

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

27TH APRIL 2014 - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Eight days later, Jesus came



Often people forget that Easter is not just a day, but a season - the longest in the Church's year, in fact! We are given fifty glorious days of Spring and Summer to prolong our baptismal joy, fifty glorious days of basking in the light of the risen Saviour. It seems a shame that after the efforts we put into Lent we don't celebrate Eastertide with the same enthusiasm. The readings of this Season have their origins in the instruction given to converts in the early Church: in Lent, the readings were the basis of catechesis on the forthcoming baptism; in Easter the readings are "Mystagogy" - a type of teaching where the newly baptised ("neophytes") learn through taking part in the celebration of the sacraments and hearing the word. On the Sundays we hear who Jesus is, and on weekdays hear about Baptism and the Eucharist. This "Mystagogy"

is not just to nourish the neophytes, but to help all of us deepen our life in the risen Lord Jesus. This Sunday we are with the disciples in the Upper Room, where eight days after the Resurrection Jesus comes among them - as he comes among us.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 2</i> Sunday Missal: page 730; Preface page 42		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Divine Mercy</i>	9.15am (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SJ) Canonisation of Popes John XXIII & John Paul II	<p>Sick: 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 & 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, Bill Jerstice, Walter Norris and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: David Bramley, Holly Skeer</p> <p>Anniversaries: Dennis Hibbert</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Holy Souls, Jacqueline Hibbert, Deceased members of the Villa and Strange families, In honour of the Rosa Mystica for a special intention, In honour of the Holy Spirit for the gift of faith, For a successful operation, Mary & John Marshall (Diamond Wedding), David Bramley, In thanksgiving to the Holy Family for Diamond Wedding, Holly Skeer</p> <p>Cycle of Prayer Part 4 (of 6): We pray especially for: new members of the Church; vocations; the right use of the media; the Church; human work</p>
Monday St George, Patron of England	9.30am Mass (SJ) 8 pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday <i>St Catherine of Siena, Patron of Europe</i>	No Mass today 6.30pm Sacramental Programme Meeting (SC School) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 1.30-3pm Harbour Room Book Club (SB) 6.15pm Sacramental Programme Meeting (SJ School)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB) <i>Day of special prayer for human work</i> 1-3pm Teapot Time (Harbour Room) 6pm Sacramental Programme Meeting (SB School) 7.30pm CAFOD Meeting (Harbour Room)	
Friday <i>St Athanasius</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday <i>St Philip & St James</i>	11am-12noon Adoration and Reconciliation (SJ) 11am Baptism (SC) 5pm Mass (SC) 5.30pm-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	

Parish Priest and Rural Dean: Rev Michael Cooke

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Congratulations: To Julian Banks, Bradley Barnes, Vera Cryer, Richard Ginns and Roy Shepherd who were received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. We welcome them and pray they will continue to grow in faith.

Congratulations: To Rowan Ellis William Smith who was baptised at St John's last Sunday. We pray that he and his family may continue to grow in faith.

Congratulations: To Mary and John Marshall who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on Thursday.

Thank You: To all who prepared our churches for the Easter services or helped in any way with the celebrations. There was a good mixture of parishioners from each of our churches at each of the services. Celebrating the Triduum as one parish across the three churches is a very appropriate way to highlight our unity in the risen Christ.

Paschal Candles: A special word of thanks to Ivor Smith who made the paschal candles for each of our churches.

Sacramental Programme: We have meetings this week for the parents and children involved in the programme this year, as they prepare for the celebration of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. The meetings are in the schools at 6.30pm on Tuesday for St Columba's, 6.15pm on Wednesday for St John's and 6pm on Thursday for St Brendan's.

Harbour Room Book Club: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 30 April at 1.30pm to discuss *Wolf of the Plains* by Conn Iggulden. Also, any remaining monies for our trip to Ordsall Hall on 14 May will be collected. All welcome.

Collections & Donations: *All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's, St Columba's or St John's as appropriate.*

Mass Intentions: *Cheques should be made payable to St John's*

Gift Aid: *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*

Our First Teapot Time after Easter: On Thursday 1 May 1-3pm in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's. If you have not joined us before do come and try. A cuppa, a chat and the cakes are good.

Mark Lamoury Charitable Cycle Ride: Would those who kindly offered to sponsor Mark on his John O' Groats to Land's End ride please pay their donated amounts prior to the start of the ride in early May. Terry Smith or Teresa Taylor will be available to take your donation, after the 11.15 Mass at St Brendan's today and next weekend.

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

Mount St Joseph School Reunion: Did you leave Mount St Joseph's in 1964? – 50 years ago this summer!! Do you remember Pauline, Cecilia, Margaret, Mary, Maureen and Pat? Were you in that year?

If so we would like to invite you (and any other school friends who you may still be in touch with) to a re-union planned for a Saturday afternoon in June at the Retreat Restaurant. For further details, and to book a place, please ring 01204 523479.

Think Vocation

We hear of the community spirit at work in the early Church. Community life centres around service and sacrifice. It is not easy being asked to live and work alongside people who are different to yourself. We pray for all the religious communities which have a presence in our diocese, that others may be called to join them and bring their own gifts and faith to them.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

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Canonisation of Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II

This Sunday in St Peter's Square, Rome, Pope Francis will canonise two of his predecessors. It is fitting that these two much-loved popes will be declared saints in the one event. These are the words of Blessed John Paul II when he beatified John XXIII on 3 September 2000:

Today we contemplate in the Glory of the Lord another Pontiff, John XXIII, the Pope who impressed the world with the friendliness of his manner which radiated the remarkable goodness of his soul. Everyone remembers the image of Pope John's smiling face and his outstretched arms embracing the whole world. How many people were won over by his simplicity of heart, combined with a broad experience of people and things! The breath of newness he brought certainly did not concern doctrine, but rather the way to explain it; his style of speaking and acting was new, as was his friendly approach to ordinary people and to the powerful of the world.

It was in this spirit that he called the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, thereby turning a new page in the Church's history: Christians heard themselves called to proclaim the Gospel with renewed courage and greater attentiveness to the "signs" of the times. The Council was a truly prophetic insight of this elderly Pontiff who, even amid many difficulties, opened a season of hope for Christians and for humanity.

In the last moments of his earthly life, he entrusted his testament to the Church: "What counts the most in life is blessed Jesus Christ, his holy Church, his Gospel, truth and goodness". We too wish to receive this testament, as we glorify God for having given him to us as a Pastor.

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)