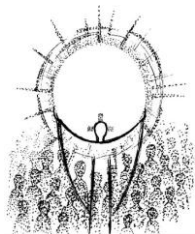



NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR & ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS

10TH MAY 2015 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.



There are two obvious themes to today's readings: Saint Peter summarises many of the ideas of Easter - baptism, the name of Jesus, the pouring out of the Holy Spirit; the other readings talk simply of love, both God's love for us and our love for each other. Our Gospel is taken from the great discourse at the Last Supper, and has at its centre the New Commandment that Jesus gives his disciples - the commandment of love. This love has its origins in the love of the Father, manifested in the love shown by the Son (willing to die for his friends); we, like the disciples, are called to imitate the love we see in Jesus' life and death - not because we are servants, but because we are friends.

Liturgy & Activities This Week		Prayers Please
<i>Sunday Cycle B Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 2</i>		
Sunday Missal: <i>page 772; Readings page 775; Preface at priest's choice</i>		
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 2pm Baptism (SB) <i>Parish Day of Prayer for Vocations (SC)</i>	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, 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: Bryan Deakin, Eunice Brierley, Jean Fender, Ron Aprea, Mary Morris, Celia Kazmi, Adam Nightingale, Father Peter Samuels, Father John Dugdale</p> <p>Anniversaries: Alan Healey, Patrick Kelly, Patrick & Mary Doyle</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Bryan Deakin, Thanksgiving for a successful operation, For a dying priest, Alan Healey, Ron Aprea, Patrick Kelly, Mary Morris, Patrick & Mary Doyle, Margaret Ashton, Mary Joan Quinn (Birthday Remembrance), In thanksgiving for 50 years of marriage, Deceased members of the McGarry & Leach families, Jean Fender, Eunice Brierley, Leonard Ainscough (Birthday Remembrance), Celia Kazmi, Adam Nightingale, Mary Hurst (100th Birthday Remembrance)</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	9.30am Mass (SJ) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	No Mass Today 6.30pm Confirmation (SC) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.15am Yr2 Class Mass (SC School) 9.30am Mass (SJ) 2pm Requiem Mass for Eunice Brierley (SB) 7pm Confirmation (SJ)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB) 6pm Confirmation (SB) 7.30pm CAFOD Meeting (Harbour Room, SB)	
Friday	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday	11am Baptism (SJ) 5pm Mass (SC) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday <i>The Ascension of The Lord</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 (SB)	
<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>		<p style="font-size: small;">This Newsletter is sponsored by HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE Peel House 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton. BL1 7AL 01204 309609</p>  <p style="font-size: x-small; text-align: right;">www.hfs.co.uk</p>

Parish Priest: Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG

Assistant Priests: Rev Seán O'Brien & Rev Francis Parkinson

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

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity - 250037 Diocesan website: www.salforddiocese.net

CAFOD Nepal Appeal: CAFOD has launched a £3 million emergency appeal following the devastating earthquake that hit Nepal. We are holding a special collection again at our Masses this weekend to support CAFOD's response. Please also pray for the people of Nepal and the work of CAFOD, that they will respond with speed and compassion in support of our brothers and sisters. *Thank you*

Prayer for Vocations: This Sunday we will have our Parish Day of Prayer for vocations for St Columba's. Please take time to offer a prayer.

Think Vocation

St John tells us that the Lord does the choosing. He sometimes chooses quite unlikely people to serve him in the Church. Let us always be alert when we are speaking of the faith that the Lord may be using us to draw others towards him.

Patmos Room: As reported just after Easter, we have now got the necessary permissions to go ahead with the extension of the Patmos Room. The appointed contractors are J Greenwood (Builders) Ltd from Oldham and they will be ready to start work on site from Monday 18 May. The new Patmos Room will be approximately twice the size of the existing one. Although described as an "extension", it will be necessary to demolish the existing walls in order to erect the new structure (based on a steel frame). The overall project, including some landscaping works, will take about five months to complete, during which time we will need to use the two side doors for access to the church.

In preparation for the start of this work, we will begin to remove things from the Patmos Room during the coming week, with a final clearance after the Masses next weekend. This Sunday will be the final Sunday for coffee after Mass but we will still have the Children's Liturgy in there next week (before we try out the alternative arrangements for a more limited group).

If you wish to learn more about this building project, there is a display in the Patmos Room and the architect (Keith Hamilton) will give a short talk about it after the 9.15 Mass next Sunday.

CAFOD Meeting: The next meeting is on Thursday 14 May at 7.30pm in the Harbour Room. All welcome!

Fairtrade Stall: Goods are on sale at St John's this weekend. Please support us!

Gift Aid at St Columba's: We are seeking to revive the Gift Aid scheme at St Columba's. Gift Aid can be claimed for any money given by standing order, by cheque, or in the offertory envelopes, provided that we keep a record of it. In order to gift aid your donations, which costs you nothing but gets an extra 25p per £1 for the church, you simply need to fill out a Gift Aid declaration once. If you are a taxpayer, please do consider signing one of these forms so that we can boost our income in this way. Even if you are not a taxpayer, you might wish to make your contributions by standing order rather than envelope or loose money. Chris Molyneux has kindly offered to be the Gift Aid Co-ordinator at St Columba's and he will be present at the back of church after the two Masses next weekend with the necessary forms. Thank you.

Final Audio Visual (AV) System Training Session: This will take place on Saturday 16 May (10am-12noon) in the Harbour Room (SB). Please bring your laptop with you. If you have not already registered your interest please inform the parish office preferably by email to office@sbsj.org.uk.

March for Life UK (Birmingham 16th May): The UK's biggest annual Pro-Life Rally. Coaches going from St. Kentigern's Church, Fallowfield at 8am, and St. Margaret's Church, Altrincham at 8.30am. Any queries contact Michael 07810 791032.

Taizé: To commemorate the 100th anniversary of Brother Roger's birth there will be prayers held at Manchester Cathedral on Tuesday, 12 May 2015, at 7pm. Everyone is most welcome to join in this event!

Northern Catholic Conference: This will be held on 12-14 June at Liverpool Hope University. There will be numerous guest speakers and Archbishop Malcolm McMahon will celebrate Mass on Saturday 13 June. For more information, contact Denise on 07543 800 812 (www.northerncatholicuk).

The Dream of Gerontius: Bolton Catholic Musical and Choral Society, with Bolton Symphony Orchestra, will perform *The Dream of Gerontius*, based on the poem by Cardinal John Newman, at the Victoria Hall on Saturday 16 May at 7.30pm. Tickets £10, call 07958459423.

CAFOD Group: The Ceilidh with *Francis Roe and the Riot Act* is fast approaching! Have you got your ticket yet? Come and join us for what promises to be a fun filled social evening and help us raise funds for Myanmar. Our target is £1300 which will cover the cost of a barrier to save a community's farmland from flooding during a storm. Tickets are £10.00 and are available after Mass at all our churches.



SVP

Annual Family Sponsored Walk: This year, the sponsored walk will take place on Sunday 14 June (11am-4pm). The route is around the reservoirs of Turton and Bromley Cross and there are different routes from 3 miles up to 10 miles (maps will be provided). The event starts and finishes at St John's Primary School and refreshments will be available. If you would like to take part to raise money for local families and people in need then please take a sponsor form and come and join in. It is a great chance for families to help families!

The Destitution Project: Our next joint parish collection will be in June. All help, goods, food and clothes are much appreciated. Thank you.

Marriage Matters

www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk

Called to reflect God's love: "Love one another as I have loved you". With these words Jesus spells out God's plan for marriage. As husband and wife we are called each day to give our lives to each other as completely as we are able. From today let us decide to reflect this 'sign' of God's love to our children, our family and our friends.