

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

15TH MARCH 2015

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - LAETARE SUNDAY



There were two remarkable moments in the story of the Old Testament where God saved his people; one was in the escape from Egypt – we’ll keep that for the Easter Vigil. The other was the end of their second exile, this time in Babylon, which we hear of today. Of course there was an even greater moment when God saved his people: the work of Jesus Christ, the Son of God – and we hear Jesus tell Nicodemus about that today. So today’s theme is “salvation”: but to understand “being saved”, we must ask “What from?” Saved from slavery, from exile, from human enemies – these are all clear. But the last and greatest salvation brought by Jesus is harder to understand: saved from sin and death. These threaten us as much as any other enemy and our salvation in Jesus are as real as any other.

.Liturgy & Activities This Week		Prayers Please	
<i>Sunday Cycle B Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 4</i>			
Sunday Missal: page 568; Readings: page 573; Preface: page 38 or 39			
Sunday <i>Mothers 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	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, Eunice Brierley, Cecilia Guest, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Maureen Kennedy, Joan Pearce, Peter Cranmer, Anthony Axford, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Mary Long, Dylan Crosby, Pat Hall, Linda Southern, Mary Joan Tornai, Rosemary Davies, Rita Brooks, Callum Fazackerley, Lucy Hesford, Elaine Jansen, Bernard Corri and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Kathleen Aspen, Mary Thomas, May Withington, Mrs McLaren, Bernard Lomax</p> <p>Anniversaries: Alfeo & Bonifacia Doloroso, Jack & Mary Carroll, Lilian Dawson</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Mrs McLaren, Mary Thomas, Dylan Crosby (Successful operation), Alfeo & Bonifacia Doloroso, Ver Antazo & Stephen McPhillips (In Memory), A sick person, Lilian Dawson, Jack & Mary Carroll, Bernard Corri (Sick), Joyce Knight, Fr Ashton, Bernard Lomax</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cycle of Prayer Part 3 (of 6): We pray especially for: candidates for the sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers</p>	
Monday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 7.30-9pm Churches in Harwood Lent Course (St Brendan’s) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)		
Tuesday <i>St Patrick</i>	8.15am Mass in Church (SC) 7pm God’s Gift of Love (St James’, Monserrat Road) 7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB) 7.30pm Lenten Evening of Recollection for Men [<i>see overleaf</i>]		
Wednesday	2-4pm Cameo Group (Harbour Room, St Brendan’s) 7.30pm Deanery Station Mass (Holy Family, New Springs)		
Thursday <i>St Joseph</i>	9.15am Mass (SB)		
Friday	8.15am Mass in School (SJ) 10am Requiem Mass for Kathleen Aspen (SC)		
Saturday	5pm Mass (SC) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 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 3pm Reconciliation Service (SC)		
<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>			

Parish Priest and Rural Dean: Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG
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Happy Mothers' Day

A Happy Mothers' Day to all mothers. Today is a chance to remember our mothers, living or dead, and to thank God for the love shown to us through them.

Thank you: To everyone for their prayers and Masses for Dylan Crosby. His operation was successful. *Peter & Kath Carolan.*

Harbour Room & Church Information (SB): The information file in the Harbour Room has been updated and will shortly include information about the new audio visual system. If you organise events or regularly use the Harbour Room please familiarise yourself with the file to help reduce calls and queries. If you cannot find the information you need please contact the Parish Office on 01204 301927 or by email to office@sbsj.org.uk.

Audio Visual (AV) System Training Session - Harbour Room (SB): AV training will take place from 9.30-11.30am on Saturday 28 March. As only trained and authorised parishioners will be able to use the AV system, please make every effort to attend. Please bring your laptop with you. If you have not already registered your interest please inform the parish office office@sbsj.org.uk.

Cameo Group: Wednesday 18 March, (2-4pm in the Harbour Room, SB). Members of the HCPT will be coming to explain the work of the charity. Please come along and support.

Lenten Talk with Fr Denis McBride: *The Passion Narratives in the Gospels* on Thursday 26 March 2015 at St Gabriel's High School, Bury BL9 0TZ (7.30-9pm) For registration please telephone Sharon Beech (0161 761 0536) or email sharon.beech@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Lenten Activities 2015

Tuesday Morning Mass -
In St Columba's Church at 8.15am

Friday Morning Mass
In St John's School at 8.15am

Deanery Station Masses - *Family Fully Alive*
Wednesday Evenings 7.30pm (Confessions from 7pm)
18 March – Holy Family, New Springs
Parents – Shaping the Future

Churches in Harwood Lent Course
(Based on Les Miserables)
Monday Evenings 7.30-9pm - 16 March (St Brendan's)

Schoenstatt Centre – Love is Our Mission
Lenten sessions continue on Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm at St John Fisher's, Kearsley, Bolton.

BRASS: There will be a joint collection across our three Parishes during March and up to Easter Sunday. Essential items are, tea, coffee, orange juice, tinned chick peas and kidney beans etc. Any clean clothing items are also welcome. Thank you for your support.

God's Gift of Love: *An Evening Devoted to Love and the Sacrament of Marriage* will be held at St James' Church, Monserrat Road, Bolton on Tuesday 17 March at 7pm. There will be a Celebratory Mass and couples are invited to renew their Marriage vows. Bring your wedding photos!

Advance Notices

Palm Sunday

There will be a Walk of Witness in Harwood (as there was last year). Details to follow.

Easter Triduum

Will be celebrated as it has for the past two years.

Maundy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper & watching at the Altar of Repose, 8pm at St Brendan's

Good Friday - Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3pm at St Columba's

Holy Saturday - The Easter Vigil, 8pm at St John's

Churches in Tonge Moor

Will hold a Holy Week Service at St Columba's at 7.30pm on Tuesday 31 March

Lenten Evening of Recollection for Men Tuesday, 17 March 2015, 7.30pm - 9.30pm In St Joseph's Church, Anderton.

There will be another "mini-retreat" for men in St Joseph's Church, Anderton, on Tuesday 17 March given by Fr Peter Bristow from the Manchester Opus Dei Centre. The evening starts at 7.30pm and includes a meditation given by Fr Peter, a guided examination of conscience with time for individual confessions, Holy Rosary, a second meditation, and ends with Benediction. Tea and coffee will then be provided at about 9.15pm. There is no charge for the Evening. Further information from Robert Aston Tel. 01204 468896. Email: robert@stoneyacre.freeserve.co.uk

St Joseph's RC Church, Bolton Road, Anderton, Chorley PR6 9NA

Marriage Matters

(www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk)

Called to be a 'sign': The world often ridicules marriage saying 'it's just a piece of paper', but Scripture draws attention to God's powerful message. St. Paul says: "We are God's work of art; created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning He had meant us to live it." Let us shine out so the world sees what it's missing.

Think Vocation

St Paul tells us that when we were dead through our sins, God brought us to life with Christ. Through our baptism we are called to be witnesses to our faith to others. Let us make an effort to contact and encourage those we know who are of our faith but no longer practise. A simple word of encouragement can sometimes lead people to rediscover the richness of God's love offered in Christ Jesus

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