

**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS
2ND OCTOBER 2011
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



Today we focus on the vineyard: frequently we see the vineyard as an image or parable of the Kingdom of God. A vineyard takes a great deal of work, throughout the year; it must be tended, watered, pruned, cared for if there is to be any fruit - there are no quick results with vines. So the financial and labour investments made would create high expectations for a good crop. How heartbreaking when the fruit is as sour as vinegar! So it was with God and his people: he invested immense care and love on them, tending then and giving them what they needed - but the fruit was rotten and sour. What can God do? Hand the vineyard over to some tenants who will bring in a harvest. That is us, the new people of Israel: but what sort of harvest will we produce?

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 3 Patmos Room - St John's (SJ); Harbour Room - St Brendan's (SB)</i>		Prayers Please
Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SJ) <i>Collection for Retired Priests' Fund</i>	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Philip Blackburn, Laura Shuttleworth, Bill Kay, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Baby Guy, Bernard Edmundson, Jonathan Rimmer, Maria de los Angeles, Paul Preston, Elizabeth Patterson, Eunice Brierley, Betty Boyle, Bernard Callaghan, Judith Oldham, Kathleen Humphreys, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Rowland Coles, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Paul Whittle, Caroline Vickers, Bill Sharples, George Cowley, Marie Donnelly, Alice Coyne, Robin Tootill, Gerard Walker, Elzie Ball, Karen West, Tommy Lenihan, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Marie Rigby, Francis Xavier Price (new-born baby), Alf Isherwood, Bernard & Rita Holder, Michael (six year old), Baby Rose, Calum Russell (baby), Margaret Edge, Simon Taylor, Frank Brazel and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Frank Greenhalgh, Francis Doyle, Mary Ogden, Mary Horrocks, Frank Unsworth</p> <p>Anniversary: Mary Hurst, Anthony Breen, Patrick McCourt</p> <p>Mass Intentions: The McArdle family, In thanksgiving for a successful operation, Frank Greenhalgh, Mary Hurst, Anthony Breen, Francis Doyle, Patrick McCourt, Deceased members of the McCourt family, Harry & Kath Gillett, Mary Ogden, In thanksgiving for a Diamond Wedding, Mary Horrocks</p> <p>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</p>
Monday	9.30 Mass (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 7.30-8.30pm Youth Group (Patmos Room)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB) 6pm Sacramental Programme (SB School)	
Friday <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ) <i>CAFOD Harvest Fast Day</i>	
Saturday	5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SB) <i>Collection from CAFOD Fast Day</i>	
<p>Youth Group: This meets on Wednesday evening (7.30 to 8.30) in the Patmos Room and is open to young people of secondary school age from either of our parishes. This week, the group will have a special visitor: Lorraine Leonard, the Diocesan Youth Ministry Co-ordinator. All young people are invited to come along.</p> <p>Youth All-Night Vigil: This is taking place at Sacred Heart, Gorton, Manchester next Friday (7.30pm) to Saturday. Further details and application forms are available in both churches this weekend. Transport will be arranged.</p>		

Retired Priests' Fund: This weekend we have the annual collection for this fund. You can make a more regular contribution by standing order. You may gift aid your donation. Please be as generous as you can to help meet the needs of our retired priests.

Sacramental Programme: Our new programme at St Brendan's begins this Thursday (6pm in school) and we will shortly be beginning the new programme at St John's. Anyone with a Year 3 child not in one of our schools, or an older child who has missed the sacraments in earlier years, who would like to join the programme this year should contact Fr Cooke.

Congratulations: To Rory Joseph Corser, Ruby Anne Walsh and Alexander James Parnell who were baptised at St Brendan's last weekend. We pray that they and their families may continue to grow in faith.

Baptism Preparation: The next session for parents will be on Wednesday 12 October (7-8.30pm) in the Harbour Room. Please let Fr Cooke know if you will be attending.

Ralph Gubbins: Margaret and her family would like to thank everyone who attended Ralph's Requiem, sent donations, Mass cards, sympathy cards and brought us flowers. It was so uplifting to know that not only was he "special" to us but so many others held him in high esteem as well. God bless you all.

St John's School: Parents of children interested in a place for admission in St John's school for September 2012 are invited to an open afternoon to take place on 11th October 2012 beginning at 2pm. We ask any parent interested in a place for their child at St John's to contact the school for a visit at anytime. Parents are also welcome at any of our Friday afternoon assemblies at 2.45pm.

Lourdes Water (SB): A small amount of Lourdes water is available at the piety stall. If you would like to take some, you will need to bring a small bottle or container for it.

Children of Eden: The Bolton Catholic Musical and Choral Society (BCMCS) are presenting this spectacular musical version of the story of creation written by Stephen Schwartz (creator of *Wicked* and *Godspell*) at the Bolton Albert Halls from 18th to 22nd October at 7.15pm (with a 2.15pm Saturday matinee). In view of the present economic climate, ticket prices have been slashed and are as cheap as £5 for groups of 15 or more. Full details are on the notices in the church porches or available via the box office (01204 652804) or website www.bcmcs.co.uk

Tapestry: A new addition to St Brendan's Church is the tapestry of our patron saint installed on the sanctuary wall in time for our recent parish celebrations. This has been produced by a local tapestry artist (Alexandra Holt) working with the children of St Brendan's School. The project was overseen by Kathryn Wilkinson on behalf of the Premises Project Board. We are grateful to everyone involved in the production and installation of this very fitting addition to our church. Further examples of Alexandra's work can be seen on www.imagodrift.co.uk

St Brendan's Church Car Park: The locks and keys for the new car park gates have arrived and the keys will be distributed soon to those parishioners who requested one. From Monday 17 October, the gates will be locked when church services are not taking place, during school holidays and after 6pm in school term.

CAMEO Group: The next meeting will be on Thursday 13 October (2-4pm) in the Harbour Room. All welcome.

Harbour Room Book Club: Many thanks to all members who attended our last meeting. We were very fortunate in having some members who had visited the leper colony on the island of Spinalonga in past years and therefore we all had a most interesting and informative time. The next book club meeting will be on Wednesday 26 October, the designated read being *The Help* by K Stockett (soon to be released as a film). All are welcome. *Madeleine*

Notice of a Book Sale: The second sale of books will take place on Sunday 9 October at St John's after the 9.15 Mass. Books in good condition are welcome. Proceeds will be divided between the church and the book club. With thanks for your support. *HRBC*

CAFOD

Envelopes for the forthcoming Harvest Fast Day are stapled to the newsletter this week. Please return them to church next weekend.

Hopefully you will have noticed that the "thermometer" on our fund-raising poster is now completely red. We reached our target of £4000 for a health clinic at the start of September. This is a terrific achievement raised by:

Balance from 2010 fundraising	480.00
Sunday Morning Coffee (both churches)	1297.00
Fairtrade stalls	98.00
Cakebake	150.00
CAFOD Boxes (excluding Lent)	585.00
Concert	1080.00
Donations	320.00
Total	4000.00

The CAFOD group are very grateful for your generous support for this particular project, in addition to the £1863 raised for the Lent Fast Day, £1765 for the East Africa Appeal and an estimated £180 Gift Aid on these donations. A grand total of £7808 so far this year.

Having previously paid for a school – and now this health centre – the group intends to use further funds to buy other items for a "virtual village".

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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Think Vocations

St Paul tells us that if there is anything that we need we should pray for it. Quite often we confuse asking for what we need with what we want. Let us always make sure that we pray for other people not just ourselves and that we always pray for what is needed. May God's will be done and not our own.