

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

**6TH MARCH 2016 – FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
LAETARE SUNDAY**



As today we hear the familiar parable of the Prodigal Son (or the Forgiving Father), the message is Reconciliation - the making new of relationships, the healing of past wrongs and the opening of ourselves to the "new creation". This is just as the Israelites opened themselves to the New Creation of the Promised Land, when under Joshua they ended their sojourn in the wilderness after forty years of hardship, and began to eat of the produce of the country. It is all God's work: it is God who calls us back, and God who

welcomes us into the Promised Land of his mercy when we return. So today, let us think not so much of sin and offences, as the new creation God offers us, if we but turn back to him and embrace him as our Father.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 4</i> Sunday Missal: page 568; Readings: page 576; Preface: page 38 or 39 <i>For Prayers in Latin: Number 670 in Hymn Book</i>		Prayers Please
Sunday Mother's Day	9.15am Mass (SJ) - with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy	<p>Sick: 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, Rita Brooks, Callum Fazackerley, Lucy Hesford, Elaine Jansen, Bernard Corri, Winifred Coyle, Josephine Knowles, Rita Bell, Mary Cassidy, Derek Crompton, Florence Toole, Roy Shepherd, Margaret Hatchman, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, Denis Bolton and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Kevin Proctor, Laurian Bold, Jenny Crouch, Helena Czutkowna, Roy Smith, Alan O'Leary, John Barrett, Hayley Anne Mathieson, Peggy Krinks, Cy Jones, Martin Tarpey</p> <p>Anniversaries: Anthony Nugent, Betty & John Carolan, David Greenhalgh, Nora Greene</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Joyce Knight, Anthony Nugent, Betty & John Carolan, David Greenhalgh, Laurian Bold, Jenny Crouch, Gretta Wild (sick), Nora Greene</p> <p>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 (7 th)	9.30am Mass (SB) 7.30pm Churches in Harwood Lent Course (St Brendan's) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday (8 th)	8.15am Lenten Mass (SC) 11am Funeral Service for Roy Smith (SB) 3pm Requiem Mass for Helena Czutkowna (SJ) 6.30pm Stations of The Cross (SJ) 7pm Mass followed by Reconciliation (SJ) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday (9 th)	No Morning Mass 7.30pm Deanery Station Mass (St Brendan, Harwood)	
Thursday (10 th)	9.15am Mass (SB) 7.30pm Tanzania Concert (St Brendan's Church)	
Friday (11 th)	8.15am Lenten Mass (SJ) in School	
Saturday (12 th)	5pm Mass (SC)	
Next Sunday (13 th)	9.15am Mass (SJ) - Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – Children's Liturgy 2pm Reconciliation Service (SC)	

This Newsletter is sponsored by
HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE
Peel House
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
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Collections & Donations: *All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's, St Columba's or St John's as appropriate.*

Mass Intentions: *Cheques should be made payable to St John's*

Gift Aid: *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*

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



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.

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers

If you were on a rota or your child helped with Altar Serving at 6.30pm or 10.15am, and you now attend Mass at a new time, please contact the office here at St John's (301927) or email: office@sbsj.org.uk if you would like to continue with your role at any of the weekend Masses.

Offertory Envelopes

If you are now attending a different Mass at St Brendan's, St Columba's or St John's, you can give in your current envelope to any of the offertory collections. *Thank you.*

CAMEO Group: CAMEO is back! Wednesday 16 March (2-4pm) in the Harbour Room (St Brendans). All most welcome.

Marmalade for Sale: At St Columba's this weekend (£2 per jar). All proceeds to CAFOD.

Fundraising Concert: As part of their fundraising for Tanzania, students from Thornleigh Salesian College present a concert by Greater Manchester Police Male Voice Choir. This will be held on Thursday 10 March at St Brendan's Church (7.30pm). Tickets (£5) are available by contacting Julie Summerton (07761 585004) or julie.summerton@ntlworld.com

Baptism Preparation: Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 9 April (10.30am-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 us know if you will be attending by telephoning the office (301927) or emailing office@sbsj.org.uk.

Visit to Wardley Hall: A day's pilgrimage to visit the Holy Door, with Mass, has been arranged on Saturday 9 April for our parishes and there is a small number of spare places. The coach (£10 per person), will be leaving St John's Church at 10am and returning approximately 3pm.

Flower Festival: A Flower Festival will be held at St Brendan's Church (week ending 24 September 2016). We will be looking for sponsorship for the arrangements and help with catering and stewarding. Any suggestions and offers of help can be passed to Margaret Fazackerley.

Destitution Project: The next collection for our parishes is throughout March. Thank you, as always, for all your continued support.

Lenten Masses & Activities - 2016

Tuesday Morning Mass 8.15am - St Columba's Church

Friday Morning Mass 8.15am - St John's School

Reconciliation Service 2pm

Sunday 13 March (St Columba's)

Deanery Station Masses 7.30pm (Confessions 7pm)

9 March – St Brendan, Harwood

16 March – St Joseph, Halliwell

Churches in Harwood Lent Course 7.30-9pm

7 March – St Brendan's

14 March – Christ's Church

21 March – Harwood Methodist

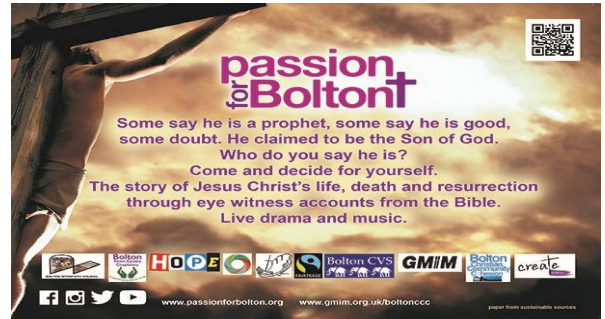
Advance Notice

Easter Triduum

Maundy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper & watching at the Altar of Repose – 8pm (St Brendan's)

Good Friday – Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 3pm (St Columba's)

Holy Saturday – The Easter Vigil – 8pm (St John's)



Passion for Bolton 2016: In 2011 a passion play was performed in Bolton's Victoria Square. It is happening again this year from 12noon on 26 March (Holy Saturday). The Bishop of Bolton and the other Patrons (including Canon Cooke) would like to warmly invite people from across the town to come along on the day and enjoy this live drama, which tells the story of the last days of Jesus' Life.

Fairtrade Fortnight: Dear everyone please do support fair trade fortnight by buying fairly traded goods. They make such a difference to our poorest brothers and sisters. Justicia has an ever increasing wide range of foods, toys, musical instruments and an ever expanding range of innovative gifts.

St Brendan's Piety Stall: St Patrick's Day and Easter cards are now on sale. There is also a selection of First Communion cards and gifts available.

Think Vocation

"Father I have sinned against heaven and against you." The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a great gift to the Church - it's often something many of us find difficult. St John Vianney is the patron of all priests and was renowned for his compassion and wisdom in the confessional. May we pray for our own priests to imitate their patron in his zeal and dedication to this beautiful sacrament of healing.

Marriage Matters (tvoiononeflesh.org.uk)

The need for gratitude and trust: The Gospel illustrates the Father's amazing forgiveness but the elder brother reacts angrily and is resentful and self-righteous. At times when we feel hurt and resentful and life seems unfair, and tensions rise, we can blame each other. Jesus' message is to trust in our husband/wife, to look for their loving ways and to ask forgiveness for our own faults.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Next Weekend

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5.00 (SC)	J O'Connor	M Hilton, J Cranshaw
9.15 (SJ)	M Parkinson	F Smith, A Grundy, D Ramsden, A Cunliffe, A Rawlinson, M Cropper
11.15(SB)	M Durkan	T Proctor, T Taylor, J Proctor