

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

11 March 2018

Fourth Sunday in Lent – Laetare Sunday



There were two remarkable moments in the story of the Old Testament where God saved his people; one was in the escape from Egypt - we'll keep that for the Easter Vigil. The other was the end of their second exile, this time in Babylon, which we hear of today. Of course there was an even greater moment when God saved his people: the work of Jesus Christ, the Son of God - and we hear Jesus tell Nicodemus about that today. So today's theme is "salvation": but to understand "being saved", we must ask "What from?" Saved from slavery, from exile, from human enemies - these are all clear. But the last and greatest salvation brought by Jesus is harder to understand: saved from sin and death. These threaten us as much as any other enemy and our salvation in Jesus is as real as any other.

Think Vocation: St Paul tells us that when we were dead through our sins, God brought us to life with Christ. Through our baptism we are called to be witnesses to our faith to others. Let us make an effort to contact and encourage those we know who are of our faith but no longer practise. A simple word of encouragement can sometimes lead people to rediscover the richness of God's love offered in Christ Jesus.

Marriage Matters: Called to be a 'sign': The world often ridicules marriage saying 'it's just a piece of paper', but Scripture draws attention to God's powerful message. St. Paul says: "We are God's work of art; created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning He had meant us to live it." Let us shine out so the world sees what it's missing.

Liturgy & Activities This Week
Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 4
Sunday Missal: Page 568; Readings: page 573
Preface: Page 38 or 39

Sunday 11 March - Mothering Sunday

9am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy
 11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy
Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments

Monday 12 March

9.30am Mass (SB)
 7.30pm Churches in Harwood Lent course (St Brendan's)

Tuesday 13 March - Anniversary of the Election of Pope Francis

8.15am Lenten Mass in St Columba's School
 2pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB)
 6.30pm Stations of the Cross (SJ)
 7pm Mass (SJ)
 7.15pm SVP (SB)

Wednesday 14 March -

9.15am Early Years Worship (SC)
 10am Requiem Mass for Elaine Jansen (SJ)
 7.30pm Deanery Station Mass - St Osmund's (Breightmet)

Thursday 15 March

No Morning Mass

Friday 16 March

8.15am Lenten Mass in St John's School

Saturday 17 March - St Patrick, Patron of Ireland

1pm Wedding of Paul Knight and Anneliese Simons (SJ)
 5pm Mass (SB)

Sunday 18 March

9am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy
 11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy

Parish Priest: Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG. **Assistant Priest:** Rev Francis Parkinson

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

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Diocesan website: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Prayers Please

Sick: Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Joan Pearce, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Linda Southern, Callum Fazackerley, 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: Elaine Jansen, Richard French, Moira Leahy, Leo Maguire

Anniversaries: Eric Tonge, Alfeo & Bonfacia Doloroso, Jack & Mary Carroll, James Mathen, Teresa Wilson, Father Geoffrey Hilton

Mass Intentions: Barbara Grimes (Birthday Remembrance), Eric Tonge, Alfeo & Bonfacia Doloroso, Tyler Doloroso (For successful implant surgery), Jack & Mary Carroll, Elaine Jansen, James Mathen, Marie Loftus (Birthday), For a successful operation, Teresa Wilson

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

As we rejoice in the Lord and his gifts in our Diocese, we pray this week for the people of:

The parishes of St. James, St. Joseph and St. Thomas of Canterbury in Bolton, and for Fr Chris Gorton, their parish priest. We pray for their parish schools. May we hear God's Word and grow in his life.

We pray for those adults who are preparing for Baptism or for Full Communion with the Church this coming Easter. May we stay with them on their journey.

Facts and Figures

Mass Attendance

3/4 March 5pm-107; 9am-201; 11am-143;
Total - 451

Offertory Collection

3/4 March: £931.53

Standing Orders (28 Feb-5 Mar) - £609

Cheques: Whilst we are awaiting our new bank account for the parish, please make all cheques payable to St John's. Thank you.



Happy Mothers' Day

A Happy Mothers' Day to all mothers. Today is a chance to remember our mothers, living or dead, and to thank God for the love shown to us through them.

New Appointment: As you know from the announcement made at the Masses last weekend, I have been appointed as Moderator of the Curia with effect from Easter Sunday. This position is assigned to a Vicar General and is about oversight and co-ordination of all the central diocesan services (administrative and advisory) which support our parishes and schools. The new role will require me to move to a parish nearer to Cathedral Centre sometime shortly after Easter. Although nothing has yet been decided about my new accommodation, it is likely that Sunday 6 May will be my final Sunday here. Thank you for all your good wishes that were expressed last weekend. *Canon Michael Cooke*

Update on Finances: The figures published last week for February were based on the items we knew had gone in and out of the accounts up to 27 Feb (when we prepared the newsletter). Having now seen the bank statement, there were some additional transactions on the last day of the month. These were Standing Order payments in (amounting to £133) and a recharge from the diocese for the January wages (£2088). This increases the monthly overspend from £977 to £2898. Leaving aside the expenditure for St Columba's (which continues to go out despite no related income), Corpus Christi parish has now overspent by about £5000 so far this year. If that continues to be the pattern throughout the year, then we would have an annual overspend of around £30,000 (and we would use up our reserves in about five years).



CAFOD: Thank you for your generosity in the Fast Day collection which amounted to £1,842.43 This has now been sent off, together with the proceeds of the Ceilidh (£664) and other CAFOD income received this year, making a grand total of £2,907.98 (which the government will double). Thank you to those who gift-aided their contributions which will bring in a further £228.25 to CAFOD (hopefully also doubled).

Save the Date: Friday 11 May 2018
Spring Concert

Fairtrade: This weekend marks the end of the Fairtrade Fortnight. There will be goods available to buy at the end of each Mass both at St Brendan's and St John's. This will be continued at both churches on the second Sunday of each month after this.

School Lenten Masses - 8.15am: Tuesdays - St Columba's School and Fridays - St John's School (except 23 March)

Churches In Harwood Lent Course: 7.30pm-9pm Monday Evenings: 12 March - St Brendan's 19 March - Longsight Methodist

A Lenten Retreat

Wardley Hall Every Friday 10.30am - 12.30pm

16 March: Trial

23 March: Crucifixion

Please contact: Marie Sartini, Bishop's PA, Wardley Hall, Worsley M28 2ND; 0161 794 2825 Email: Marie.sartini@dioceseofsalford.org.uk



During March there will be our usual collection of food items for the Destitution Project in Bolton. The centre is always very grateful for all our donations. Please see the list of items that are in short supply on the notice boards. Thank you for your continued generosity.

200 Club

All monies for the next year (£1 per month) are due. It is a simple way to support the parish and perhaps win some money. There are some numbers available if you would like to join. See Frances Smith to join or to pay your subs. *Thank you*

Red Box Collection (SJ): The next gather-in of Red Boxes and donations will be after 9am Mass at St John's on Sunday 18 March.

"YOU ARE NOT ALONE": A celebration of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus. The Gospel is brought to life for all to see by the students of Thornleigh Salesian College through music, drama, dance and readings. Thornleigh Salesian College Chapel at 7pm Thursday 22 March 2018. All are welcome.

Christian Meditation: The dates for March are Tuesday 13th and 27th (2pm-2.45pm) All welcome.

Morning of Recollection Saturday 24 March 10am to 1pm St John's Church & Patmos Room

This idea arose from the recent meeting for Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans at St Brendan's. The main focus will be on reviewing the way Eucharistic Ministry is undertaken to ensure all our Eucharistic Ministers feel competent to serve in either of our churches. There will be a re-commissioning of ministers as part of the morning.

At the same time, we want to use the opportunity to reflect on "ministry" in general terms and so the morning is open to readers, sacristans, musicians, those involved in Children's Liturgy and sacramental preparation. There are other ministries and activities but the ones selected here focus on our Celebration of the Eucharist.

Altar Servers have been left off this list because the session is aimed at adults.

Please let the Parish Office know that you will be attending (office@sbsj.org.uk or 01204 301927)

This is also an opportunity for new volunteers for any of these ministries. If you would like to be involved, please have a word with one of the priests or a member of the Parish Enabling Team).

Book Club Book Sale: We are hoping to have our usual book sale in July (every two years). It will take place outside St Brendan's church on possibly two occasions in July. Please save any books you would like to donate but do not bring them in yet as we have no storage. Details will follow nearer the time. **STRICTLY PAPERBACKS ONLY.** All money goes to a named charity and church funds.

The Spring Outing of the Harbour Room Book Club: Will be on Wednesday 16 May 16. We are hoping to visit *The People's Museum in Manchester*, where there are various exhibitions including Suffragette material. Departure from St Brendan's car park at 10am and returning about 3.15pm. Entrance to the museum is free. Tyrer's coach fare (non-refundable) there and back will be £12 pp. This includes the driver's tip and the customary donation to the museum. There is a cafe and a shop. You do not have to be a member of the Book Club to go on one of our trips. If you are interested please book a place with Madeleine 303505.

Baptism Preparation: Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 14 April (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John's Church. Please contact the parish office if you wish to attend (01204 301927) or email: office@sbsj.org.uk.

Diocesan Prayer Workshops: On each evening participants will be introduced to a different method of prayer and invited to use it as part of their Lenten Prayer.

Schoenstatt Shrine, Manchester Rd, Kearsley, BL4 8QQ Tuesdays, 13th and 20th March.
St. Mary's, Todmorden Rd, Burnley BB10 4AU Wednesdays, 14th and 21st March;
Cathedral House, 250 Chapel St, Salford M3 5LL, Tuesdays 13th, 20th and 27th March. The evenings start at 7.30pm, and finish at 9pm. While booking is not essential it would help to give an idea of numbers formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk.

Retreat at Our Lady's Moss Side, Manchester: On the 23 - 25 March, Our Lady's (Moss Side) are welcoming the internationally known lay Speaker Jim Brown who will be giving the retreat '*Surrender and Accept Jesus*', *Invitation To The Banquet*'. A life changing retreat combining the twelve steps with biblical teaching. The cost is £15.00 which includes workbook. Concessions/Unemployed £10.00. To book a place call Our Lady's parish office on 0161 226 1730, Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm.

National Novena to St Joseph: Takes place until 18 March at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead and Herbert House, Freshfield, Liverpool. Each year the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or request a Novena booklet. Please write to Fr Liam Cummins MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT, or email novenahm@gmail.com

Reignite Young Adults Mass: St John Bosco, Charlestown Road, Blackley, M9 7BD on Sunday 18 March 5.30pm. A chance to experience our faith as fun, engaging and transformative. Come along for great speakers, brill testimonies, guest homilists, our young adults' music ministry, reunion with friends, pub social time (every 3rd Sunday of the month) at 5.30pm. This month: Celebrant: Fr Peter Tierney
Homilist: Fr Philip Brady
Speaker: Fr Bryan Cunningham

Salford Diocese - Job Vacancy

Personnel Officer - Full-Time, Permanent

Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP

Salary: £22,000.00 - £23,500 per annum dependant on experience.

Hours of work: 35 hours per week to be worked between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Closing Date: 12noon on Friday, 16 March, 2018

To request an application pack or for more information please contact:

The Director of Administration and Personnel

Telephone: 0161-817-2203

Email: personnel@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Or visit: <http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/>

Caritas Job Vacancies

There are a number of vacancies within Caritas (Diocese of Salford).

Information for all these positions can be found on the church notice boards)

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2018 - Appeal for Medical & Nursing Team: The 86th Salford diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes led by Bishop John Arnold, will take place between 27 July and 2 August. If you are a doctor, registered nurse or healthcare assistant and are interested in volunteering your skills to help support those sick and disabled pilgrims who need particular care during the pilgrimage, we are eager to hear from you. Financial assistance may be available to those involved in healthcare. For further information, please contact the Lourdes pilgrimage office by emailing:

lourdes.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk, or telephone 0161 817 2209. Thank you.

Exhibition - People, Book, Land: The 3,500 Year Relationship of the Jewish People with the Holy Land: The 24 panels, displaying the Jewish narrative from the Biblical Prophets to the Kingdoms of David and Solomon, until the establishment of the State of Israel, is coming to Salford Cathedral and opens for public viewing on weekday afternoons until 15 March between 2pm and 5pm .

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for 17/18 March

| Mass | Reader | Eucharistic Ministers |
|-----------|----------------|--|
| 5pm (SB) | S Mikolajewski | TBA |
| 9am (SJ) | G French | F Smith, E Rothwell, A Gracie, P McArdle, M Cropper, M Russell |
| 11am (SB) | C Bridge | M Durkan, C Owen, P Brennan |

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