

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

**6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2014  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



The Gospel of the Fifth Sunday is perhaps the deepest meditation on the mystery of Baptism and membership of the Church. It is a prelude to the events of Easter Sunday, when we celebrate the triumph of life over death. To be plunged into the waters of baptism is to be buried with Christ, only to rise with him from the waters. This paradox of life and death is the content of today's readings. There is no more important part of our faith than the resurrection: that Christ rose from the dead is the very centre and heart of all that we believe - without it, our faith is useless. In the same way our belief in our own resurrection is vital: it is the most deeply needed gift that Christ gives us. This is why the climax of the instructions given to candidates for Baptism was this teaching: that Christ would give them life after death. Look ahead to the 3rd Sunday of Easter, where Saint Peter preaches to the crowds - what he teaches them is that life comes after death, as it did for Lazarus, and for Christ himself.

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b> <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 1</i> <b>Sunday Missal: page 582 Preface page 593</b>		<b>Prayers Please</b>
Sunday	9.15am (SJ) – with Children’s Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children’s Liturgy 2.30-4.30pm St Brendan’s SVP Party in the School Hall 3pm Reconciliation Service (SC)	<p><b>Sick:</b> Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Jonathan Rimmer, Eunice Brierley, Bernard Callaghan, Kathleen Humphreys, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Caroline Vickers, Robin Tootill, Elzie Ball, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Bernard &amp; Rita Holder, Michael, Baby Rose, Calum Russell, Eileen Murphy, Pauline Bowling, Emma Turner, Joan Rankin, Guy Ryan, Fiona Preston, Kathleen Hopwood, John Barrett, Roy Smith, Fiona Oldham (nee Clappison), Stephen Tootill, Maureen Kennedy, Vera Evans, Julie Smith, Ernie Little, Anthony Axford, Mary Marshall, Joan Pearce, Joshua Almond, Jacqueline Kay, Wynn Elliot, Tom Wardle, Bob Taylor, Noel Gannon, Sheila Derbyshire, David Walton, Dr Bernard Higgins, Winston Shanley, Vera Casey Shaw, Heather Goil, Joni Horton, Mary Long, Teresa Hastings, Damien Rabbitt, Paul Angus. Marie Corner and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Tom Roache, Winifred Hornby, Raymond Jones, Mary Coates, Brian Tetlow</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Gertrude Callaghan, Tom &amp; Evelyn Rabbit, Jim Smith, George Green, Beatrice Winstanley, Dominic Owen, Bernard Cummings</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Gertrude Callaghan, Gladys Hall, Blanche Woodburn (going into hospital on Tuesday), Dennis Bearman (for a speedy recovery), In honour of St Joseph for special intention, Marie Corner, Tom &amp; Evelyn Rabbit, Jim Smith, Martin Vizzard, Mary Coates, Brian Tetlow, A Special Intention, Tom Roache, George Green, Beatrice Winstanley (45 years anniversary), Joyce Knight, Bernard Cummings</p>
Monday <i>St John Baptiste de la Salle</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ) 7.30-9pm Churches in Harwood Lent Course (Tottington Road Methodist) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	8.00am Mass (SC) – <i>please note earlier start time this week</i> 6.30pm Stations of the Cross (SB) 7pm Mass (SB) 7-9pm – Becoming Catholic Meeting (SJ) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.15am Year 1 Class Mass in School (SC) 7.30pm Deanery Station Mass (St Joseph, Halliwell) 7.30-9pm Churches in Tonge Moor Lent Course (St Augustine’s)	
Thursday	9.15am School Mass in church (SB) – Y4 (Holy Week) 7-8.30pm Lent Course - The Joy of the Gospel (Harbour Room)	
Friday <i>St Stanislaus</i>	8.15am Mass (SJ School)	
Saturday	5pm Mass (SC) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday <b>Palm Sunday</b>	9.15am (SJ) – with Children’s Liturgy 10.15am (SC) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children’s Liturgy 2pm Walk of Witness [see overleaf]	

**Parish Priest and Rural Dean: Rev Michael Cooke**

**Assistant Priests: Rev Joseph Gee & Rev Francis Parkinson**

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**Reconciliation:** The reconciliation service is this Sunday (3pm) at St Columba's

**St Brendan's SVP Party:** This Sunday (6 April) 2.30-4.30pm in St Brendan's School Hall.

**Father Parkinson:** It is now over twelve months since Bishop Brain appointed Father Parkinson to work with us here in our parishes (though he was only able to move here when St Brendan's Presbytery was renovated last July). He has, as you know, been splitting his time between his role as Chaplain to the Deaf Community and as Assistant Priest here. It was always the bishop's intention to review this situation after a period of time. This has now happened and the bishop has decided that Father Parkinson should give up his work with the Deaf Community (following their conference this weekend) and be full-time as Assistant Priest here. This is a welcome move from our point of view as it gives us the extra help and support that our parishes need in the short-term as we put the necessary structures in place for the three parishes being run (hopefully as a single parish with three churches) by one or two priests in the not too distant future.

**Walk of Witness:** The Palm Sunday Walk of Witness, organised by the Churches in Harwood, will begin with a short service at Christ's Church, Stitch-mi-Lane, Harwood at 2pm. We will stop for a moment of prayer at various points on the route as we make our way to St Brendan's for another short service. Our final destination is the Methodist Church Hall on Longsight where we will have Hot Cross Buns. We are grateful for the loan of a donkey for our procession and grateful to the RSPCA for providing a horsebox to transport the donkey. We hope that many of our parishioners will take part, including our schoolchildren and their families. You are all welcome to join in this walk of witness, even if you don't live in Harwood.

**Thank you:** I would like to thank you all for cards, prayers, love and support given to me during my sad loss of Gordon. God bless you all. *Joan Leather.*

**Piety Stall (SB):** The Piety stall now has a range of Easter, Confirmation and First Holy Communion cards and Communion gifts in stock. We also have mementos and prayer cards for the canonisation of Pope John Paul which takes place on the 27 April.

**Teapot-time:** Due to holiday commitments and Easter, the next Teapot-time will be Thursday 1 May. Thanks to all who have supported and enjoyed the chat and cakes! Please put the date in your diary. Thanks *Ursula*

**John Paul II:** The canonisation of John Paul II takes place on Sunday 27 April (Divine Mercy Sunday). To celebrate this event, there will be an opportunity to watch a film of his life, spread over two nights, on 23 & 24 April (7.30-9pm) at St Brendan's. All are welcome.

**Songs of Praise:** Cardinal Nichols features in this Sunday's edition of the programme (BBC1 at 3.55pm).

**Church Cleaners (SJ):** M Russell & A Cunliffe

**BRASS:** The collection of food items during April will be held at St Columba's. Thanks for your continued support.

## Lent 2014

### Stations of the Cross (This Week)

6.30pm Tuesday (SB)

### Churches in Harwood Lent Course

Monday 7.30-9pm

7 April – Harwood Methodists (Tottington Rd)

14 April – St Brendan's

Materials for these sessions can be downloaded from

[www.ctbi.org.uk/lent](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/lent)

### 8.00am Morning Mass

St Columba's Church (Tuesday)

### 8.15am Morning Mass

St John's School (Friday)

### Deanery Station Masses

Wednesday 7.30pm (Confessions from 7pm)

9 April St Joseph, Halliwell

### Churches in Tonge Moor Lent Course

Wednesday (7.30-9pm) In the Crypt at St Augustine's

### Churches in Harwood Walk of Witness

Palm Sunday (13 April)

### Churches in Tonge Moor Holy Week Service

Tuesday 15 April, 7.30pm at St Augustine's

## Easter Triduum

As we did last year, we will spread the celebration of the Triduum across our three churches.

### Maundy Thursday

#### The Mass of the Lord's Supper

8pm at St Brendan's.

### Good Friday

#### The Celebration of the Lord's Passion

3pm at St Columba's

### Holy Saturday

#### The Easter Vigil

8pm at St John's

Please try to take part in the celebration of the Triduum if you can.

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### HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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## Come and Join Us!

Tea & Coffee is always served after the Sunday Masses at St John's (9.15am) and St Brendan's (11.15am).