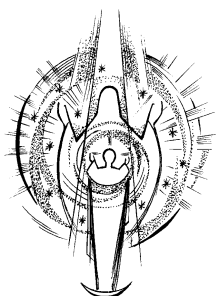


**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS**

**16 AUGUST 2015 – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**



This great feast is a twin to the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Then, if you recall, the preface of the Mass contained these words: Christ is the beginning, the head of the Church; where he has gone, we hope to follow. Today we celebrate the first of us to do just that, as we remember Mary following our Lord into heaven. She is the first to follow him - but not the last: this feast should help open our eyes to our final destination, heaven. So this feast pushes us right back to Easter, to thoughts of death and resurrection: it is the second reading which underlines all this. It talks of the “gradual” resurrection of the dead: Christ first, then those who belong to him. Of these, the first is Mary, she who was without stain of original sin, she who was “most blessed of all women. In her, today, we see the fulfilment of the vision of the first reading: the end of death and the victory of life in Christ.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle B Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 4</i> Sunday Missal: page 920; Readings: page 921; Preface: page 924		Prayers Please
Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SC)	<p>Sick: 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, Linda Southern, Mary Joan Tornai, Rosemary Davies, Rita Brooks, Callum Fazackerley, Lucy Hesford, Elaine Jansen, Bernard Corri, Sheila Darbishire, Winifred Coyle, Josephine Knowles, Rita Bell and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Kathleen Horrocks,</p> <p>Anniversaries: Bob Whaley, Charles, Ellen and Peter Lister, David Walton, Thomas Kehoe, Henry O’Connor</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Bob Whaley, Eddie (a small child having treatment for a brain tumour), In remembrance of the Liston and Rothwell families, Jean (McGarry) Stones (70th Birthday Remembrance), Mary Joan & Joseph Quinn (Wedding Anniversary), David Walton, Thomas Kehoe, Henry O’Connor, Kathleen Horrocks, For exam successes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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>
Monday	9.30am Mass (SJ) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Thursday <i>St Bernard</i>	9.15am Mass (SB)	
Friday <i>St Pius X</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday <i>The Queenship of Mary</i>	1.30pm Wedding Service for David Parnell & Rebecca Hood (SB) 5pm Mass (SC) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 10.15am Mass (SC) – Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (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>		



Congratulations: To Christopher Grady & Karen Dodds who were married at St Columba's last Sunday. We pray that they will have a long, happy and fulfilling married life.



The Autumn Quiz: Will be held on Friday 6 November at Dunscair Conservative Club. Please put the date in your diaries and remember...this ever popular event is usually a sell out across our parishes so once the tickets go on sale, please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible!

SVP

Sponsored Walk: Thank you to all those who supported our recent sponsored walk. A total of £1,326.70 was raised and the monies will be used to help people in need

The Destitution Project: The next collection of food items and clothing for our parishes will be during September. Sr Barbara and the team are so grateful for everything we do to support them. Thank you.

Charity Concert: The Eden Singers are performing excerpts from Les Miserables on Friday 11 September (7.30pm) at Old Links Golf Club, Chorley Old Road, Bolton BL1 5SU. Tickets (are limited) and cost £6. Please contact any member of the SVP to purchase them.

SVP Outing: The Autumn outing for the elderly, disabled and housebound will be held on Sunday 27 September and will be to St Mary's, Horwich

Home Visits: If any parishioners from our three churches would still like a house blessing or a general visit, during August, Fr O'Brien will make arrangements to come to see you. Please contact the Parish office on 01204 301927 or email: office@sbsj.org.uk

Urban Outreach: Any help you can give with the BL15 lunches will be gratefully received. Please contact Hannah at LWP@urbanoutreach.co.uk or on 01204 385848

Marriage Matters (www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk)

If in need: We have good reason for believing that from her special place in heaven God continues to do great things through Mary. Her own experience of being a wife and mother has made her very aware of the joys, trials and sufferings of life for married couples. This means that whenever we need it we can ask her for help.

Think Vocation

We pray that through the example and prayers of Our Blessed Lady, those who feel called to serve within the Church may be given the courage to take the next step to respond in trust and love

Quiet Prayer

O God, to whom every heart is open, every desire known and from whom no secrets are hidden; purify the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily praise your holy name. *Amen*

Baptism Preparation: Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 12 September (10.30-12noon) in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's. This is for parents from any of our three parishes who wish to have a child baptised in the coming months. Please let one of the priests know if you will be attending or email office@sbsj.org.uk.

Parliamentary Bill to Legalise Assisted Suicide: On Friday 11 September the House of Commons will debate and vote on a Bill to legalise assisted suicide. This will put the most vulnerable people in our society at risk. Please contact your MP, urging them to attend the debate and vote against the Bill. You can send an e-mail to your MP via the Catholic Bishops' Conference website www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide or send a letter by post, a draft of which can be found at the back of St Brendan's and St Columba's and at the side doors in St John's.

This Newsletter is sponsored by
HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE
Peel House
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
BL1 7AL
01204 309609



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MARY	JUDAH	ZECHARIAH
ELIZABETH	CHILD	WOMB
HOLY	SPIRIT	CRY
BLESSED	FRUIT	LEAPT

