





<p>18 February 2018-First Sunday Of Lent <i>Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 1</i> <i>Sunday Missal: p.532; Readings p.536; Preface p.541</i></p>	<p>25 February 2018 Second Sunday Of Lent <i>Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week2</i> <i>Sunday Missal: p.543; Readings p.546; Preface p.552</i></p>
 <p>We begin our Lenten journey at the decisive moment of the flood, when God establishes his first Covenant with man, in the person of Noah. Noah was saved from the waters, while we (as Saint Peter points out) are saved by the waters of Baptism. This is the Covenant we live in, thanks to Christ, who came to establish this “new and eternal Covenant in his blood”. He is the only one who can do this, because he is without sin, despite “having been tempted in every way that we are”</p>	 <p>We spool forward a few centuries in the story of the Old Testament, to arrive at Abraham, “our Father in faith”. Today we hear of another Covenant (like last week) - even though the word is not used. God promises Abraham descendants like “the stars of heaven”, and the showering of blessings. This shows how much God loves Abraham, and all his children. This love is proved for us in Jesus: God loves us so much he sacrificed his only Son (just as Abraham was willing to do); but this is not all: Jesus also rose from the dead, to stand at God’s right hand and plead for us. All this is revealed in the story of the Transfiguration, where Jesus is seen in the glory that is rightfully his as the only Son of God. Not until after the Resurrection will the disciples see this fully again.</p>
<p>Masses, Feasts & Activities Sunday 18 February Masses 9am (SJ); 11am (SB) 2pm Rite of Election Service (Salford Cathedral) Monday 19 February 9.30am Mass (SJ) 7pm Churches in Harwood Lent Course (SB) 7.45pm SVP (SJ) Tuesday 20 February 2pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB) 7pm Mass (SJ) 7.15pm SVP (SB) Wednesday 21 February 10.30am Requiem Mass for Winifred Meadows (SB) Thursday 22 February No Mass Today - <i>St Peter</i> 7-9pm Parish Enabling Team Meeting (Patmos Room) Friday 23 February 9.30am Mass (SJ) <i>CAFOD Fast Day</i> Saturday 24 February 5pm Mass (SB)</p>	<p>Masses, Feasts & Activities Sunday 25 February Masses 9am (SJ); 11am (SB) Monday 26 February 9.30am Mass (SJ) 7pm Churches in Harwood Lent Course (Longsight) 7.45pm SVP (SJ) Tuesday 27 February 8.15am Lenten Mass (SC School) 2pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB) 7pm Mass (SJ) 7.15pm SVP (SB) Wednesday 28 February 9.30am Mass Thursday 1 March 9.15am Mass - <i>St David</i> 7.15pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room,SB) Friday 2 March 8.15am Lenten Mass (SJ School) Saturday 3 March 11am-12noon Adoration & Reconciliation (SJ) 5pm Mass (SB)</p>
<p>Think Vocation Temptation is a very powerful force at work in our world. It is as strong today as it ever was. Society can make us narrow minded and think only of ourselves and what we can get out of life. This can lead to destruction of the spirit of generosity needed to foster vocations within the Church. Temptation can make us closed to the promptings of the Holy Spirit that lead us closer to God. If we are tempted to despair over the future of the Church, then let us reconnect during this Holy Season of Lent with the New Covenant established in Our Lord Jesus Christ</p>	<p>Think Vocation Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his son to show his faithfulness to God. Let us pray for parents who find it difficult to accept that their son or daughter may have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. In any sacrifices we make we need to see the bigger picture and not how it directly affects us. In encouraging their children to serve Our Lord in the Church, parents could see that new life is being given to countless people.</p>
<p>Marriage Matters - We hunger for closeness ‘Wilderness’ can be a reality in our marriage relationship at times, a kind of ‘desert experience’: hungering for a gentle touch or return of the closeness in our relationship. Yet, we can look back on such times and recognise the Spirit was at work. God’s grace was in our yearning, calling us to choose life and turn away from self-indulgence.</p>	<p>Marriage Matters - Free to be ourselves Sometimes we can be overwhelmed by each other’s generous sensitivity, thoughtfulness and kindness which have helped us grow in confidence to share our deepest feelings, fears and joys. Let us try this week to find ways of growing in that confidence and trust so that in our relationship we radiate God’s joy through the way we love each other.</p>

Prayers Please

Sick: Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Joan Pearce, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Linda Southern, Callum Fazackerley, Elaine Jansen, Mary Cassidy, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, June Dawson, Greta Barlow, Cassie Wilson, Christine Hasleden, Suzanne Freeman-Hill, Jude McCann Brown, Ann Cunliffe, Maureen Woodward, Rose Adams, Valerie Piddock, Irene Parkinson, Father Francis McCauley, Zachary Ainscough (aged 8), Mary Bagg, Mary Castle, Peggy Ainscow, Canon Dorran, Christine Everitt, Mark O'Brien, Sheila Derbyshire, Margaret Gibson, Kathleen & Arnold Banks, Andrew Rostron, Michaela (Sick child), Linda Marsh, Ross Smith (young person), Vernon Holt and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness

Lately Dead: Dorothy Barnes, Winifred Meadows Joan Yarwood, Ethel Gallagher, Philip Ainscough, John Wright

Anniversaries: William Hodget, Christopher Hailwood

Mass Intentions: A Sick Person, Dorothy Barnes, William Hodget, Vern Healey (sick), Winifred Meadows, Patrick O'Donnell (Birthday Remembrance), Christopher Hailwood, Kathleen & John Prendergast, Dr Moira Leahy, Catherine Madden (Birthday Remembrance)

Cycle of Prayer Part 3 (of 6): We pray especially for: candidates for the sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers

Hope in The Future

This week please remember in your prayers:

The Cathedral parish of St John and the parish of St Joseph, Ordsall, in Salford, with our Bishop John, Father Michael Jones and Father Alfred Rebello and for the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of St. Joseph. We pray for the retired priests living at Cathedral House and for those who work in Diocesan Central Services. We pray for the parish primary schools.

May the Holy Spirit guide us in Hope in the Future.

During the week commencing 25 February, let us pray for:

The parishes of Sacred Heart and St Anne, Blackburn, with Father James McCartney, and the parishes of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour and Holy Family, Blackburn, with Father Gerard Barry and Father Frank Mulgrew and for the Marist Fathers. We pray for their parish primary schools, Our Lady and St John's High School and the chaplaincy to the Royal Blackburn Hospital and Blackburn Hospice.

May the Lord stay with us on our journey.

CAFOD
Just one world

Family Fast Day for Lent 2018 23 February.

This Lent we are working to combat malnutrition in Zimbabwe. Hunger can kill children, but CAFOD is providing seeds, fencing and farming training for families and communities so that everyone has enough to eat. Please take your envelope home and donate what you can. They will be collected at Masses next weekend. This Lent your donations to the *Family Fast Day Appeal* will be matched by the UK Government. This means that your donations will be doubled, up to a total of £5 million, making double the difference!

Save the Date

Friday 11 May 2018 - Spring Concert



Congratulations: To Lily Ella Spriggs and Freya Grace Spriggs who were Baptised at St Brendan's last Saturday. Also, to Skyla Louise Fawcett who was baptized at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that they and their families continue to grow in faith.

Rite of Election, Salford Cathedral: Nicola Bunting, one of our parishioners who has been following the Becoming Catholic Course, will be presented to the Bishop at the Cathedral today in preparation for being received into the Catholic Faith. Please pray for Nicola as she continues on her journey of faith.

St Brendan's School: As parents and pupils of St Brendan's have been informed, Mrs Kwiatkowski will be leaving our school at the end of the summer term to become the headteacher at St Thomas of Canterbury primary school. We wish her well in this new appointment and thank her for her work here over the past ten years. The governors will shortly be starting the process to appoint her replacement. Please pray for us.

Facts and Figures

Mass Attendance

5pm-106; 9am-202; 11am-143; **Total - 451**

Offertory Collection

10/11 February: £940.52

Standing Orders (10 Feb-16 Feb) - £217

Cheques: Whilst we are in the process of establishing one new bank account for the parish, please make all cheques payable to St John's. Thank you.

Walk With Me

The booklets & calendars for the Lenten period are still available (free of charge). Please take these to help with prayer and reflection at home.

School Lenten Masses

The early morning Masses will be taking place through Lent at 8.15am (Except in Half Term).
Tuesdays (from 27 Feb) - (St Columba's School)
Fridays - (St John's School)
All welcome.

Churches In Harwood Lent Course "Stormbreaker"

7pm-9pm Monday Evenings

19 February - St Brendan's (Harbour Room)
26 February - Longsight Methodist
5 March - Christ's Church
12 March St Brendan's
19 March Longsight Methodist
All welcome to come along and join in these sessions. Refreshments available.

A Lenten Retreat

Accompanying Jesus in the Events of Holy Week
Join us at Wardley Hall for our Lenten retreat
Every Friday 10.30am - 12.30pm
(Tea and coffee provided)

23 February: Last Supper - Institution of the Eucharist

2 March: Last Supper - Jesus washes the disciples' feet

9 March: Gethsemane and Arrest

16 March: Trial 23

3 March: Crucifixion

Presenters: Sister Joan Kerley, FMSJ and Maria Kidd. To confirm your participation, please contact: Marie Sartini, Bishop's PA, Wardley Hall, Worsley M28 2ND; 0161 794 2825 Email: Marie.sartini@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or Sister Joan Kerley, FMSJ; 0161 971 7842; Email: joankfmsj@gmail.com

Paving Work at St Brendan's: During the half term holidays, the paving at the side of the church (nearest to the school) is being re-laid so there will be no Mass there on Thursday morning (22 February).

St John's 200 Club

The February winners are:

£50 J Parkinson (141)

£25 A Parkinson (53)



Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Saturday 5th May 2018

Led by Bishop John Arnold

If you are interested please contact the parish office on 01204 301927 or email office@sbsj.org.uk.

Coaches leave around 7am and return around 10pm.

Alternatively, contact 0161 817 2222

E: john.griffin@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Pilgrimage includes - Procession, Reconciliation and Holy Mass

NQT Primary Pool for 2018: We are now recruiting for our NQT Primary Pool for 2018. The Primary Pool will identify and recommend high quality candidates who have gained QTS in summer 2018, for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for 1st September 2018. The Application Form, Person Specification and Job Description are available to download from the Diocesan Website under NQT Pool 2018.

<http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/services/education/cpdf-school-support>

Completed application forms are to be returned to Lauren Cumbo, Department for Education (at the above address) or by email to lauren.cumbo@dioceseofsalford.org.uk by **12pm on Monday 16th April 2018**. Further enquiries should be made to 0161 817 2204

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for 24/25 Feb		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	M Maybury	TBA
9am (SJ)	M Russell	M Cropper, F Smith, A Rawlinson, A Gracie, T Armstrong, M Russell
11am (SB)	C Owen	P Carolan, J Murphy, K Wilkinson
Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for 3/4 March		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	J O'Connor	TBA
9am (SJ)	P Barnes	P McArdle, M Speed, A Rawlinson, M Cropper, E Rothwell, F Smith
11am (SB)	M Durkan	J Murphy, K Wilkinson, P Carolan

The new rota for Readers is now available at the back of each church.



Corpus Christi SVP

A brief report on our work during 2017

During the year you have generously supported our fundraising by:

• Sponsoring or taking part in our annual sponsored walk raising	£1,727.45
• Attending the Eden Singers Concert raising	£ 800.00
• Taking part in the Cameo Auction for needy families	£ 346.00
• Giving to our annual Maundy Thursday collection	£ 304.46
• Supporting our Christmas flower-arranging demonstration	£ 265.00
• Personal and Private Donations	£1,520.00
• Supporting Coffee Mornings and Afternoon Teas	£ 300.00

We have used this money in the following ways:

- Supporting 16 families with food hampers plus gift tokens and selection boxes for 30 children to help them celebrate Christmas
- Supporting the Destitution Project by adding to the quarterly parish "gather-in"
- Supporting the Urban Outreach 'Christmas Dinner on Jesus' project
- Donating to the National SVP Summer Camp appeal to help provide activity holidays for children who might otherwise have no holiday at all
- Providing small gifts at Christmas to those we visit
- Providing support to families for school outings and holiday activities
- Donating to a Baby Feeding project in war-torn Sudan
- Donating to the SVP Disaster fund for the recent South India Cyclone appeal
- Supporting our two twinned conferences in Kerala, India

Such great charity work is only possible through your support - thank you on behalf of all the people we have been able to support this last year