

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

**27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



Advent opens with a great promise: "In the days to come..." the hope of a people who need God. "...The master is coming" is also a promise, not a threat to breed fear, but to answer our cry. So Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to stay awake, and treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with mercy. Nevertheless we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live to tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord's coming, we must remember that it might be today!

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b> <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 1</i> <b>Sunday Missal: page 90; Preface page 34</b>		<b>Prayers Please</b>	
Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy	<p><b>Sick:</b> Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Maureen Kennedy, Joan Pearce, Peter Cranmer, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Mary Long, Linda Southern, Rita Brooks, Callum Fazackerley, Elaine Jansen, Bernard Corri, Winifred Coyle, Josephine Knowles, Rita Bell, Mary Cassidy, Derek Crompton, Roy Shepherd, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, Barbara Stoppard, June Dawson, Greta Barlow, Cassie Wilson, Christine Hasleden, Suzanne Freeman-Hill, Josephine Gell, Jude McCann Brown, Ann Cunliffe, John Pryor, Marie France and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Agnes Tetlow, Marie Claire Winstanley, Stephen Jones, Mary Hennessey, Angela Sharples, Elizabeth (Betty) Taylor, Anthony Axford, Thomas Hodgkiss</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Francis Xavier Price, Winifred Meagher, Des Rowland, Alicia Bleasdale, Eva Sheridan</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Marie Claire Winstanley, William Mealey (Sick), Francis Xavier Price, Winifred Meagher, Des Rowland, Alicia Bleasdale, For all the deceased (From the SVP), Intentions of Josie Wallwork, Mary Hennessey, Eva Sheridan</p>	
Monday (28 <sup>th</sup> )	9.30am Mass (SB) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)		
Tuesday (29 <sup>th</sup> )	No Meditation today 7pm Mass (SJ) 7.15pm SVP (SB)		
Wednesday (30 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>St Andrew, Patron of Scotland</i>	9.15am School Advent Mass in Church (SC) 9.30am Mass (SJ) 7.15pm Meditation (Harbour Room)		
Thursday (1st)	9.15am Mass (SB)		
Friday (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	9.30am School Advent Mass in Church (SJ) 1pm Requiem Mass for Agnes Tetlow (SB)		
Saturday (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) <i>St Francis Xavier</i> <i>Migrants' Day</i>	5pm Mass (SC) – With Children's Liturgy  <i>A Day of Special Prayer for Migrants &amp; Refugees</i>		
Next Sunday (4 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>Bible Sunday</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SB) <i>A Day of Special Prayer for Openness to the Word of God</i>		
<b>Think Vocation</b>			<b>Cycle of Prayer Part 1 (of 6)</b>
<p>Today marks the start of the Church's Liturgical Year. It's a very busy time of year but the Church tries to present it as an opportunity to slow down, to pray and reflect on the direction our lives are taking. We are preparing for the coming of the Prince of Peace. May this be a blessed time for us to become clearer in our minds about our priorities.</p>			<p>We pray especially for: openness to the Word of God; migrants and refugees; expectant mothers</p>

**Parish Priest: Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG**

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

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**Congratulations:** To Erin May Sherlock and Jocelyn Catherine Crumbleholme who were baptised at St John's last Friday and to Alicia Mary Vasconcelos Aguiar and Harper Beatrice Edge who were baptised at St John's last Saturday. We pray that they and their families will continue to grow in faith.

**The Destitution Project:** There will be a joint food/clothing collection during December at each of our three churches. The items particularly needed at the minute are: rucksacks, underpants, hats, gloves, scarves, jeans and trousers, sweaters, waterproof and warm coats (all medium), sunflower or vegetable oil, sugar, tuna and especially sardines in oil. Thank you for your continued support

**Harbour Room Book Club:** will meet on Wednesday 30 November (1.15pm-3pm) to discuss *The Cutting Season* by Attica Locke. All welcome.

**Bolton Cancer Voices:** Have two exciting concerts in the run up to Christmas: The first is at the Barlow, Edgworth, on Sunday 4 December (7.15pm) *Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and Music*. Tickets £8, with complimentary refreshments, are available by phoning 01204 883977 or from the office at The Barlow. The second is *Christmas at the Rock* where the choir joins forces with the Houghton Weavers on Saturday 10 December at 7.30pm in Bury Parish Church, The Rock, Bury. Tickets priced £10 are available by phoning 01204 883977 or from the House on the Rock Café at Bury Parish Church, BL9 0LA.

**Fort Alice Christmas Toy Collection:** We will hold a special toy collection at our Saturday and Sunday Masses on the 10 & 11 December and a representative from Fort Alice will give a short talk. *Thank you*

**Christmas Window Displays (St Brendan's):** If anyone would like to sponsor a poinsettia (in memory of a loved one) please fill in a form at the back of church. Thank you.



**It's our Birthday!** You are invited to the Caritas Shop & Community Drop In on Tuesday 29 November (9am-4pm). There will be food & drinks, raffles etc. It's a great opportunity to find out what we get up to (apart from selling donated books and clothes) to raise money for Caritas causes.

**Bolton Wanderers Carol Service & Panto:** The Carol Service is at 7pm on Monday 5 December. All donations go to Caritas, as Bolton Young Parents Service is the club's local charity of the season. Donations to Caritas Bolton Young Parents Service can be doubled as part of the national *Big Give* campaign. If you wish to have your donation doubled please go to: <http://tinyurl.com/givingtuesdayBIGGIVE>.

Also, if you would like to go to the Bolton Wanderers Christmas Panto, again with donation to Caritas, please email Meriel Woodward [M.woodward@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:M.woodward@caritassalford.org.uk)

**Asda (Astley Bridge Store):** Is running the green penny campaign for Bolton Young Parents Service; the winner will receive £500 – please ask for green pennies at the till!

**The Lalley Centre:** Needs toys for its Christmas appeal – please contact [thelalleytoyappeal@gmail.com](mailto:thelalleytoyappeal@gmail.com)

**St Osmunds Church:** Invite you to their Christmas Fair on Saturday 3 December (11am-2pm) in aid of Caritas Bolton Young Parents Service.

## Advent and Christmas

**Walk With Me:** The booklets and calendars for Advent are now available – free of charge. Do please take one for your household and use it to help your prayer during this season of preparation for Christmas.

**A Journey for Advent:** Each Monday evening in Advent, there will be time for reflection on Pope Francis' *The Joy of the Gospel*. All are welcome to come along and the first one will start on Monday 28 November (7.30pm-9pm) in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's.

**Advent Carol Services at the Hidden Gem:** These take place every weekday lunchtime during Advent at 1pm (after the 12.30pm Mass) starting on Monday 28 November. (ending on Wednesday 21 December). The Thornleigh school choir will be singing on Friday 16 December. All welcome to join in these special services.

**Cameo Group:** The next event will be on Tuesday 6 December (2-4pm) in the Harbour Room and is a *Christmas Decoration Demonstration* by Margaret Fazackerley. All welcome.

**Churches Together in Harwood:** The Advent Service will take place at 7.30pm on Monday 5 December at Christ's Church.

**Churches Together in Harwood Helping Urban Outreach:** The collection of Chicken Gravy Granules cartons will continue until 4 December at St Brendan's *Thank you*

**St John's School Christmas Fayre:** Will be held on Friday 2 December (3.30pm-5.30pm). As well as all the traditional stalls, our school choir will be singing. All welcome!

**Churches Together in Tonge Moor:** Are holding an Advent Service on Tuesday 29 November, 7.30pm at St Andrew's Methodist Church They would like to invite invite people from St Columba's and surrounding Parishes.

**Bolton Hospice:** The *Light up a Life* services take place at Bolton Parish Church at 7pm on Wednesday 7 December and Wednesday 14 December (6.30pm) at Bolton Hospice.

**Christmas Draw:** Tickets are on sale in both St John's and St Columba's Churches.

**CAFOD World Gifts:** Catalogues for these are now available at the back of each of our churches. You may wish to make use of these gifts as an alternative to traditional Christmas presents.

### Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Next Weekend (3/4 December)

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5.00 (SC)	C Molyneux	P Ginty & C Molyneux
9.15 (SJ)	J Carroll	E Rothwell, T Armstrong, A Gracie, M Fau-Goodwin, A Rawlinson, M Cropper
11.15(SB)	F Evans	J Proctor, T Proctor, T Smith,

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**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**

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