

**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS**

12TH FEBRUARY 2012

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Thankfully, we do not encounter leprosy in our culture. It can therefore be difficult to enter into the real depth of today's readings. We have to understand that leprosy meant exclusion, rejection and the end of "normal" life. For your leprosy to be cured would be like being given a second chance at life. What is the cause of exclusion and rejection in our society – or even in the Church? Who are those who must "live apart"? And how can we put into effect in our day those most touching of the words of Jesus, when asked if he wants to cure the leper: "Of course I want to!"? Contemplating exclusion and rejection in our world can be hard work: Saint Paul guides the way: the Christian path is not to work "for my own advantage, but for the advantage of everybody else".

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 2</i> <i>Patmos Room - St John's (SJ); Harbour Room - St Brendan's (SB)</i>		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Education Day</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SB) <i>Bethlehem Art</i> <i>Special Collection for Catholic Education Service</i>	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, 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, Emma Turner (12yrs old), Bishop Brain and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Veronica Bradley, Lilian Lees, Sr Monica Jones, Philip Blackburn, Danuta Langner, Ray Honeyford</p> <p>Anniversary: Alfeo & Bonifacia Doloroso, Terence Cocker, Isabella Coupe, Margaret Mary Eastwood</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Alfeo & Bonifacia Doloroso, Clemente & Bonifacia Gaela, The Doloroso family, Veronica Bradley, Terence Cocker, Lilian & Bert Lees, Sr Monica Jones FMDM, Isabella Coupe, Philip Blackburn, Danuta Langner, Ray Honeyford, Deceased members of the Whyte & Eastwood families</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	9.30am Coffee Morning for Relay of Prayer (SJ School) 10am Requiem Mass for Philip Blackburn (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday <i>Ss Cyril & Methodius, Patrons of Europe</i>	11am Funeral Service for Joyce Knight (Overdale) 7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 2-4pm CAMEO Group (Harbour Room) 6.15pm Sacramental Programme Meeting (SJ School) 7.30-8.30pm Youth Group (Patmos Room)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB) 7.30pm CAFOD Meeting (Harbour Room)	
Friday	9.30am Requiem Mass for Noel Walsh (SB)	
Saturday	5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SB)	
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		

Bishop Brain: Our bishop was admitted to hospital last weekend, after several weeks of not feeling well. He had a pacemaker fitted on Monday and is now home and doing well. He has been advised to take at least five weeks recuperation time. Please keep him in your prayers.

Catholic Education Service: This 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.

Readers: 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*

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

CAFOD: The meeting planned for last Thursday evening had to be postponed. It will now, hopefully, take place this Thursday (7.30pm) in the Harbour Room. New members are always welcome.

Coffee Morning (SJ): This was cancelled due to the bad weather so the one in March will now be for HCPT.

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 week. For more information, visit www.vao.org.uk


SVP Party (SB): Sunday 4 March in St Brendan's School.

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.

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.

Lourdes: We are once again planning to be part of the diocesan pilgrimage. See attached sheet for details.

Congratulations to our newsletter sponsors...

<p>This Newsletter is sponsored by HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE Peel House 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton. BL1 7AL 01204 309609</p>	
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Think Vocations

St Paul tells us to model ourselves on Christ. Jesus had time for those who were pushed away by society and the authorities. There are people in the Church today who strive to ensure that no one is excluded from the Lord's love. We pray for those who work with the homeless and marginalised to feed them, shelter them and show them the love of Christ.

New Sunday Missals

When the new translation of the Mass came in last year, I was urging caution about investing in new Sunday and Weekday missals because a new translation of the readings is being prepared. My enquiries now lead me to believe that this will not be ready for about another five or six years which means we will have two complete cycles of Sunday readings before it happens.

With this in mind, I have researched all the options for replacing our current Mass books and invested in some missals that have the readings for all three years in them. We will start using them next weekend. *Fr Cooke*

St Brendan's 100 Club

	<i>December winners</i>	<i>January winners</i>
£25	L & M Johnston (108)	E Hallows (61)
£15	J Eaton (19)	C Stokes (45)
£10	V Hodgkinson (87)	E Patel (128)

St John's 200 Club

The February winners are:

£50 Joan Kelly (203)
 £30 Mary Grundy (72)
 £20 Joan Coles (293)



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