

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

11TH MARCH 2012

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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This week, in our journey through the Old Testament, we reach Covenant Number Three: and this is the big one - the Covenant with Moses at Sinai. The Ten Commandments are (or should be) familiar to us all: they form our side of the agreement with God - if we stick to these rules and commands, then we are truly God's people, and he is truly our God. If we ignore them, or break them, then we break the Covenant or relationship. The Temple was, for the people of Israel, the place that guaranteed the permanence of this Covenant - God dwelling with man. Jesus alerts us to the new Temple - himself - since he is the core of the New Covenant, God and Man in perfect unity. Only by the destruction of this new Temple, in his death, will he rise again as an eternal Temple, and the eternal guarantee of the New Covenant which we enjoy.

Liturgy & Activities This Week		Prayers Please
<i>Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 3 Patmos Room - St John's (SJ); Harbour Room - St Brendan's (SB)</i>		
Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Stations of the Cross (SJ) – led by CAFOD Group <i>Fairtrade Fortnight ends</i>	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Bill Kay, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, 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, 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, Vincent Wood, Margaret Wood, Patrick O'Donnell (new-born baby), Joan Rankin, Bernard Cummings, Guy (3yrs old), Fr Francis McCauley and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Jack Higginbottom, Marie Houghton, Bernard Walsh, Sam Slattery</p> <p>Anniversary: Ernest Pilling, Cathy & Gerard Stuart, Nora Greene, Dorothea Bleakley</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Birthday intention, Ernest Pilling, Marie Houghton, Cathy & Gerard Stuart, Barbara Grimes (Birthday Remembrance), Bernard Cummings, Nora Greene, Bernard Walsh, Sam Slattery</p> <p>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</p>
Monday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 7.30pm Churches in Harwood Lent Course (Christ's Church) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	6.30pm Stations of the Cross (SB) 7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	7.30pm Deanery Station Mass (St Columba, Tonge Moor) 7.30-9pm Marriage Preparation (Kearsley) 7.30-8.30pm Youth Group (Patmos Room)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB)	
Friday	8.30am Mass in St John's School	
Saturday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (till 9am Sunday) <i>St Patrick, Patron of Ireland</i> 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Stations of the Cross (SJ) <i>Mothers' Day</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>		
Remember that throughout Lent we are invited to pray, to fast and to give alms. This Lent, any money given to CAFOD will be matched by the Government (UK Aid)		

Father McCauley: Please keep Fr McCauley in your prayers. He was admitted to hospital on Tuesday and had a pacemaker fitted on Friday. He will need several weeks of recuperation. Fr Netto (whose hip replacement operation has been deferred to the end of the month) is covering St Columba's this weekend and next.

Christianity in Bolton: This exhibition is in the Up Close Gallery (First Floor, Central Library) until 26 May and St John's is one of the featured churches. Please do call into this exhibition whilst you are in town.

Baptism Preparation: The next session for parents will be on Thursday 29 March (7-8.30pm) in the Harbour Room. Please let Fr Cooke know if you will be attending.

Coffee Morning (SJ): Thank you to all who supported this event on Friday morning, raising £86 for HCPT.

Thanks: Marie Aspinall would like to thank Fr Michael for conducting the beautiful funeral service for her mother, Margaret Brandwood, and all who were able to attend. Also thank you for all the cards and donations received. God bless you all.

Thanks: Danny & Eileen Ramsden wish to thank all our friends for Mass intentions, good wishes, cards, presents and donations received for "Children Today" to celebrate their Golden Wedding.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
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Lent Activities This Week

Churches in Harwood Lent Course

Monday Evening 7.30-9pm
12 March – Christ's Church

Stations of the Cross

Sunday Afternoon 2pm at St John's
Tuesday Evening 6.30pm at St Brendan's

Deanery Station Mass

Wednesday Evening 7.30pm (Confessions from 7pm)
14 March – St Columba, Tonge Moor

Friday Morning Mass

8.30am in St John's School

All are welcome to attend any of these activities

St John's 200 Club

The March winners are:

£50 E Rothwell (269)
£30 A M Hailwood (236)
£20 C Hill (246)



Annual subscriptions are now due. Please make cheques payable to St John's. Thanks for your continuing support.

Think Vocations

God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Young people often get ridiculed for coming to Mass or being involved in Church Life. Not everyone who responds to the call of the Lord to serve in the Church gets the support of their family and friends. Let us show our appreciation and encouragement to those priests and Religious who help us in our parishes and communities.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in preparation for Eucharistic Congress

Sunday 11 to Monday 12 March	St James the Great Bowland Drive Montserrat Bolton BL1 5TX	9.30am Sunday Mass 11am Exposition through to 10am Mass on Monday
Monday 12 to Tuesday 13	St Osmund Long Lane Brightmet Bolton BL2 6EB	7.30am Exposition through to 9.15am Mass on Tuesday
Tuesday 13 to Wednesday 14	Schoenstatt Shrine (St John Fisher) Manchester Road Kearsley BL4 8QQ	10am Tuesday to 10am Wednesday with 6pm Mass on Tuesday
Wednesday 14 to Thursday 15	St Joseph Horace Street Halliwell Bolton BL1 3PU	11am Requiem Mass 12noon Exposition through to 10am on Thursday
Thursday 15 to Friday 16	(No church volunteered)	
Friday 16	St Vincent Newbrook Road Over Hulton Bolton BL5 1ER	9am Mass of the Holy Eucharist followed by Exposition until 10pm (Nothing overnight)
Saturday 17 to Sunday 18	St John The Crescent Bromley Cross Bolton BL7 9JP	9.30am Mass (for St Patrick's Day) then Exposition through to 9.15am Sunday Mass

Coalition for Marriage

At Masses this weekend, we receive a Letter from Archbishops Vincent Nichols and Peter Smith on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It is a statement of our Catholic faith about marriage and issued in the light of the forthcoming consultation by the Government on changing the legal definition of marriage. In the light of this letter, you are asked to consider signing the Coalition for Marriage's online petition which can be found at www.C4M.org.uk. It reads:

"I support the legal definition of marriage which is the voluntary union for life of one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others. I oppose any attempt to redefine it."