


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

12TH APRIL 2015 - SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



After the joys and exuberance of Easter Sunday and Easter Week, we settle down into the longest Season in the Church's Year - Eastertide. This period of fifty days is a time of sustained gladness, which comes through reading and reflecting on the Scriptures which describe the risen life of Jesus - not just his appearances to the disciples after the Resurrection, but the teachings from his ministry which reveal the risen life he now possesses. We also spend time hearing about how the Resurrection made a difference: how the timid and frightened disciples were able to leave Jerusalem and proclaim a message of life over death to the whole world, as we read through the book of the Acts of the Apostles. We also linger over the first letter of Saint John, which ties together so many of the themes of Easter: life, faith, baptism, the Spirit - all brought together in the person of the Lord Jesus, risen from the dead. On this second Sunday, we continue to track through real time, by hearing what happened in Jerusalem on the Sunday after the Resurrection with the Lord appearing to Thomas - strengthening his faith, and strengthening ours as we listen to the account.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle B Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 2</i> Sunday Missal: page 730; Preface page 42		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Divine Mercy 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 (SJ) <i>A Day of Prayer for New Members of the Church</i>	<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, 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>Lately Dead: Mr P Delaney, Bill Sumner, John Featherstone</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Joyce Knight, Mary Cassidy, In thanksgiving for prayers answered, Mr P Delaney</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> <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. Please give the first name of the person for whom you want the Mass saying (not just their surname or initial).</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) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	7pm Mass (SB) 7pm Manchester Serra Club Talk (Urmston) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 2-4pm CAMEO Group (Harbour Room)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB) 7.30pm CAFOD Meeting (Harbour Room)	
Friday	7.30-9.15am Bolton Prayer Breakfast [details overleaf] 9.30am Mass (SJ)	
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 2.30pm SVP Party (SB School) <i>A Day of Prayer for New Members of the Church</i>	

This Newsletter is sponsored by
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Father Joseph Gee: When Father Joe was appointed here after his ordination as priest, we knew that it would be for a relatively short period. He has been with us for just over two and a half years and Bishop John has now asked him to take on a new appointment as assistant priest to the parish of Our Lady of the Valley. This parish consists of the former parishes of St Michael & St John, Clitheroe (where Father Joe will be living) and St Mary, Sabden. In due course, it will also encompass St Hubert, Dunsop Bridge. We thank Father Joe for the contribution he has made to the life of our parishes over these past few years and we wish him well in his new appointment which he will take up towards the end of April.

Father Sean O'Brien: Given the new responsibilities that Canon Cooke carries as Vicar General, Bishop John has recognised the need for another assistant priest to be appointed here when Father Joe moves and he has appointed Father Sean O'Brien who is currently chaplain to the hospitals in Blackburn and Burnley. Father Sean was ordained priest in November 2010. We look forward to welcoming him here to our parishes later this month.

Patmos Room: Just before Easter we finally received diocesan approval for the extension of the Patmos Room at St John's. The contractor needs a few weeks lead-in time which means things should start happening late April or early May. More details to follow.

Marriage Matters

(www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk)

(Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35 1 John 5:1-6 John 20:19-31)

Doubt no longer

Sometimes we are asked to trust our spouse implicitly despite the doubts that plague us. Can we believe them when something really important depends on it? Thomas needed proof of Jesus' wounds before believing. Jesus said: "*Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe [and]...Doubt no longer but believe.*" It's important to believe and to decide to trust.

Offertory Envelopes (SB & SJ): The new sets are available to collect and they start this weekend.

Cameo Group: Meeting this Wednesday (15 April) in the Harbour Room (2-4pm). The afternoon will be a Lancashire themed event with a quiz, information from around the county and cakes! All welcome.

CAFOD Group: The next meeting of the CAFOD Group is Thursday, 16 April in the Harbour Room from 7.30pm until 9.00pm, so if you are interested in getting to know more about CAFOD and/or becoming more involved in parish life do come along!



The CAFOD Group also invite you to a Ceilidh, with *Francis Roe and the Riot Act* at Walmsley Parish Hall on Friday, 29 May 2015 (7.30pm - 11.00pm). Tickets are £10.00 each, including supper and are now available. Please note the change of date from that originally given out.

SVP Party (SB): The SVP party for parishioners will be held in the school hall at 2.30pm on Sunday 19 April.

Manchester Serra Club: Invite you to a talk about *Catholic Manchester* given by Pauline Lloyd on Tuesday 14 April (7pm) at Our Lady & English Martyrs Parish Centre, Urmston, M41 7DS.

Bolton Prayer Breakfast: This takes place on Friday morning (7.30-9.15am) and the guest speaker is Krish Kandiah, founder and director of the independent adoption and fostering charity *Home for Good* which was launched in 2013 in response to the need for more foster carers and adoptive parents in the UK. Due to the refurbishment of the Town Hall, this event is being hosted at The Bridge Church, 109 Bradford Street, Bolton BL2 1JX (with plenty of parking). The cost is £10, including a full cooked breakfast. To book a place, contact Susan Edmondson on 0161 790 8289 or susan@edmondsons.org.uk

Reignite: An opportunity for young adults to come together for the celebration of Mass and a time of socialising. Next Sunday (19 April) 5.30pm at Salford Cathedral. Everyone welcome!

SVP Outing (SJ): The Spring outing for the elderly, disabled and housebound will be held on Sunday 26 April and will be to our Lady of the Valley, Clitheroe.

Thanksgiving Mass: Sr Monica is organising the annual visit to the Church of St Anne and Blessed Dominic, Sutton, St Helens on Saturday 9 May 2015 for Mass in honour of Elizabeth Prout CP. The coach will leave at 1pm from Wigan Road/Melbourne Road, Bolton and return at 6pm approx. The charge will be £11. If you wish to book a place please give your name to Sr Monica (01204 655714) as soon as possible. See poster for further details.

Trip to Hoghton Tower: Wednesday 20 May. This is being arranged by the Book Club but you do not have to be a member to go. Departs St Brendan's 10.15am and returns 3.15pm. Cost will be £10 which includes coach fare and admission (concession price). There are 32 places but they are booking very fast. Please ring Madeleine (303505) if you want to reserve a place.

World Youth Day 2016: This will take place in Krakow, Poland (24 July to 2 August) and is for young people between 16 and 35 years old. Total cost is £750 which includes travel, insurance, WYD registration fee, meals and accommodation. There are limited places available. See poster for further details or look at the "Youth" section of the diocesan website.

ACTA Conference: Unfortunately, the conference on Saturday (11 April) had to be cancelled at short notice because the guest speaker, Dr Ann Marie Mealey, had a family bereavement during the week.

Think Vocation

St Luke tells us that the apostles were given great respect. They were respected because they had been personally chosen by Our Lord Jesus. Let us reflect upon the respect we give to our bishop, a successor to the apostles, also chosen by Christ. Let us be aware of the responsibility he has in his pastoral care for the diocese. Let us ensure we find time to pray for our bishop and the work he has to do.