

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

15TH SEPTEMBER 2013

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The message of God's forgiveness is one that we are familiar with, but which the Lord still wishes to emphasise. Our human approach to forgiveness is so often flawed – we hold grudges, erect barriers, make demands and establish conditions. Jesus wants to remind his listeners – and us – that God's forgiveness is overflowing and bountiful. Saint Paul was well aware of this: he had persecuted the Church, calling himself “the greatest of sinners”; and yet, thanks to the “inexhaustible patience” of God, he can count himself

a believer. We must be open to the gift of forgiveness for ourselves, and also (as the Parable of the Elder Brother shows) open to that forgiveness offered to others whom we would condemn.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 4</i> Sunday Missal: page 411; Readings 417; Preface at Priest's choice		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Home Mission Day</i>	9.15am (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy 3pm Signed Mass for the Deaf (SB) – <i>All welcome</i> <i>Special Collection for Home Mission Day</i>	<p>Sick: 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, Robin Tootill, Elzie Ball, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Bernard & Rita Holder, Michael, Baby Rose, Calum Russell, Eileen Murphy, Brendan O'Grady, Pauline Bowling, Emma Turner, Joan Rankin, Guy Ryan, Maria Stott, Fiona Preston, Kathleen Hopwood, Catherine Crowley, John Barrett, Bea Gilmore, Roy Smith, Isabelle Karzynski, Fiona Oldham (nee Clappison), Emma Jimanez (baby), Stephen Tootill, Maureen Kennedy, Vera Evans, Julie Smith, Ernie Little, Mary Coyne, Anthony Axford, Mary Marshall, Joan Pearce, Joshua Almond, Jacqueline Kay, Wynn Elliot, Tom Wardle, Joan Peake (nee Hooton), Elizabeth Evenson, Bob Taylor, Rita Margiotta, Noel Gannon, Joan Taylor, Sheila Derbyshire, Carol Ainscow, David Walton and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Margaret Rogerson, Jimmy Fleming, Anthony Parkinson, Clifford Hogan, Michael Mangan</p> <p>Anniversaries: Frank Greenhalgh, Guy Shackell, Gordon Hollinshead, Esther Thomas, Kathleen Fetherstone</p> <p>Mass Intentions: A Special Intention, Margaret Barrett (sick), Frank Greenhalgh, In honour of St Anthony, A very Special Intention, Thanksgiving Mass for a safe confinement for Sarah Moore, The recovery of David Walton, Guy Shackell, Gordon Hollinshead, John Hall (Birthday Remembrance), Kathleen Fetherstone</p>
Monday <i>St Cornelius Pope & St Cyprian Bishop</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB) 6-9pm Thornleigh Open Evening	
Friday <i>St Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday	10.30am–12 noon Baptism Preparation (SJ) 5pm Mass (SC) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy 10.15am (SC) – with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SB)	
<p>Collections & Donations: <i>All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's, St Columba's or St John's as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Mass Intentions: <i>Cheques should be made payable to St John's</i></p> <p>Gift Aid: <i>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. Thanks</i></p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6):</p> <p>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>

Parish Priest and Rural Dean: Rev Michael Cooke

Assistant Priests: Rev Joseph Gee & Rev Francis Parkinson

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Home Mission Sunday: This weekend we pray for the spread of the Gospel in our own country and support this Home Mission work with a special collection.

Thornleigh Open Evening: Thursday 19 September 2013 (6-9pm). This is for children moving up to year 7 and their parents.

Year of Faith

During the Year of Faith, the Department for Evangelisation has organised a series of talks (there have been eight so far). Two more talks have been organised for October and the topics are:

Wednesday 2 October (7.30-9.30pm)

- *An Introduction to the Book of Revelation* – Canon Dr Jeremy Duff

Tuesday 8 October (7.30-9.30pm)

- *The Power of the Parables (Part 1)* – Fr Denis McBride

Both talks will take place at St Gabriel's RC High School, Bridge Road, Bury BL9 0TZ. The Cost for each of the session is £5.00 per person.

The Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham: A special Mass will be held on Tuesday 24 September at Salford Cathedral. Rosary & Confession (7.00pm) followed by Holy Mass at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served after Mass. All welcome.

Steering Group: We are looking for 3 volunteers from each of our 3 churches to form a steering group which will help keep things moving in between Parish Forum meetings. Two people from St John's have already put themselves forward. If you feel that you would like to be involved please contact one of the priests or email office@sbsj.org.uk.

CAFOD Volunteers: Could you motivate and engage others to make lasting change in the developing world? Or, do you know someone who could? CAFOD needs volunteers to give talks about their work in parishes and in schools. Full training and support will be given. Please contact Ged Edwards on 0161 705 0605 or gedwards@cafod.org.uk for further details.

Social Group: A number of parishioners have expressed their interest in the formation of a joint Social Group within the 3 parishes. A discussion on the format of such a group would be required to establish aims e.g. outings, theatre visits etc. There have been suggestions of a 'Luncheon Club'. With all the above in mind I propose to hold a meeting in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's on Monday 23 September (11.00am). If you are interested please just come along or, preferably, let me know that you will be there. Regards to all. *Terry Smith* (01204 531197).

Retirement: Mr James Jennings, who has been a caretaker at St John's School for thirteen years, retires at the end of next week. He would like you to join in the celebrations on Friday 20 September at Dunscair Conservative Club at 7.30pm (adults only please).

SVP: The Mass for the housebound, sick and disabled this year will be celebrated at St John's on Saturday 28 September at 11am. Everybody is welcome. Refreshments will be available after Mass. If you require transport to attend this Mass, please contact a member of the SVP.

SVP Awareness: September is the annual month for raising awareness about this organisation. Please see the posters in the church porches (which change each week).

The Catholic Church in Darwen

The Parish of the Sacred Heart & St Edward and the Parish of St Joseph would like to invite you to a

**24 hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
for the Pope's Intentions and to
celebrate the Year of Faith**

At

**St Joseph's Church, Bolton Road, Darwen
Friday 4 October – Saturday 5 October**

All Welcome!

Mary's Meals: You may remember, some time ago, that there was a special appeal for Mary's Meals and a good number of parishioners kindly took collection boxes home. Since the appeal, some of the boxes have either been returned to Church or sent directly to the charity. If you still have a box at home, please bring it in to any Mass. Thank you.

Scripture Study: From Thursday 3 October we will be running a course on Scripture at St Brendan's (7.30-8.30pm). If possible, please bring a Catholic Bible and a copy of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Baptism Preparation: Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 21 September (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John's. This is for parents from any of our three parishes who wish to have a child baptised in the coming months. Please let one of the priests know if you will be attending or e-mail office@sbsj.org.uk

BRASS: The collection for September, will take place at the weekend Masses at Brendan's. *Thank you for your continued support.*

Think Vocation

"Jesus Christ... found me faithful enough to call me into his service." Many people make mistakes in their younger years but later experience some sort of conversion or maturing in their faith. This can lead to all sorts of possibilities for them, including a vocation to serve within the Church. In this Year of Faith let us pray that all young people may become the person the Lord wants them to become.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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