimanez (baby), Stephen Tootill, Maureen Kennedy, Vera Evans, Julie Smith, Ernie Little, Mary Coyne, Anthony Axford, Mary Marshall, Joan Pearce, Joshua Almond, Jacqueline Kay, Wynn Elliot, Tom Wardle, Joan Peake (nee Hooton), Elizabeth Evenson, Bob Taylor, Rita Margiotta, Noel Gannon, Joan Taylor, Sheila Derbyshire, Carol Ainscow and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Margaret Rogerson, Jimmy Fleming, Anthony Parkinson, Bernard Smith, Mark Latham, Sally Deakin, Clifford Hogan</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Angela Gargan, Ralph Gubbins, John &amp; Mary Gilmartin, John Gilmartin, Patrick &amp; Mary O’Brien, Gerard Lamoury, Mary &amp; Thomas Watson, Martin Feeney, David Gracie, Bridget &amp; Jack Day</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Margaret Rogerson, Angela Gargan, Eileen Wood, Helen Reddy (for retirement), For a successful operation, Ralph Gubbins, John &amp; Mary Gilmartin, John Gilmartin, Patrick &amp; Mary O’Brien, St Anthony for a Special Intention, Jimmy Fleming, In Thanksgiving, Ian &amp; Stephen Kay, Anthony Parkinson, Gerard Lamoury, A Special Intention, Joyce Knight, Mary &amp; Thomas Watson, Martin Feeney, Carol Ainscow, In honour of St Anthony, St Jude &amp; the Sacred Heart, David Gracie, Bridget &amp; Jack Day</p>
Sunday	9.15am (SJ) – with Children’s Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children’s Liturgy <i>Special Collection for Catholic Association for Racial Justice</i>	
Racial Justice Sunday		
Monday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
St Ambrose Barlow		
Wednesday	10am Requiem Mass for Clifford Hogan (SJ)	
Thursday	9.15am School Mass in church (SB) 7.30pm CAFOD Meeting (Patmos Room)	
Friday	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
St John Chrysostom		
Saturday	5pm Mass (SC) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross		
Next Sunday	9.15am (SJ) – with Children’s Liturgy 10.15am (SC) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children’s Liturgy 3pm Signed Mass for the Deaf (SB) – <i>All welcome</i> <i>Special Collection for Home Mission</i>	
Home Mission Day		
<p><b>Collections &amp; Donations:</b> <i>All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan’s, St Columba’s or St John’s as appropriate.</i></p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> <i>Cheques should be made payable to St John’s</i></p> <p><b>Gift Aid:</b> <i>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. Thanks</i></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6):</b></p> <p>We pray especially for: the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work &amp; the reverent use of creation; justice and peace in the world; all victims of war; young people; prisoners &amp; their families</p>

**Parish Priest and Rural Dean:** Rev Michael Cooke  
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**Racial Justice Sunday:** This year's theme is *Dreams of the Beloved Community: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 'I have a Dream' speech by Martin Luther King*. This annual day is an opportunity to pray for and promote racial justice and, through our special collection, to support the work of the Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ). To find out more about that work, please visit [www.carj.org.uk](http://www.carj.org.uk). There will be a special Mass at Salford Cathedral (1.30pm) with music from a variety of the racial groups that make up our diocese.

**Clergy:** Please keep Fr Gee in your prayers during this period whilst he is struggling with a bad back. Please also remember Fr Jones (at Horwich) who damaged tendons in his hand in an accident a few weeks ago and who is due to have an (unrelated) operation this coming week.

**Congratulations:** To George John Parkinson who was baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. Also to Albie James Warburton who was baptised at St John's. We pray that they and their families may continue to grow in faith.

**Congratulations:** To Joan and Edwin Rankin who celebrated their Ruby Wedding anniversary recently.

**Salesians:** This weekend, the community at Thornleigh are celebrating two anniversaries of Religious Profession: 50 years for Fr Ivor Netto & 60 years for Fr Bernard Grogan.

**Mary's Meals:** You may remember, some time ago, that there was a special appeal for Mary's Meals and a good number of parishioners kindly took collection boxes home. Since the appeal, some of the boxes have either been returned to Church or sent directly to the charity. Over the next couple of weeks there will be a further collection of boxes for anyone who hasn't had chance to hand theirs in. If you still have a box at home, please bring it in to any Mass. Thank you.

**Fairtrade:** Goods on sale at St John's next weekend.

**Scripture Study:** A reminder that from 3 October we will be running a course on Scripture on Thursday evenings for 12 weeks. Further details to follow.

**SVP:** The Mass for the housebound, sick and disabled this year will be celebrated at St John's on Saturday 28 September at 11am. Everybody is welcome. Refreshments will be available after Mass. If you require transport to attend this Mass, please contact a member of the SVP.

**SVP Awareness:** September is the annual month for raising awareness about this organisation. Please see the posters in the church porches (which change each week).

**St John's 200 Club:** The August winners are:

£50 C Graham (189)  
£30 E Mingay (200)  
£20 W Dobson (18)



**Turton Sports Centre:** There is an Open Day this Sunday (11am-4pm) with a wide range of performances and free taster sessions for both children and adults and other children's activities. See [www.turton.uk.com/sportscentre](http://www.turton.uk.com/sportscentre)

**Syria:** Pope Francis called for a day of fasting and prayer for peace in Syria, in the entire Middle East region, and throughout the whole world on Saturday, 7 September 2013. "With all my strength, I ask each party in this conflict to listen to the voice of their own conscience, not to close themselves in solely on their own interests, but rather to look at each other as brothers and decisively and courageously to follow the path of encounter and negotiation, and so overcome blind conflict."

**Parish Forum:** Thank you to those who attended the meeting on Thursday evening. One of the main suggestions emerging from that meeting was that we should establish a small steering group (with 2 or 3 representatives from each of our parishes) to help move things forward in between the Forum meetings. This will meet on a regular basis, once we have the volunteers. We will also begin to implement the various suggestions about increasing reverence and respect in our churches.

**Baptism Preparation:** Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 21 September (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John's. This is for parents from any of our three parishes who wish to have a child baptised in the coming months. Please let one of the priests know if you will be attending or e-mail [office@sbsj.org.uk](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk)

**Social Committee:** Two events have been arranged for later this year, a Quiz Night on Friday 18 October and a Christmas Dance on Friday 20 December, both at Dunscair Conservative Club. Tickets will be on sale 3 or 4 weeks before each event.

**BRASS:** The collection for September, will take place at the weekend Masses at Brendan's. *Thank you for your continued support.*

**Smithills Community Choir:** The first rehearsal will be on Tuesday 17 September (6.30-7.30pm). For further information contact [office@smithillsschool.net](mailto:office@smithillsschool.net)

**Home Mission Sunday:** Next weekend we pray for the spread of the Gospel in our own country and support this Home Mission work with a special collection.

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### Think Vocation

"Who can divine the will of the Lord?" Those who work within the field of vocations, discernment and formation do not have an easy task. A vocation within the Church is something that goes on within the heart of a person. Let us pray for those who are charged with this task, that the Holy Spirit may guide them and help them to make wise decisions.

### Everyone Always Welcome

If you have time to stay and chat with friends and parishioners for a while after Mass, why not join us? There are always refreshments available every Sunday in either the Patmos Room (after 9.15 Mass) or Harbour Room (after 11.15).