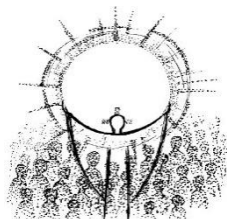


## NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR & ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS

### 21ST MAY 2017 – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



By now we are some distance away from Easter, but the season is still permeated with the Easter message: Christ is risen, we are baptised in him. But today a new dimension of the story comes out: Easter is not complete until the risen Lord has returned to the Father and sent the Holy Spirit. So in the Gospel today we begin two weeks of looking forward to the coming of that 'Spirit of truth' which sets us apart from the world. This is a Spirit of power, which flows through the life of the Church, enabling its members to 'proclaim the Christ' and, dwelling in our hearts, to live in the midst of the world's slander and accusations.

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b> <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 2</i> <b>Sunday Missal:</b> page 772; 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 2pm Baptism (SC) <i>Day of Special Prayer for New Members of the Church</i>	<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, Callum Fazackerley, Elaine Jansen, Josephine Knowles, 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 McCauley, Margaret Patterson, Margaret Riley, Zachary Ainscough (aged 7), Mary Bagg, Mary Castle, Bernadette Smith, Peggy Ainscow and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Lewis Anderson, Rita Bell, Sr Maria Varley CP, Elsie Stott, Patricia Leonard, Thomas Howarth</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Lola Anne Cosgrave, Frank Kirkman, Rosemary Atkins, John Fitzgerald, Christine Hargrave, Andrew Hustwit</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Lola Anne Cosgrave, Rita Bell, Sr Maria Varley CP, Elsie Stott, Gerard Dobson (Birthday Remembrance), Patricia Leonard, Frank Kirkham, Thomas Howarth, Rosemary Atkins, John Fitzgerald, Vera Gregson, Agnes Shaughnessy (sick), Margaret Leigh (sick), Christine Hargrave, Bob Bowes (Birthday Remembrance)</p> <p><b>Exam Prayers:</b> At this time of year we pray especially for all our young parishioners who are taking exams. We ask that they may be given guidance and support at this important time in their lives.</p>
Monday (22 <sup>nd</sup> )	9.30am Mass (SB) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday (23 <sup>rd</sup> )	7pm Mass (SJ) 7.15pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday (24 <sup>th</sup> )	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Thursday (25 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>St Bede the Venerable</i>	9.15am Mass (SB)	
Friday (26 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>St Philip Neri</i>	9am School Mass in Church (SC) 9.30am Mass (SJ) 2pm School Service for Our Lady (SJ)	
Saturday (27 <sup>th</sup> ) <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	11am Baptism (SB) 5pm Mass (SC) <i>A Special Collection for the Catholic Communications</i>	
Sunday (28 <sup>th</sup> ) <b>The Ascension of the Lord</b>	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy <i>Network</i> 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy 1pm Nuptial Mass for Noel Croke & Louise Reddy (SJ) <i>World Communications Day</i>	
<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.</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Cheques should be made payable to St John's</p> <p><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><b>Cycle of Prayer Part 4 (of 6):</b> We pray especially for: new members of the Church; vocations; the right use of the media; the Church; human work</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

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**World Communications Day:** Next Sunday is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord and on this day, Catholics are invited to reflect on the command of Jesus to his followers that we should preach the Good News of the Gospel to the entire world. On World Communications Day, we are encouraged to pray for communications professionals and there will be a second collection which provides the funding for the Catholic Communications Network (CCN). The CCN provides support for the bishops of England and Wales and the Church more widely in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues. The office is the central point for media enquiries and plays a key role in developing the public profile of the Church. Please help the CCN to promote the Good News through the media, by your prayers and generosity. It is also possible to donate online at: [www.catholicnews.org.uk/donations](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/donations).

**The General Election 2017:** The Bishops of England and Wales have issued a letter to Catholics on the forthcoming general election, which will be distributed in parishes across all dioceses this weekend.

The letter is an encouragement to all Catholics to play an active part in the election. While voting for any particular political party is a matter of conscience, the bishops encourage people to use their vote at this pivotal time for our nations, as we prepare to leave the European Union.

The letter lays out broad principles to guide our thinking in the run-up to the election, taken from Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium*.

"To a great extent, the outcome of this election will determine the approach taken on how this (leaving the European Union) is achieved, the priorities we pursue and the values we wish to treasure as our own in the UK and as partners with countries around the world. It will determine how we can heal divisions in our society, care for the vulnerable, how our public services are run and whether we can remain a united kingdom."

The letter then moves from these broad guiding principles to some more specific questions for consideration and to raise with candidates, including questions on how best to encourage and enable families to flourish, promote freedom of religion across the world and care for refugees and asylum seekers.

The letter concludes with a prayer:

*"Lord grant us wisdom to act always with integrity, seeking the protection and flourishing of all, and building a society based on justice and peace."*

### St John's School - 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

This September is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the school in 1977. To mark this milestone, the first Mass of the new academic year (September 2017) will be dedicated to this special occasion. As well as the Mass, the school will be hosting an evening celebration "*St John's Through the Decades*" and there will of course be a celebration in school for the children (dates for the above are to be advised). All will be welcome.

In the meantime, we are asking for your help; if past staff, children, parents, grandparents, governors and friends could have a look for any photographs, newspaper cuttings, extracts of information, or any special memories you have in connection with our school, and would be willing to allow us to use them for display purposes and to create a *Memories Book*, these would be gratefully received. The items loaned to us, should include the sender's name so that they can be returned. *Many thanks.*

**SVP Sponsored Walk:** The annual sponsored walk, which helps local families in need, takes place on Sunday 11 June and sponsor forms are available at the back of our Churches. Everyone is invited to join in the walk or, alternatively, please sponsor someone who is walking. Please see the poster on the notice board for further details. *Thank you.*

**We Are One Walk:** On Saturday 10 June, the Maranatha Community is organising a 'We are One Walk' from Salford Cathedral via St Ann's Square to Manchester Cathedral. This follows the two very successful walks of witness to Christian Unity from Salford Cathedral to Manchester Cathedral in previous years, (2000 and 2009). The day will start with a gather to worship at Salford Cathedral at 10.00 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

**Childrens Liturgy (SJ):** We're very happy to say our children's liturgy group is growing in numbers and we would really welcome anyone who feels they would like to help out every few weeks. Please see one of the children's liturgy leaders (Joanne, Amanda, Jen or Louise) or Fr Cooke and Fr Parkinson if you'd like to get involved. Many Thanks.

**Thy Kingdom Come:** *Thy Kingdom Come* is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. The Bishops of England and Wales are supporting this initiative with our Pentecost Novena, Prayer of the Faithful and an encouragement for Catholics to pray, as we normally do, with the particular intention for our loved ones to come to faith in Jesus Christ. To find out more and pledge to pray please visit [www.catholicchurch.or.uk/pentecost-novena](http://www.catholicchurch.or.uk/pentecost-novena)

### 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

or from Peter Carolan after 11.15am Mass at St Brendan's

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

**Listen to Jesus within ourselves and within our partner:**

Jesus is in me and in you! In marriage, we are especially called to honour that presence in our spouse every day. There may be times when we hurt each other or take each other for granted, leading to feelings of jealousy and resentment, often to arguments. At times like this the call is for forgiveness, for healing, for affirmation.

### Think Vocation

The Lord said, "If you love me you will keep my commandments". In the love of the Risen Christ we are all called to follow his commandments, expressed through the Church.

### Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Next Weekend (27/28 May)

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5.00 (SC)	C Smith	P & F McDowell, E Clarke
9.15 (SJ)	P French	P McArdle, F Smith, D Ramsden, E Rothwell, M Cropper, A Gracie
11.15(SB)	L Lamoury	T Proctor, T Smith, J Proctor

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

