

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

13TH JULY 2014 – FIFTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

A sower went out to sow



The Gospel today is the beginning of a new section in Matthew, called ‘The Parabolic Discourse’ - a section of parables Jesus tells the crowd, which we will read over the next three weeks. A parable is a story with a hidden meaning: we can easily remember the story, and gradually the true meaning becomes clearer and clearer. Today is a famous example: the Parable of the Sower. In itself it is a story that would easily be understood by Jesus’ audience - people who lived in an agricultural economy. Jesus uses their understanding to make an important teaching about the message he has brought: it is like a seed that is thrown out and received in different ways - the ideal is when the seed finds good soil, and produces a crop that can be seen and harvested: so the ideal listener to the word is one who allows it to lodge in the heart, but also produces a visible result. What is the harvest we should yield, when we have heard the word?

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 3</i> Sunday Missal: page 317; Preface: at priest’s choice		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Sea Sunday</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 2pm Baptism (SC) <i>A Day of Special Prayer for Seafarers</i>	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, Eunice Brierley, Cecilia Guest, Bernard & Rita Holder, Eileen Murphy, Kathleen Hopwood, Maureen Kennedy, Mary Marshall, Joan Pearce, David Walton, Dr Bernard Higgins, Walter Norris, Peter Cranmer, Anthony Axford, Emma Turner, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Leila Parker and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Maureen Shuttleworth, Marie Corner, Amy Chung, Marion Ranft, Anthony Meagher</p> <p>Anniversaries: Anne Howarth</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Joyce Knight, In grateful thanks to Our Lady & St Jude for prayers answered and for favours received, Anthony Meagher</p> <p>Cycle of Prayer Part 5 (of 6): We pray especially for: a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; Europe; human life; seafarers</p> <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. Please ask. Thanks</i></p>
Monday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday <i>St Bonaventure</i>	2-4pm Open Door Retreat <i>[see overleaf]</i> 2.30pm Funeral for Maureen Shuttleworth (Rugeley, Staffordshire) 7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday <i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Principal patron of Salford Diocese</i>	9.30am Seeds & Gardeners’ Mass in Church (SJ) 12.10pm Fr Cooke’s Installation Mass (Salford Cathedral)	
Thursday	9.15am Yr 6 Leavers’ Mass in Church (SB) 7pm Yr 6 Leavers’ Mass in School (SJ)	
Friday	11am Yr 6 Leavers’ Mass in Church (SC) 7pm Ordination to Priesthood (Salford Cathedral)	
Saturday <i>St John Plessington</i>	5pm Mass (SC) 5.30pm-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 10.15am Mass (SC) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SJ)	

Parish Priest and Rural Dean: Rev Michael Cooke

Assistant Priests: Rev Joseph Gee & Rev Francis Parkinson

Parish Office: St John’s Presbytery, The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9JP

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Congratulations: To Freya Lois Brown-Holmes who was baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that she and her family may continue to grow in faith.

Sea Sunday: Today is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Today's second collection is for the Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. It provides practical and spiritual support to seafarers visiting our ports. Please give generously to support its important work. For more information visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

Installation: Fr Cooke's installation as a Canon of the Cathedral Chapter of St John the Evangelist takes place at the 12.10pm Mass at Salford Cathedral on Wednesday. This is a public Mass which anyone can attend. Two other priests Fr Tadhg Mullins and Fr David Ryder, are also being installed. Wednesday is the Solemnity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, one of the principal patrons of our diocese.

Maureen Shuttleworth: Maureen, a former parishioner of St John's Parish died last Thursday. Her funeral will take place this Tuesday (15th) at 2.30pm at the church of St Joseph and St Ethelreda, Rugeley, Staffordshire WS15 2EH. May she rest in peace.

Children's Liturgy: After this Sunday (13 July) we will take a break from the Children's Liturgy until September. Thank you to those who provide this valuable service at our Sunday morning Masses.

Basic First Aid Training: So that we can ensure that parishioners are appropriately cared for if they suffer an accident or illness, Basic First Aid Training will be delivered in autumn 2014. Everyone is welcome, but interest is particularly encouraged from apparitors, who are often the first to be called upon if someone is taken ill during Masses, and those who arrange parish groups and events. Please let Fr. Cooke or Tony Proctor know (Tel. 301425) if you are interested. Alternatively email the Parish Office at office@sbsj.org.uk. Please indicate the day of the week you would prefer to attend. The training is likely to be of about one day or two half days duration and would be delivered at a parish venue.

Open Door Retreat: Starts this Tuesday (15 July) (2-4pm) at St Antony's Centre for Church & Industry, Eleventh Street, Trafford Park, Manchester, M17 1JF. Tel: (0161 848 9173). Email: diane.williams@stantoneyscentre.org.uk or Sr Winnie: winnicenacle@mail.com

Harbour Room Book Club: Many thanks to all parishioners who contributed to making the following fund-raising efforts so successful:

- The Book Club has donated £75 to the Cancer Fund effort (initiated by Mark Lamoury.) This includes donations from some non-parishioners who contributed through the auspices of the Book Club.
- The Mini-Book Sale raised £51.50 which goes directly to Church funds.
- The end of year donation from the Book Club to Church funds this year will be £50. Thank you to all members and contributors.

Many thanks to all who donated, helped set up, bought books and helped to clear up afterwards. These combined efforts helped to make both fund raisers a success. Have a lovely summer holiday everyone! *Madeleine*

BRASS: The collection for July will take place at St Columba's. Your continued support is greatly appreciated, Thanks.

St John's 200 Club: The July winners are:

- £50 M Brooks (21)
- £30 M Aspinall (164)
- £20 A Scott (5)



If anyone would like to join the 200 Club, please see Frances Smith after the 6.30pm or 9.15am Mass at St John's.

Baptisms: In recent weeks we have had a few instances of family members or godparents arriving late for baptisms. If you have arranged a baptism, please ensure that all those you have invited know the starting time. Thank you.

Think Vocation

"The word of God does not return to me without carrying out my will." We need to listen to God speaking to us in the Scriptures, in the silence and stillness of our time dedicated for prayer. Only then can our hearts provide the fertile soil needed to be open to do God's will and to allow us to use our gifts and talents to make a difference with our lives for the sake of the Kingdom.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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LAKESIDE CROWDS SOWER
SEEDS BIRDS SOIL
EARTH SCORCHED ROOTS
WITHERED THORNS CROP

