

# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

6 October 2019

## Twenty-Seventh Week of Ordinary Time



Faithfulness, faith and trust. These most invisible and difficult things are what God asks of us - just as we, in our own way, ask them of those who love us. "Trust me", we say, "all will be well." And if someone does trust us, the reward is simply that trust

was well-placed. We have done our duty. Sometimes when we talk about "faith" we put the emphasis on "believe and accept". Today's readings (especially the passage from Habakkuk) invite us to think in terms of "trust". The request of the Apostles is interesting: "Increase our faith" could also mean "Make it easier for us," or "Prove that you are who you say you are." Jesus replies that he can't do that - you can't make someone trust you. It has to be a gift, freely given.

### Marriage Matters

**Beware of complacency and compensating:** Today we are warned about being complacent. Too often, we think everything is fine in our lives and then we realise we've drifted apart and feel isolated from our spouse; the atmosphere is strained; it is lonely in bed. The danger is to compensate with activities outside our marriage instead of sitting down, holding hands and getting back together again.

### Think Vocation

**Guard our love:** Today St. Paul reminds us "you have been entrusted to look after something precious, guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us". For us this means we are the guardians of each other! We live that out by always striving to be tender lovers, gentle and kindly friends, and courageous, loyal supporters of each other.

*Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 1;  
Divine Office Week 2  
Sunday Missal: Page 444; Readings page 451;  
Preface: At priest's choice*

#### Sunday 6 October

9am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy  
11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy  
2pm Baptism (SB)

#### Monday 7 October - Our Lady of the Rosary

12noon Mass (SB)  
1.45pm Funeral Service for Michael Howarth (SJ)  
7pm Needles (Harbour Room, SB)  
7.45pm SVP (SJ)

#### Tuesday 8 October

6.30pm Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (SJ)  
7pm Mass (SJ)  
7.15pm SVP (SB)

#### Wednesday 9 October-

9.15am Yr5 Mass (SC)

#### Thursday 10 October

9.30am Mass (SB)

#### Friday 11 October

No Mass Today

#### Saturday 12 October

2pm Baptism (SJ)  
5pm Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy

#### Sunday 13 October

9am Mass (SJ)- With Children's Liturgy  
11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy  
2pm Baptism (SB)

*Parish Priest:* Rev David Chinnery

*Assistant Priest:* Rev Alfred Rebello

*Parish Office:* St John's Presbytery, The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9JP

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### Prayers Please

**We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends.** Bernard Holder, Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Margaret Broadhead, Matthew Harvey, Margaret Russell, Sister Mary Doyle of the Sisters of Evron, Anne Hurst, Kenneth Martin

**Lately Dead:** Paul Schofield, Mary Banks, Valerie Bannister, Michael Haworth, Margaret Settle, Vincent Wilson

**Anniversaries:** Barbara Grimes, Eve Mary McArdle, Maisie Rebello, William Westley, Mary Hurst, Julia Jolly

**Mass Intentions:** Margaret Settle, William Westley, A sick teenager, In thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart & Our Lady, In thanksgiving to St Anthony & St Jude. A special Intention, Barbara Grimes, Mary Hurst, Julia Jolly, Paul Schofield

**Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6):** We pray especially for: the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work & the reverent use of creation; justice and peace in the world; all victims of war; young people; prisoners & their families

### Hope in the Future

For the people of the parish of St Alban, Blackburn, for Canon Jude Harrison, their parish priest, Fr Paul Taylor, OMI, and the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of St Joseph. We pray for the parish primary schools and for St Mary's College.

### Facts and Figures for 28/29 Sept

**Offertory Collection: £1,012.75**

**Standing Orders (27 Sept - 3 Oct): £658**

**Mass Attendance**

**5pm-139; 9am-170; 11am-119; Total-428**

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

**Congratulations:** To Tommy Adrian Moran who was Baptised at St Brendan's last Saturday. We pray that he and his family may continue to grow in faith.

**Baptism Preparation:** If you are seeking Baptism for your child, please contact the Parish Office Tel: 01204 301927 or email [office@sbsj.org.uk](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk) to make arrangements with either Fr David or Fr Alf to come and visit you.

**Gift Aid Donation Statements:** Are available to collect for tax year ending 5 April 2019. If any details are incorrect, please let the Parish Office know so that we can inform the Diocese. Thank you for your continued support.

### SVP News

**Food Collection:** We will continue the food collection for the Destitution Project. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We have had a letter of thanks from the volunteers at the Destitution Project, who are always so grateful for our contributions

**Musician Needed:** A musician is needed to accompany the choir at the 9am Mass (SJ) on Sundays when Martin is not available. A guitarist or an organist would be the most obvious replacement but we are open to other offers. Please contact Martin after the 9am Mass, email [martincroe@ntlworld.com](mailto:martincroe@ntlworld.com) or ring 01204 591653. Additionally, any singers or instrumentalists wishing to join the group would be most welcome

**Fair Trade Stall:** The Fair Trade stall will be at all Masses next weekend, (12/13 October). Thinking ahead to the Christmas Season, we will have advent calendars available. We can also make up Christmas food hampers to order which make a lovely gift. Please let us know if you are interested.

**Aldi - Team GB Stickers:** St John's and St Brendan's Schools are collecting the *Team GB* stickers for sports equipment. If you shop at Aldi and would like to donate your stickers to the schools, there will be a box available in each church to put them in. Thank you.

**Christian Meditation:** The next groups will be held on Tuesday 15 October at 2pm and Thursday 17 October at 7.15pm in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's. All welcome.

**Parish Trip to Wardley Hall:** Sunday 27 October 2019 (1.30pm). There is a list at the back of each church for those wishing to attend, and a separate list for those who can offer transport.

**The Catholic Hub - Prayer, Music, Fellowship:** The Catholic Hub is an exciting new event for Young Adults (18+) which is starting on Saturday 12 October, 7.30pm at Salford Cathedral. If you are interested or have any queries please email: [youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk).

**PINT Young Adult Event:** Monday 21 October 6.30pm - 9.30pm at the Old Pint Pot, M3 6NE All young adults are invited to this event run by Salford University Catholic Chaplaincy. There will be live music, food, drink and a guest speaker.

**Novena with Newman:** All over the world, people are preparing to celebrate the canonisation of Blessed John Henry Newman on Sunday 13 October. This is a time of special grace for us to join together and form links in a great chain of prayer, where we call upon the soon-to-be-Saint to crown our prayers with his intercession in heaven. You can form links in that chain by joining in our Novena with Newman, starting on Friday 4 October and finishing on Saturday 12 October. To find out more and download the nine day prayer booklet, visit: <https://www.newmancanonisation.com/novena>

**Retreat - Reflections on Christ's Teaching in the Gospel of Matthew:** At the Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst College, Clitheroe, BB7 9PT on Friday 1 November 2019 (5pm). A weekend retreat including four talks by Fr Mark Paver, prayer, Adoration and Mass. There is also the opportunity for spiritual direction. Cost: £150 full board and single room; £110 full board and shared room. To book or for more information please contact the Christian Heritage Centre by emailing:

[bookings@christianheritagecentre.com](mailto:bookings@christianheritagecentre.com)

**Holy Hour for Vocations:** There are a number of Holy Hours (7pm-8pm) being held around the diocese to pray for vocations. All are welcome. The next one is at St Margaret Mary's, New Moston, M40 0JE. Tuesday 8 October

**Gaudete et Exultate:** Discernment is all the more important when some novelty presents itself in our lives. Then we have to decide whether it is new wine brought by God or an illusion created by the spirit of this world or the spirit of the devil. At other times, the opposite can happen, when the forces of evil induce us not to change, to leave things as they are, to opt for a rigid resistance to change. Yet that would be to block the working of the Spirit. We are free, with the freedom of Christ. Still, he asks us to examine what is within us - our desires, anxieties, fears and questions - and what takes place all around us - "the signs of the times" - and thus to recognize the paths that lead to complete freedom. "Test everything; hold fast to what is good". We need discernment at all times, to help us recognize God's timetable, lest we fail to heed the promptings of his grace and disregard his invitation to grow. Often discernment is exercised in small and apparently irrelevant things, since greatness of spirit is manifested in simple everyday realities. It involves striving untrammelled for all that is great, better and more beautiful, while at the same time being concerned for the little things, for each day's responsibilities and commitments. Discernment also enables us to recognize the concrete means that the Lord provides in his mysterious and loving plan, to make us move beyond mere good intentions. **To ponder:** at the close of each day why not spend a moment looking back with Jesus over the day, noticing where you recognise his presence.

**St Joseph's Deanery Dinner Dance:** In aid of B Bolton Hospice Friday on 18 October (7pm for 7.30pm until midnight). At Holiday Inn, 1 Higher Bridge St, Bolton, BL1 2EW. Tickets are £29.50 per head. Pick up a booking form from the back of church

**St Brendan's Piety Stall:** Christmas cards are now on sale. Please take a look and support us. Thank you.

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**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**  
 Peel House  
 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.  
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Readers & Eucharistic Ministers 12/13 October 2019		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	C Molyneux	TBA
9am (SJ)	A Grundy	A Grundy, F Smith, S May, A Rawlinson, A Gracie, M Speed
11am (SB)	F Doloroso	C Owen, P Brennan

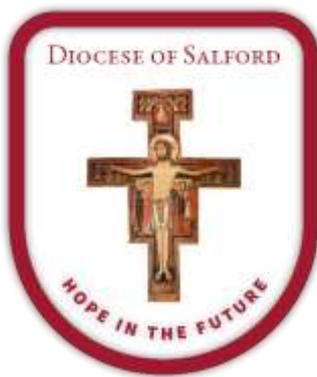
**Hope in the Future:** The Launch of Stage Three will take place at Salford Cathedral at a Mass. Stage Three asks us to focus on the liturgy and how prayerful and active we can make it. Bishop John want us to also think about how we can make more of the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in our churches. There will be a Pastoral Letter from the Bishop at Masses this weekend and on the back of the newsletter is a reflection from Fr Chris Gorton on what stage three focusses on. Over the coming year we will be examining Sunday Mass under four headings; Our Welcome, Our Listening, Our Offering and Our Mission. Each theme will focus on a personal encounter with Jesus and how every part of the Mass must be seen in these terms, if it is to nourish and strengthen us as disciples. Every member of the congregation, ministers and faithful, have a responsibility to help make the celebration this personal encounter, both for themselves and for each other. There will also be a talk given by Sr Brenda Matterson DC on "A Welcoming Parish" on Wednesday 16 October at St Gabriel's RCHS, Bury, BL9 0TZ Tea & Coffee from 7pm - Donation of £5 on door

**Come and Join Us!**

Tea & coffee are always served after the Sunday morning Masses; 9am St John's and 11am at St Brendan's. Everyone is always welcome. Come and join old friends and new for a catch up!

# Passing on the Flame of Faith

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Below, to celebrate the upcoming launch of Stage Three of Hope in the Future, Fr Chris Gorton reflects on the journey we are on as a diocese and the role we have to play in passing on the flame of our faith. Stage Three builds on our work in the previous two stages, and we move our focus to 'Living the Sunday Eucharist'. The weekend is, in a real sense, a focal point for our celebration of our faith. We hope to build on this to ensure that our parishes are mission oriented through our welcome, our liturgy and our hospitality. Missionary Parishes are places of welcome and prayer, where no one is left behind.

*One thing is certain in our faith. In fact, our faith is based on it. Jesus, risen from the dead, is present amongst us, alleluia, alleluia! Whatever our plans, whatever ideas we have, and whatever successes, failures and setbacks we encounter, Christ is with us on the journey and it is his mission that we share. Development plans come and go, and structures may adapt or resist to change. But if we keep Christ at the centre of all that we are trying to achieve, we know we are heading in the right direction.*

*oThe enduring symbol of the Paschal candle burning brightly in the darkness at the Easter Vigil is our Hope in the Future. It is a physical, symbolic reminder of the presence of Christ amongst us and the faith that has been given to us and that we are called to share. Ultimately, this is what Hope in the Future is all about. It's about being Missionary Disciples receiving, deepening and passing on our faith and allowing the light of our faith to shine brightly in a darkened world. Our faith can bring other people hope while encouraging them to have a personal encounter with Jesus. Think for a moment of the Olympic flame being passed from one person to the next before the games begin; it's a familiar sight in athletics. Now imagine for a moment the light of Christ being passed from one generation to the next. That is why we are here. Our faith has been passed on from the earliest of times, from the Apostles, to the generation who have now given us the light of faith.*

**Now it is our turn to run!** *The terrain is very different from even twenty years ago. Now we live in a missionary country, a missionary diocese and in missionary parishes. If we spend too much time looking back to how it used to be, we will miss the opportunity given to us to live out our faith now, to run our part of the race and be the missionary disciples that we are called to be. In our diocese at this moment in time Hope in the Future is a positive way of helping the diocese, deaneries, parishes and schools to do precisely that. Many people have begun to engage with Hope in the Future in very creative ways and hopefully this will help other parishes to have the confidence and the wisdom to engage with the programme as well. We all benefit from shared good practice, encouraging each other as people do in a race. We all benefit from everyone taking part. But it is very important that we remain focused and determined so that we do our own personal best as a diocese, deanery, parish, school, parishioner, priest - for the good of all. There is a famous phrase that says **'It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.'***

**Be a Messenger of Hope:** *We are lucky to already have that light and now we are running with it. It is our time and we will not have the chance again so I encourage you to run, run, run to the best of your ability, to share the light of Christ as a missionary disciple and to be a member of the team. The next generation will thank you, maybe not now, but when their turn comes to pass on the light of faith. Be a messenger of hope, be part of Hope in the Future in the diocese and be inspired by the Holy Spirit in the way you pass on our hope in the future, Jesus Christ himself.*

**Find out more about Stage Three of Hope in the Future** visit the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk)