

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

3RD SEPTEMBER 2017 – TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A quick glance at last week's Gospel reveals the interesting development of the story: last week, we heard Peter proclaiming that Jesus was the Messiah, and being given authority as a result. This week, Peter gets it wrong: he is rebuked by the Lord because he does not understand who the Messiah is. The Messiah is the one who will give everything for his people - even his own life. To be a follower of Jesus demands an understanding and acceptance of this fact, and a willingness to take up the cross as Jesus did. Our introduction to this is the prophet Jeremiah - also persecuted for doing and saying what was right. Have a look at the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, where this twinning of Jeremiah and prophecy of persecution also appears.

Liturgy & Activities This Week		Prayers Please
<i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 2</i> Sunday Missal: page 391; Preface at Priest's choice		<p>Sick: Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Joan Pearce, Peter Cranmer, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, 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, Father Francis McCauley, Margaret Patterson, Zachary Ainscough (aged 7), Mary Bagg, Mary Castle, Peggy Ainscow, Canon Dorran, Christine Everitt, Priscilla Martin, Mark O'Brien, Sheila Derbyshire, Margaret Gibson, Kathleen & Arnold Banks, Andrew Rostron and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness</p> <p>Latently Dead: Herbert Walch, Mary Martindale, Lil Mather, Kevin Johnson</p> <p>Anniversaries: James Dowbakin, John Gilmartin, Gerard Lamoury, Bridget & Jack Day, David Gracie</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Mary Martindale, John & Mary Gilmartin, Lil Mather, Gerard Lamoury, Kevin Johnson, Bridget & Jack Day, David Gracie</p>
Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SJ)	
Monday (4 th)	No Mass Today 7.45 SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday (5 th)	10am Requiem Mass for Herbert Walch (SB) 2pm - 2.45pm Christian Meditation (SB, Harbour Room) 7pm Mass (SJ) 7.30pm-9pm Parish Forum	
Wednesday (6 th)	9.15am School Mass (SC) 9.30am Mass (SJ) 7-9pm Parish Enabling Teem Meeting (Patmos Room, SJ)	
Thursday (7 th)	9.15am Mass (SB) 7.15pm – 8pm Christian Meditation (SB, Harbour Room)	
Friday (8 th) <i>Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday (9 th)	5pm Mass (SC) <i>Special Collection for the Catholic</i>	
Sunday (10 th) <i>Day of Special Prayer for Students and Teachers</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) – With Children's Liturgy <i>Education Service</i> 11.15am Mass (SB) – With Children's Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SJ)	
<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>		

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

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Congratulations: To Ethan Robert David Booth and Lilliana Marie Booth who were baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that they and their family may continue to grow in faith.

Parish Forum Meeting

**Tuesday 5 September 7.30pm-9pm
(after 7pm Mass) at St John's**

All parishioners are invited to attend this very important meeting at which we will consider the feedback from our recent consultation papers and agree our submission to the bishop regarding our parish amalgamation.

Please vote for our new parish name by 12noon on Tuesday so that we can include the results of the vote in our discussion at the forum.

We are at an important moment in the history of our parishes. Please come along and be part deciding how we shape things for the present and the future.

SVP News

Afternoon Tea and Benediction: This will be held on Sunday 1 October (2pm) in the Patmos Room at St John's for our sick and housebound parishioners. A list for those wishing to attend and for transport volunteers will be available on Sunday 3 September.

Destitution Project: The next collection of food and clothing items will take place at our churches throughout September. There is a list of essential food items on our notice boards. Thank you for your support.

Charity Concert: St John's SVP are holding a charity concert with the Eden Singers on Friday 15 September (7.30pm) at Dunscair Conservative Club. The musical evening will include a *Tribute to the Beatles* and *Decades of Pop from the 1940's up to the present day* and promises to be a very enjoyable event. Tickets priced at £8 are now on sale and will include a pasty supper.

Theatre Lovers: Please note that I shall start collecting payment for our trip to see *Jane Eyre* (Saturday 27 January, 2pm) throughout the month of September. I will be in the Harbour Room after 11.15am Mass each Sunday. If that is not convenient please contact me at 303505. All cheques to be made payable to **The Octagon Theatre**. I have just one place left for this play. If anyone is interested please contact me. Thank you. *Madeleine*.

Christian Meditation: The next set of dates for are:

Tuesday 5 September 2pm - 2.45pm

Thursday 7 September 7pm - 7.45pm

These will be held in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's.

Harwood Methodist Prayer Meeting: This group comes together to pray for the whole community of Harwood as well as special needs within the church community. Parishioners are invited to attend the monthly prayer meetings held in Longsight Church Hall (in the side classroom) on the first Tuesday of every month (the next one being 5 September at 12noon). If anyone has any special prayer requests, they can be emailed to annstones@aol.com. All are welcome.

Francis House: Francis House cares for over 420 sick children, teenagers and young adults with a short life expectancy. Providing support and friendship for the whole family. They need over £4.2 million in charitable donations each year to continue to provide services. This week, Chris Speed (husband of Maureen) will be braving the windswept Eastern coast of Iceland covering about 10 miles a day for 5 days. As part of his commitment he's agreed to raise money for this very worthwhile cause which does so much to ease the pain of families and children with terminal illnesses. Any donations in support of his trip will be gratefully received via this website: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chris-speed2>

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving - they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity. So it's the most efficient way to donate - saving time and cutting costs for the charity. Thanks.

St John's School: This September marks the 40th anniversary of the opening of the school in 1977. The first Mass of the new academic year (15 September 2017) will be dedicated to this special occasion. This will be followed by a celebration in school for the children. The school will be hosting an evening celebration "*St John's Through the Decades*" on Friday 29 September from 6.30pm. All will be welcome. In the meantime, if past staff, children, parents, grandparents, governors and friends could have a look for any photographs, newspaper cuttings, extracts of information, 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*

Marriage Matters

The 'sign' of growth is change: St Paul urges us to think of God's mercy and change the way we behave so that the will of God is visible in us. As husbands and wives, we can help each other in this endeavour, so that a renewed and deeper love is revealed in our relationship and, in turn, reflected out to our family, friends and community.

Think Vocation

We pray that none of us will stand in the way of the men and women who are called to take up their cross and follow Jesus.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for 9/10 September

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SC)	M Maybury	P & F McDowell, E Clarke
9.15 (SJ)	M Parkinson	J Carroll, M Russell, D Ramsden, A Rawlinson, A Grundy, A Gracie
11.15(SB)	K Denton	M Durkan, C Owen, P Brennan

This Newsletter is sponsored by

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**Parish Amalgamation Consultation
St Brendan, Harwood and St John the Evangelist, Bromley Cross**

Paper 4: Considering a Parish Name

When our new parish is formed (whether just from SB & SJ or taking in part of SC), the churches will retain their dedication to particular saints but the parish will need a new name. The decision is down to the bishop but he is happy to receive a shortlist of names that we think might be suitable or appropriate. With that in mind, we need to vote on the various suggestions that have been made over these past few weeks. Please think carefully about what the best name might be in trying to say something about the new start and the way forward for our new parish.

Please choose just two of the following names, from either of the tables, marking your preferred names with a 1 or a 2.

<i>Suggested Name (and rationale)</i>	<i>Your Vote</i>
St Aldhelm: This was the original parish in this area of Bolton (founded in 1890) and is of particular significance to the people of Edgworth/Chapelton.	
Our Lady Help of Christians: Suggested because of the Salesian connection with our parishes through the long-standing involvement of Fr Ivor Netto who died recently.	
St Don Bosco: Again suggested because of the Salesian connection with our parishes, both through our local high school (Thornleigh) and Fr Ivor Netto.	
St Francis Xavier: He was the first Jesuit missionary, so this would be in honour of our Pope (a Jesuit) and all he is asking us to do as missionary parishes.	
The Missionary Parish of St Brendan and St John the Evangelist: This again reflects the emphasis from Pope Francis on our need to be missionary disciples for the present age and future generations.	
The Holy Family: This suggests a bond between our churches which will retain their separate names and reflects the close friendly ties that already exist between our churches.	
The Parish of the Ascension: Suggesting a new start and recalling the commission given to the Church at that time.	
Blessed Sacrament Parish: This reflects the centrality of the Eucharist in our personal and parish lives.	
Corpus Christi: This also reflects the centrality of the Eucharist – but the Latin title also reminds us that we, the Church, are the Body of Christ: "And although its parts are many, they all form one body. So it is with Christ." (St Paul)	
Holy Trinity: Although we will no longer have three parishes!	
Good Shepherd: As the Church leads us & cares for parishioners needs.	
St Christopher: Patron saint of travellers and both St John and St Brendan travelled extensively. [Note: not sure John travelled all that much]	
St Benedict: Because of our connection with the Benedictines through Fr O'Brien.	
St Ambrose Barlow: A local Manchester saint	

<i>Suggested Name (no rationale)</i>	<i>Your Vote</i>	<i>Suggested Name (no rationale)</i>	<i>Your Vote</i>
Christ the King		The Immaculate Conception	
Christ the Redeemer		Guardian Angels	
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour		St John the Baptist	
Our Lady's Chapel		Morning Star	
Our Lady of Grace		St Michael the Archangel	
All Saints			

Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG
Parish Priest
31 August 2017

Please hand in this form before you leave church or return it to St John's. If you prefer to respond electronically, go to www.sbsj.org.uk or e-mail your two choices of name to office@sbsj.org.uk ensuring all responses are in by 12 noon on Tuesday 5 September. Thanks.