

**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD
 & ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS
 5TH FEBRUARY 2012
 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

This world, as we know, is a fragile and fallible place, in which we encounter hunger, disease, sickness and death. Jesus proclaims, by his actions of healing, that there is another world, the Kingdom of God, which will be free from all such anxieties and afflictions. The story of Paradise and the Garden of Eden painted a picture of a world which was perfect, and free from all problems. Jesus came into the world precisely to offer us a return to Eden, if we follow him. Each of his miracles is also, in some sense, a parable or teaching, pointing out to us something of the lost happiness and perfection which he is restoring. This vision of Paradise is not Utopian or delusory, not just a vain hope to comfort us with, but the true manifestation of God's love for us. Jesus could not cure every disease or sickness in the world then but his miracles of healing are a sign that one day, when the Kingdom comes, sickness and disease will be wiped away for ever.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 1</i> <i>Patmos Room - St John's (SJ); Harbour Room - St Brendan's (SB)</i>		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Caritas Day</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) <i>Special Collection for Caritas (Diocese of Salford)</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, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Paul Whittle, Caroline Vickers, Bill Sharples, George Cowley, Marie Donnelly, Alice Coyne, Robin Tootill, Gerard Walker, Elzie Ball, Karen West, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Alf Isherwood, Bernard & Rita Holder, Michael (six year old), Baby Rose, Calum Russell (baby), Margaret Edge, Frank Brazel, Graham Roberts, Eileen Murphy, Brendan O'Grady, Tommy Lenihan, Pauline Bowling, Paul Buckley, Margaret Walsh, Joan Plumbley, Graham Turner, Jim Birch, Jane Dent, Mary Keighley and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Frank Kilfoyle, Cynthia Winstanley, Bernard Burke, Veronica Bradley, Leila Burns, Eileen Chadwick</p> <p>Anniversary: Barbara Irving, Doug & Veronica Sweetland, Norman Graham, Frederick Martin, Lewis Brown, Betty Finn</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Cynthia Winstanley, Bernard Burke, J Prendergast, Barbara Irving, Marie Lamoury (Birthday Remembrance), Doug & Veronica Sweetland, Norman Graham, Frederick Martin, Lewis Brown, For recovery from illness, Francis Anthony Kilfoyle, Leila Burns, Nancy Westworth, Margaret Elizabeth (Betty) Finn</p> <p>Cycle of Prayer Part 2 (of 6): We pray especially for: peace on earth; Christian unity; the sick and those who care for them; students and teachers; the unemployed</p>
Monday <i>St Paul Miki & Companions</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 7.30-8.30pm Youth Group (Patmos Room)	
Thursday	11.15am Requiem Mass for Eileen Chadwick (SJ) 7.30pm CAFOD Meeting (Harbour Room)	
Friday <i>St Scholastica</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ) 10am Coffee Morning for HCPT (Patmos Room)	
Saturday <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ) <i>Bethlehem Art</i>	
Next Sunday <i>Education Day</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SB) <i>Special Collection for Catholic Education Service</i> <i>Bethlehem Art</i>	
Collections, Donations, Gift Aid <i>All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's or St John's as appropriate. 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. Please ask. Thanks.</i>		
Find out about our Parishes, Masses, Events, Groups and so much more: www.sbsj.org.uk		

Readers: Several times recently at St John's the person due to read has not done so. This means that someone has to step in without having had opportunity to prepare (and I am grateful to those willing to do that). Last weekend it happened at both Masses and I think that the designated readers were actually present in church! If any readers no longer wish to be on the rota, or wish to swap to a rota for a different Mass, or if there are other people who would like to be on the rota at either church, please contact Alison Howarth on 308492. Thanks. *Fr Cooke*

Bethlehem Art: a craftsman will be at our churches next weekend with a range of beautiful olive wood carvings for sale. All proceeds help Christian families in Bethlehem.

CAFOD: The next meeting of this group is on Thursday evening (7.30pm) in the Harbour Room. New members are always welcome.

Fairtrade: We are postponing the fairtrade stall at St John's until the last weekend of this month. This is for two reasons: the clash with Bethlehem Art and the fact that we will now have the stall in both parishes at the start of Fairtrade Fortnight.

CAMEO: Next meeting on Wednesday 15 February (2-4pm) on "The History of Harwood". All welcome.

Harbour Room Book Club: Early warning! Would all members please note a change to the plan for the next meeting on the 29 February. After much thought, it has been decided to do both the books together. This will avoid a long postponement date and will not alter next year's schedule. Therefore, please come ready to discuss both *Half of a Yellow Sun* by C N Adichie AND *Imperium* by Robert Harris. The latter novel will be allocated the longer time for discussion. This has not been tried before, so we shall see how it goes! Same time, same place on 29 February. *Madeleine*

Vision Aid Overseas: Thank you for the great response to the appeal for unwanted spectacles. The boxes will remain at the back of both churches for a further two weeks. For more information, visit www.vao.org.uk

Born to Sing: The Social Committee has invited *Nobow Productions* to put on this evening of entertainment at Dunscair Conservative Club on Friday 9 March at 7.30pm. Tickets are now on sale at both churches at a cost of £6 (including refreshments). Please do support this event.

Church Cleaning (SJ): S Copley

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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Think Vocations

In the Gospel we see a day in the life of Jesus. It was busy but he made time for prayer. Let us remember those men and women who serve the Church in the contemplative religious life. Their mission is to support through prayer, those who are busy with the apostolic work of the Church. May others be drawn to live this vital and generous way of living the Christian vocation.

Caritas Diocese of Salford

Today's special collection supports this diocesan charity which continues the work previously done by Catholic Rescue and Catholic Welfare Services. This year they are concentrating on raising money for the activities that give a helping hand to so many people throughout the diocese through their Community Resource Centres. If you would like to gift-aid your donation, please use one of the special envelopes.

Catholic Education Service

Next week's special collection supports the work done by the Catholic Education Service of England and Wales. This agency of the Bishops' Conference exists to promote and develop Catholic Education and to negotiate with the Government on behalf of our schools and colleges. This is vital work at a time when the educational scene is open to great change.

Relay of Prayer

Back in September, you may remember the launch of this relay of prayer, when representatives from every school in the diocese gathered at Thornleigh and each school was paired with one of the countries taking part in the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The special Olympic prayer torch began its journey around the diocese at the beginning of Advent. By July it will have travelled 450 miles, visiting every school. As the torch is passed on, there will be assemblies in which the schools will speak about their twinned country.

The torch is due to come to St Brendan's on Thursday 1 March, from Holly Mount (with an assembly about El Salvador). It will be transferred to St John's on the morning of Friday 2 March (with an assembly about Puerto Rico) and then on the St Columba's that afternoon (with an assembly about Côte d'Ivoire). On Monday 5 March, it will be brought to Thornleigh from Holy Infants (with an assembly about Kenya) and on 6 March it will be taken to St Joseph's (with an assembly about Trinidad and Tobago). Pupils from Thornleigh are preparing their assembly on the basis of work done in Home Technology, Music, RE, Geography and History, as well as within the Chaplaincy.

Each of our schools will be looking for ways to involve parishioners in the celebrations that accompany the receiving and the transfer of the torch, so there will be more information to follow when times and routes are confirmed.

St John's School are organising a coffee morning to celebrate the relay of prayer on Monday 13 February (with Fairtrade goods available) and have an African tribal band coming into school on Friday 17 February.

For more information see www.evangelisation-dos.com

Eucharistic Congress

This is due to take place in Dublin in June. The diocese is organising travel and accommodation. More information is available from Fr Cooke.