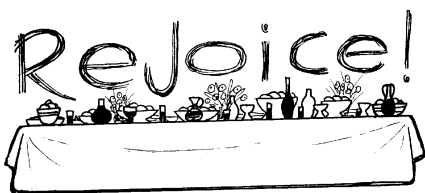


**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR  
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS**

**10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2013 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



As today we hear the familiar parable of the Prodigal Son (or the Forgiving Father), the message is Reconciliation - the making new of relationships, the healing of past wrongs and the opening of ourselves to the "new creation". This is just as the Israelites opened themselves to the New Creation of the Promised Land, when under Joshua they ended their sojourn in the wilderness after forty years of hardship, and began to eat of the produce of the country. It is all God's work: it is God who calls us back, and God who welcomes us into the Promised Land of his mercy when we return. So today, let us think not so much of sin and offences, as the new creation God offers us, if we but turn back to him and embrace him as our Father.

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b> <i>Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 4</i> <b>Sunday Missal</b> page 568 Readings 576; Preface 38 or 39		<b>Prayers Please</b>
Sunday <i>Laetare Sunday Mother's Day</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy <i>Day of Special prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	<p><b>Sick:</b> Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Edmundson, Jonathan Rimmer, Eunice Brierley, Elizabeth Patterson, Bernard Callaghan, Kathleen Humphreys, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Caroline Vickers, George Cowley, Alice Coyne, Robin Tootill, Elzie Ball, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Bernard &amp; Rita Holder, Michael, Baby Rose, Calum Russell, Margaret Edge, Eileen Murphy, Brendan O'Grady, Pauline Bowling, Paul Buckley, Margaret Walsh, Joan Plumbley, Emma Turner, Margaret Wood, Joan Rankin, Guy Ryan, Maria Stott, Fiona Preston, Kathleen Hopwood, Catherine Crowley, John Barrett, Bea Gilmore, Tara Vinden, Roy Smith, Isabelle Karzynski, Fiona Oldham (nee Clappison), Emma Jiminez (baby), Bernard Cummings, Stephen Tootill, Maureen Kennedy, Vera Evans, Denise Carolan, Leila Parker, Julie Smith and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Vincent Wood, James Boland, Bridie Barrett, Frank Atkinson, Nancy Riordan, Alan Roberts, Terence Mather, Anna Thompson, Ann Webster</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Ernest Pilling, James Alexander Sloane</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Bridie Barrett, Anna Mikolajewski (Birthday Remembrance), Margaret Walsh, Frank Atkinson, Ernest Pilling, Nancy Riordan, James Alexander Sloane, Barbara Grimes (Birthday Remembrance), Ann Webster</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cycle of Prayer Part 3 (of 6)</b></p> <p>We pray especially for: candidates for the sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers</p>
Monday	9.30am Requiem Mass for Alan Roberts (SJ) 7.30pm Churches in Harwood Course (Christ's Church) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	2.45pm Funeral Service for Terence Mather (Overdale) 6.30pm Stations of the Cross (SB) 7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.15am School Mass in Church (SC) 7.30pm Deanery Station Mass (New Springs) (Holy Family, 24 Cale Lane, New Springs, Wigan, WN2 1HA) <i>[See overleaf for directions]</i>	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB) 7-8.30pm Baptism Preparation (SB Harbour Room) 7.30pm CAFOD Group (SJ Patmos Room)	
Friday	8.15am Mass (SJ School)	
Saturday	5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6pm Mass (SC) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy 2pm Stations of the Cross (SC)	
<b>Collections, Donations, Gift Aid</b> <i>All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's, St Columba'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>		
<b>Fr Cooke will be broadcasting live on Bolton FM's Spirit of Bolton programme this Sunday evening (6-7pm) on 96.5FM</b>		<b>HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY</b>

**Tanzania Appeal:** At our Masses at St Columba's, this weekend, we will hear from a young parishioner (Daniel Conniffe) who will be part of the Thornleigh Sixth Form trip to Tanzania this summer. He will speak to us about the trip and appeal for financial support. Please respond generously.

**Fairtrade Stall:** As Fairtrade Fortnight draws to a close, goods continue to be on sale at both St Brendan's and St John's this weekend. Justicia, the Fairtrade shop in Bolton from whom we obtain the stock, generously gives us 5% commission on all goods we sell, which is all donated to CAFOD. Why not "Take a Step for Fairtrade"

**Baptism Preparation:** The next preparation session will be on Thursday 14 March (7 to 8.30pm) at St Brendan's. This is for parents wishing to have a child baptised in any of our three churches. Please let Fr Cooke know if you will be attending.

**CAFOD Group:** The next meeting will be held on Thursday 14 March (7.30pm) at St John's.

**Parish Forum:** The next meeting of the Parish Forum will be on Thursday 21 March (7pm). Venue to be confirmed. This is an open meeting for parishioners from all three parishes. An agenda will be published next weekend.

**St John's 200 Club:** Annual subscriptions are now due. Please pay at any Mass, cheques payable to St John's. Thank you for your continued support.

**Gift Aid Donors:** If you have not yet returned the form that was sent out in January, please do so as soon as possible so that we can update our records prior to the new tax year starting in April. Thanks to those who have!

**Sr Pauline CP:** There will be a memorial Mass next Saturday (12 noon) at St Ethelbert's for Sr Pauline who worked at Mount St Joseph School in a variety of capacities for over 30 years. May she rest in peace.

**Novena to St Joseph:** Each Year the Mill Hill Community prepares for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers (10-18 March). You are invited to send your petitions and/or request a Novena booklet by writing to Fr Denis Treacy, MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, Communications House, 12 Craufurd Rise, Maidenhead SL6 7LS or email: [novena@millhillmissionaries.com](mailto:novena@millhillmissionaries.com)

**New Springs:** To help you find the church for Wednesday's Station Mass - Go past the Reebok to the roundabout beyond the motorway and turn left onto the A6. Then turn first right into Dicconson Lane (B5239) which later becomes Bolton Road. Continue to a roundabout (or traffic island) where you turn left onto Wigan Road (B5238). After you cross the bridge over the canal, take the third turning on the left (at traffic lights) into Cale Lane. The church is on the left hand side. The journey should take about 25-30mins.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**

Peel House  
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.  
BL1 7AL  
01204 309609



## Lent 2013

### Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 6.30pm at St Brendan's  
Next Sunday (17 March) 2pm at St Columba's

### Churches in Harwood Lent Course

#### *Journeys of Faith*

Monday Evenings 7.30-9pm

11 March – Christ's Church

18 March – Harwood Methodists (Longsight)

25 March – St Brendan's

Materials for these sessions can be downloaded from [www.ctbi.org.uk/lent](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/lent)

### Deanery Station Masses

Wednesday Evenings 7.30pm (Confessions from 7pm)

13 March – Holy Family, New Springs

20 March – St Columba, Tonge Moor

### Friday Morning Mass

In St John's School at 8.15am

*All are welcome to attend any of these activities*

## Year of Faith

### Diocesan talks – Winter/Spring 2013

St Gabriel's High School, Bury (7.30pm-9.30pm).

- Monday 22 April – Archbishop Bernard Longley  
'The Synod on The New Evangelisation-where do we go from here?'

*Prior registration is not essential, but helps with organisation. There is a suggested donation of £.5 per person, per evening to help cover costs. Booking forms and further information are available from the diocesan website [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or e-mail [sharon.beech@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:sharon.beech@dioceseofsalford.org.uk).*

### Catholicism

The presentations on the Catholic Faith, held at St James' Parish Monserrat recently, were very well received. People who attended wanted a chance to ask questions and discuss the programme further. The series will re-run on Monday evenings, with this in mind, for the next 3 weeks commencing at 7.30pm. Please see the notice boards for further details.

## Think Vocation

"Father I have sinned against heaven and against you." The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a great gift to the Church - it's often something many of us find difficult. St John Vianney is the patron of all priests and was renowned for his compassion and wisdom in the confessional. May we pray for our own priests to imitate their patron in his zeal and dedication to this beautiful sacrament of healing.

## Prayer for Election of a New Pope

O God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unflinching care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.