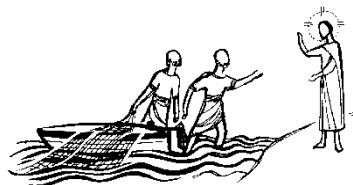


## NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR & ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS

**22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2017 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**



We will spend most of the Sundays of the coming year in the company of Saint Matthew. His Gospel (like the others) has its own characteristics. He is writing for a Jewish audience, and so is always at pains to stress one thing: that Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah. He does this by reference to Jesus' teaching and miracles, and very often by quoting the prophecies of the Old Testament to show that Jesus was their fulfilment. Today is a perfect example. "Zebulun and Naphthali" was an old name for the area round Capernaum by the side of the Lake of Galilee, a busy fishing and trading area, with many Gentile towns and settlements: it is here, rather than in the dangerous town of Nazareth, that Jesus "settles" and begins his ministry. This is where the proclamation of the Kingdom of God begins, as was foretold, and the first followers are invited to join Jesus.

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b> <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 3</i> <b>Sunday Missal:</b> page 195; Preface at priest's choice		<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, 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, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, June Dawson, Greta Barlow, Cassie Wilson, Christine Hasleden, Suzanne Freeman-Hill, Josephine Gell, Jude McCann Brown, Ann Cunliffe, John Pryor, Maureen Woodward, Rose Adams, Valerie Piddock, Irene Parkinson, Robert Morissey, Father Harry Jones and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Bridie Montague, Barbara Stoppard, Mary Beswick, Robert Moore, Veronica Howarth, Tom Fay, David Simpson, Winifred Elliott, Joan Roberts, Eileen Martin, Margaret Mavis Harpley, Roy Shepherd, May Wright, James Wheeler</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Vera Boatfield, Michael Axford, Alan Yates, Bernard Burke</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Bridie Montague, Barbara Stoppard, Mary Beswick, Frank Kilfoyle, Robert Moore, Veronica Howarth, Michael Axford (Birthday Remembrance), Thanks to the Sacred Heart for Prayers Answered, David Simpson, Alan Yates, Tom Rabbett, Bernard Burke, Roy Shepherd, Tom Fay</p>
Monday (23 <sup>rd</sup> )	9.30am Mass (SB) 7.30pm Christian Unity Service (Methodist Church Hall, Longsight) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday (24 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	11.30am Requiem Mass for Winifred Elliott (SC) 2pm-2.45pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB) No Evening Mass 7.15pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday (25 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>The Conversion of St Paul</i>	No Mass Today 1.15pm-3pm Harbour Room Book Club (SB) <p style="text-align: center;"><i>End of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</i></p>	
Thursday (26 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>St Timothy &amp; St Titus</i>	9.30am Yr3 Mass in Church (SB) - Listening 7.15-8pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB)	
Friday (27 <sup>th</sup> )	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday (28 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>	5pm Mass (SC) <p style="text-align: right;"><i>A Special Collection for Caritas</i></p>	
Sunday (29 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>Caritas Sunday</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy ( <i>Diocese of Salford</i> ) 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy	
<p><b>Collections &amp; Donations:</b> All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's, St Columba's or St John's as appropriate.  <b>Mass Intentions:</b> Cheques should be made payable to St John's  <b>Gift Aid:</b> 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</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cycle of Prayer Part 2 (of 6):</b>                  We pray especially for: peace on earth; Christian unity; the sick and those who care for them; students and teachers; the unemployed</p>

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

**Assistant Priest:** Rev Francis Parkinson

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

Tel: 01204 301927 E-mail: office@sbsj.org.uk Website: www.sbsj.org.uk

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

## The Future of Our Parishes

As we know from the pastoral letters last weekend, following many months of consultation, the bishop has decided on a new structure for the parishes across the diocese.

The proposal for St Brendan's and St John's is that they should amalgamate to form one new parish. This will formalise the relationship that has existed between these parishes for the past nine years. Given that history of working together, we can hopefully move forward with this amalgamation in the not too distant future.

The proposal for St Columba's is that it should amalgamate with Holy Infant's to form one new parish. Although this was not what we were expecting, the good news is that it prevents the proposed closure of St Columba's church. Given that we are keeping the church open, it will now be possible to take up the plans that we had for the property which we were asked to put on hold whilst the consultation was underway. Those plans included the demolition of the presbytery, some repairs to the church and sacristy and erecting secure fencing around the site. We just need to consider how we will pay for this work.

For both amalgamations, there has to be a period of formal consultation specific to each of the proposed parishes. We will get further information on this in due course.

**Harbour Room Book Club:** The next meeting of the Harbour Room Book Club will be on Wednesday 25 January at 1.15pm.-3pm (St Brendan's). The book under discussion is *Far from the Maddening Crowd* by Thomas Hardy. Refreshments available and all welcome.

## DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL CO-ORDINATOR

The diocese has an exciting job opportunity for an experienced practitioner to develop and support catechetical formation at diocesan and parish level. The new co-ordinator will develop the training and support of volunteer catechists in delivering a range of activities, and identify or develop materials to support new and existing programs in formation in faith across the diocese. Please see the parish noticeboard for further details, or for further information, job description and an application form, contact Patrick O'Dowd, Director of Administration and Personnel, Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP; Tel 0161 817 2203; Email: [recruitment@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofsalford.org.uk). The closing date for applications is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Further details are also available on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

This Newsletter is sponsored by

### HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

Peel House  
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.  
BL1 7AL  
01204 309609



## Ceilidh Dancing to "Barefoot Fiddler"

At  
Walmsley Parish Hall  
on Friday 10 February (7.30pm-11pm)  
Tickets now on sale - £10 per person which  
includes a pastie supper.  
Bar available or bring your own drinks

## Marriage Matters ([www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk](http://www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk))

**God has a stake in our marriage:** Today, we see two aspects of God's plan for our marriage: '*... (I will make) their joy increase*' (Isaiah) and '*I will make you fishers of men*' (Matthew). God wants us to make our love for each other as close to Jesus' love for us as possible, that all whose lives we touch might experience how much God loves them.

## Think Vocation

"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." Perhaps Jesus chose a number of fishermen as his disciples because fishermen need to be strong, trusting and courageous. Despite their weaknesses they all proved themselves to be up to the task eventually. The Lord continues to call men to be his priests today: they also need to be tough and resilient. Let us pray that the priests of our Diocese have the courage and strength they need to lead the Church and preach the Gospel.

## Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Next Weekend (29/30 January)

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5.00pm (SC)	T Lees	F Ginty, C Molyneux, J O'Connor
9.15am (SJ)	S Copley	M Russell, F Smith, A Rawlinson, M Fau-Goodwin, J Carroll, M Cropper
11.15am(SB)	L Lamoury	T Smith, J Proctor ,T Proctor

M	I	W	E	R	D	N	A	P	M	GALILEE	CAPERNAUM	ZEBULUN
S	U	L	E	D	E	B	E	Z	E	NAPHTALI	JORDAN	ISAIAH
E	J	A	M	E	S	T	N	E	U	SIMON	PETER	ANDREW
E	A	E	N	I	E	H		B	A	JAMES	ZEBEDEE	JOHN
D	E	E	A	R	O	J	H	U	N			
E	M	L	R	J	E	N	A	L	R			
B	S	I	M	O	N	P	I	U	E			
E	I	L	A	T	H	P	A	N	P			
Z	N	A	D	R	O	J	S	C	A			
N	U	G	U	B	E	Z	I	N	C			