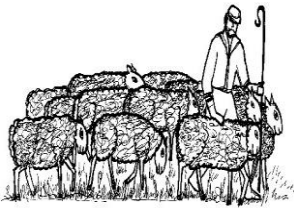



**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS**

7TH MAY 2017 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY



This Sunday is traditionally called ‘Good Shepherd Sunday’, because of the Gospel references to Jesus as the Good Shepherd. It is also the day of prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood. On this Sunday we hear one of the great ‘I am’ statements of Jesus from Saint John’s Gospel. Today he says ‘I am the gate of the sheepfold’. Through Jesus we enter into life and safety, and we go through Jesus, the gate by baptism. This image is implied in all today’s readings: the people listening to Peter find this gateway and enter through it: Peter writes to remind us that we have come back to the Good Shepherd, who heals us by his wounds.

Liturgy & Activities This Week		Prayers Please
<i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 4</i> Sunday Missal: page 752; Preface at priest’s choice		
Sunday <i>World Day of Special Prayer for Vocations</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) - With Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) - With Children’s Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SJ) <i>A Special Collection for the Ecclesiastical Education Fund Day of Special Prayer for New Members of the Church</i>	<p>Sick: 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, Callum Fazackerley, Elaine Jansen, Josephine Knowles, Rita Bell, Mary Cassidy, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, June Dawson, Greta Barlow, Cassie Wilson, Christine Hasleden, Suzanne Freeman-Hill, Jude McCann Brown, Ann Cunliffe, John Pryor, Maureen Woodward, Rose Adams, Valerie Piddock, Irene Parkinson, Robert Morissey, Edwin Rankin, Father Francis McAuley, Margaret Patterson, Margaret Riley, Zachary Ainscough (aged 7), Mary Bagg, Mary Castle, Bernadette Smith, and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Nina Gilmartin, Jessie Carter, Mark Villa, Catherine Stewart</p> <p>Anniversaries: Alan Healey</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Leonard Ainscough (Birthday Remembrance), Nina Gilmartin, Mark Villa, Alan Healey</p>
Monday (8 th)	9.30am Mass (SB) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday (9 th)	7pm Mass (SJ) 7.15pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday (10 th)	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Thursday (11 th)	9.15am Mass (SB)	
Friday (12 th)	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday (13 th)	5pm Mass (SC)	
Sunday (14 th)	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children’s Liturgy	
<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>This Newsletter is sponsored by</p> <p>HOWARTH’S FUNERAL SERVICE</p> <p>Peel House 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton. BL1 7AL 01204 309609</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  www.hf.co.uk </div>
<p style="text-align: center;">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>		

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Assistant Priest: Rev Francis Parkinson

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World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Today, the fourth Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday, is chosen as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. The theme this year is *Called: extra-ordinary*. Please pray for all people who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, those who are preparing for ordination or religious profession and for all priests and consecrated men and women.

Ecclesiastical Education Fund

At our Masses this weekend, we will have a special collection for the fund that is used to train future priests. This year, the Diocese looks forward to the ordination to the Priesthood of Rev Mark Paver (Venerable English College, Rome) and Rev Gavin Landers (Oscott College, Birmingham). There is also one ordination to the diaconate (Callum Brown, Oscott). Please hold them in your prayers as well as other students who are continuing their journey in formation; Damien Loudon (Beda College, Rome), Luke Bradbury and Bob Hayes (Oscott). There is also, the possibility of eight men applying for formation to the priesthood in the Diocese this year. This is great news and the Diocese asks for the continued support and prayer from parishioners for all seminarians, applicants and enquirers.

Vocations Enquiries

Have you ever thought about being a priest or joining a religious order? Why not have a word with a priest that you know or contact the Diocesan Vocations Promoter (Fr Featherstone) on 0161 681 1410 or the National Office for Vocations (0207 901 4809)

Think Vocation

"The sheep recognised the voice of their loving shepherd." We pray that young people may recognise the voice of the Lord amidst the materialistic messages with which the world overpowers them.

Congratulations: To William Cooper Finnigan who was Baptised at St Brendan's last Saturday. And to Emily May McCann who was Baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. Let us pray that they and their families continue to grow in faith.

Catholic Youth Ministry Federation (Youth Poll): In 2018, Pope Francis will meet Bishops and others to talk about Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment. At this gathering, they will discuss how the Catholic Church can accompany young people in their faith. If you are aged between 13-29 years old, the Catholic Church in England and Wales would like to hear from you, we want to hear what life is like, your thoughts on faith and connection with the Catholic Church. To help you tell us, we have created a Mega Youth Poll which can be accessed using the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parish-youth-poll> or by searching for 'Catholic Mega Youth Poll.' If you are over this age limit but would like to help, please encourage the young people you know to respond to this poll.

Marriage Matters (www.twoinoneflesh)

Feeding your sheep: John 10:10 describes us as 'sheep'. God watches over and feeds us with his Word, and in the Eucharist. With God's help we have created a few more sheep, so we pray for His help, read books, use the internet to protect our children from the harm done by the 'media' and many of today's 'addictions'. That's being good shepherds.

St Osmund's: We welcome the new parish priest, Fr. Dermot Heakin and pray that he will have a happy and fruitful ministry in our neighbouring parish

Salesians of Don Bosco UK - Charity Accountant at Salesian Provincial Office, Thornleigh House, Bolton
Are you a qualified accountant with a wide range of experience and looking for an exciting role with the opportunity to progress? **Please see full details for this position on the notice boards as the closing date is Tuesday 16 May**

Christie Friends Spring Summer Fashion Show: Friday 12 May at the Ukrainian Club, Castle Street, Bolton 7pm with Lucy Cobb of Uppermill. Tickets (£7.50) include a glass of prosecco and pastie & peas supper, are available from Kath (0775 3170241) or Donna (01204 529838). Please come along and support this worthy cause for patients and families.

Baptism Preparation: Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 20 May (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John'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

Book Club Spring Outing to Dewlay's Cheese Factory & Barton Grange Garden Centre: Wednesday 10 May meeting at 9am (for 9.15am departure) outside St Brendan's church (main road Pennine Pets) After Dewlay's, we go on to the Garden Centre for lunch, departing at 2.15pm returning to St Brendan's about 3.15pm. *Thank you.*

St John's 200 Club: There are still monies owing for the year and there are twenty numbers available. Please contact Frances Smith as soon as possible to either arrange payment, or if you would like to join.

A Charity Concert in Aid of Parkinson's UK
featuring Tonge with the Haulgh Community Choir
(plus guests)

Saturday 17 June at the Bridge Church & Centre,
Bradford Street, Bolton

Tickets £8 (£4 children) available by contacting 07985
788144 or 07771 548590

The Glory of Gershwin
with Bolton Catholic Musical and Choral Society

Saturday 13th May 7:30pm
Victoria Hall, Bolton

Conductor: Carolyn Baxendale MBE
Leader: Helen Brackley Jones
Soloists: Isobelle Peters & Njabulo Madlala

Tickets £10 Adults, Under 19's Free from
Booths Music and Victoria Hall Box Office (01204 522569)

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Next Week (13/14 May)

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SC)	V Cryer	F Ginty, C Molineux, J O'Connor
9.15am (SJ)	H O'Donnell	E Rothwell, D Ramsden, A Gracie, A Grundy, M Speed, M Cropper
11.15am (SB)	T Regan	C Owen, P Brennan, M Durkan