


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

**22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2015**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



In the weeks of Lent so far we have followed God's work of salvation: we have seen the Covenants he established with Noah, Abraham, Moses and the people of Israel after the return from Babylon. Now we come to one of the most significant parts of the Old Testament: the promise of a brand new Covenant, which will be different from all those that went before. This Covenant will see God and Man living more closely together. For the ratification of a Covenant, something was always sacrificed as a sign of the new relationship – normally man would offer some animal offering to God. But the New Covenant will be ratified not with the death of sheep or bull, but by the death of Jesus Christ, God and Man. In this perfect sacrifice is the source of our eternal salvation.

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b>		<b>Prayers Please</b>
<i>Sunday Cycle B Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 1</i>		
<b>Sunday Missal:</b> page 582; <b>Readings:</b> page 586; <b>Preface:</b> page 38 or 39		
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><b>Sick:</b> 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, Andrew Hustwit and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Kathleen Aspen, Teresa &amp; Dennis O'Connor, Jack Baker, Sylvia Joiner</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Daniel Evans, Winifred Hornby</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Daniel Evans, Kathleen Aspen, Teresa &amp; Dennis O'Connor, Fr John Ashton (Golden Jubilee), Jack Baker, Sylvia Joiner, A Special Intention, Margaret Gibson (Successful operation), Bernard Corri (Sick), Joyce Knight, Winifred Hornby</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cycle of Prayer Part 3 (of 6):</b> 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 ( Christ's Church) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	8.15am Mass in Church (SC) No Evening Mass 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>	9.15am Nursery/Yr 1 Mass in School (SC) 1.30-3pm Harbour Room Book Club (SB) 7.30pm Deanery Station Mass (St William of York, Great Lever)	
Thursday	9.15am School Mass in Church (SB) – Holy Week 7.30-9pm Lenten Talk at St Gabriel's High School, Bury <i>[see overleaf]</i>	
Friday	8.15am Mass in School (SJ)	
Saturday	9.30am-11.30am Audio Visual Equipment Training (SB) 5pm Mass (SC) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday <b>Palm Sunday</b>	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 Walk of Witness <i>[see overleaf]</i>	
<p><b>Collections &amp; Donations:</b> <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><b>Mass Intentions:</b> <i>Cheques should be made payable to St John's</i></p> <p><b>Gift Aid:</b> <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>		<p>This Newsletter is sponsored by</p> <p><b>HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE</b></p> <p>Peel House 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton. BL1 7AL 01204 309609</p>  <p style="text-align: right;"><small>www.hfs.co.uk</small></p>

**Parish Priest and Rural Dean:** Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG  
**Assistant Priests:** Rev Joseph Gee & Rev Francis Parkinson  
**Parish Office:** St John's Presbytery, The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9JP  
**Tel:** 01204 301927 **E-mail:** office@sbsj.org.uk **Website:** www.sbsj.org.uk  
*Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity – 250037 Diocesan website: www.salforddiocese.net*

**Holy Week Posters:** Are available in our churches this weekend. Please take one.

**Congratulations:** To Father John Ashton SDB who celebrated his Golden Jubilee of priestly ordination at Thornleigh last Sunday.

**Cameo Group:** Thank you to all those who came on Wednesday. The total raised was £328.55! Anne, Julie and Maureen (from HCPT) thank everyone for the very warm welcome and your generosity. The money raised all helps to pay for children's holidays. The Raffle prizes have all been claimed and delivered.

**Many Happy Returns To:** Gladys Hall from St John's Parish, who celebrates her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday this weekend. We wish her well!

**World Youth Day:** Next Sunday (Palm Sunday) is the annual celebration of World Youth Day. There will be a special event at the Cathedral Centre in Salford (2-5pm) which will include the launch of preparations for the International Youth Day in Krakow in 2016. Any young people (up to 35) are welcome to attend.

**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. This year we will have a donkey (not a Shetland pony) for our procession. 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.

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

### Lenten Activities 2015

**Sunday 22 March - Reconciliation Service (3pm) at St Columba's**

**Tuesday Morning Mass** in Church (SC), 8.15am

**Friday Morning Mass** in St John's School (8.15am)

**Deanery Station Mass - Wednesday 25 March 7.30pm**  
(Confessions from 7pm)

St William of York, Great Lever  
*Family-School of Faith & Love*

#### Churches in Harwood Lent Course

Monday, 23 March (7.30-9pm) - Christ's Church

#### Schoenstatt Centre – Lenten Sessions

Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm at St John Fisher's, Kearsley,

**Fairtrade Stall and Fairtrade Fortnight:** A huge thank you to all who have supported our Fairtrade stalls which ran after Masses at our churches over recent weeks (highlighting Fairtrade Fortnight. Also to all the parishioners who have kindly given their time to run them. Remember the stalls are here once a month. Look forward to seeing you in April! *The Cafod Group*

**BRASS:** There will be a joint food collection across our three Parishes during March and up to Easter Sunday. Any clean clothing items are also welcome. Thank you for your support.

### The 200 Club

The February winners are:

£50 J Cowen (£50)  
£30 L Fielding (£30)  
£20 T Smith (£20)



### EASTER FUN DAY

**Saturday 4th April 2015 (11am–2pm)**  
**Victoria Square, Bolton Town Centre**

Bolton Christian Community Cohesion will lead a family orientated event in partnership with Christians Together in Bolton Town Centre (CTBTC) and other community groups.

There will be lots of fun activities including egg painting, palm cross making, football, tin can alley, and *Hunt the Easter Egg* competition around the stalls. The Ladybridge Singers, dance groups & Bolton FM, will be sharing music throughout the day and actors from Passion for Bolton 2016 will entertain the public.

The event also has a practical side to it, with help and support for families to tackle some of the challenges of life, such as debt or joblessness.

**It's a free event so don't miss out!**

**Audio Visual (AV) System Training Session - Harbour Room (SB):** AV training will take place from 9.30-11.30am on Saturday 28 March. Please bring your laptop with you.

### Easter Triduum

**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, 7.30pm (Tuesday 31 March)

### Marriage Matters

([www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk](http://www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk))

**Unconditional love:** Love is called to be unconditional, not 'counting the cost', not 50/50, but both giving 100%. Today's Gospel reminds us a rich harvest is only possible when a single wheat grain falls on the ground and dies. Our loving efforts, trials and difficulties in marriage are ways of 'dying' to a lifestyle contrary to what God is calling us to.

### Think Vocation

St Paul tells us that Christ became a source of Salvation for all who obey him. All those who serve as priests or Religious promise obedience. Saying yes to the requests of our Bishops or superiors in order to remain faithful to God and the life we are committed to is not always easy. God works throughout the authority of the Church. Let us pray for our Bishop that the sometimes difficult decisions he has to make will be done justly and with the prayer filled guidance of the Holy Spirit.