

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

24TH SEPTEMBER 2017 – TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



We can never hope fully to understand God: especially God's generosity. We are very good at working out who is deserving of good fortune and who is not - unfortunately for us, God's gifts go to those God chooses, not those we choose. An example is forgiveness: those who have done the most wrong are those who receive the greatest forgiveness when they turn to God - perhaps at times we begrudge this gift. Today's lesson is simply this: God's ways are not our ways; God's thought are not our thoughts.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 1</i> Sunday Missal: page 423; Preface at Priest's choice		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Special day of prayer for the Harvest and the Fruits of Human Work</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy <i>Darwen Road closed through Bromley Cross [please see overleaf]</i>	<p>Sick: Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Joan Pearce, 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, Zachary Ainscough (aged 7), Mary Bagg, Mary Castle, Peggy Ainscow, Canon Dorran, Christine Everitt, Mark O'Brien, Sheila Derbyshire, Margaret Gibson, Kathleen & Arnold Banks, Andrew Rostron, Rose Mellor, Catherine Madden and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness</p> <p>Lately Dead: Anthony Walsh, William Gallie Snr, David Gettins, Mark Coughlin, Priscilla Martin, Thomas Rudd</p> <p>Anniversaries: Barbara Grimes, Mary Grundy</p> <p>Mass Intentions: David Greenhalgh (Birthday Remembrance), John Hall (Birthday Remembrance), Anthony Walsh, A Special Intention, Barbara Grimes, Mary Grundy</p>
Monday (25 th)	9.30am Mass (SB) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday (26 th)	7pm Mass (SJ) 7.15 SVP (SB)	
Wednesday (27 th) <i>St Vincent de Paul</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ) 1.15pm-3pm Harbour Room Book Club (St Brendan's)	
Thursday (28 th)	9.15am Mass (SB)	
Friday (29 th) <i>St Michael, St Gabriel & St Raphael, Archangels</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday (30 th) <i>St Jerome</i>	2pm Baptism (SJ) 5pm Mass (SC)	
Sunday (1 st October)	9.15am Mass (SJ) – With Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – With Children's Liturgy 1pm Mass for the 70 th Anniversary of Marriage Care (Salford Cathedral) 2pm Baptism (SB) <i>Darwen Road closed through Bromley Cross [please see overleaf]</i>	
<p>SVP Awareness: September is the annual month for raising awareness about this organisation. This year we are asked to "Welcome the Stranger" in our conferences and parishes and cards have been given out each week (by one of the SVP members) after Mass explaining this initiative. If you are interested in finding out more about the SVP please contact any member. Throughout this month, let us pray for the SVP locally and nationally and for all those whom it serves.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6):</p> <p>We pray especially for: the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work & the reverent use of creation; justice and peace in the world; all victims of war; young people; prisoners & their families.</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.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Road Closure: Darwen Road (through Bromley Cross) will be closed this Sunday (24 September) and again next Sunday due to re-surfacing. Diversions will be in place but the main road from Chapelton Road to Blackburn Road will be access only. This, in turn, will affect our Masses so please allow extra time for your journeys.

Harbour Room Book Club: Begins meeting for Season Eight on Wednesday 27 September (1.15pm to about 3pm.) The subject for discussion is *Non-Fiction*. Please bring along either a biography/autobiography, journal or newspaper extracts or any piece of non-fiction writing you would like to discuss. All welcome.

Patmos Room Afternoon Tea: We are holding an afternoon tea for parishioners on Wednesday 18 October (2pm-4pm) at St John's. As there is only limited space, we have forty-eight tickets at £3 per person. Tickets will be on sale after weekend Masses at each church.

New Sewing Group: We are hoping to set up a sewing group (*Needles*). The first session will be on Monday 9 October (7pm to 9pm). We will be meeting/exhibiting at St Brendan's Harbour Room. If you are interested in cross stitch, embroidery, knitting or any other aspects of needlework (beginner or experienced), please come along. Bring your talents and ideas to help set up the group. For any further details, please contact Ursula Shorrocks on 01204 392591

Becoming Catholic: You may, or may not be aware that we have previously run a programme for any adult who has an interest in becoming Catholic or simply wants to know more about the Catholic Faith. This year we are looking at beginning another group which will start in October at St John's Church. The programme will run until Easter and is for anyone in any of our parishes. If you would like more information and think that this is something that you would be interested in, please contact our parish office on 301927 or office@sbsj.org.uk.

Readers' Rota: The rota for St John's and St Brendan's will be updated during the next couple of weeks. If you would like to start reading at Mass or, alternatively, have your name taken off the rota, please contact the office on 301927 or office@sbsj.org.uk. Thank you.

Pastoral Ministry: The Diocese will be offering a Diploma in Pastoral Ministry, beginning February 2018. This Diploma, offered in partnership with the Archdiocese of Liverpool, Liverpool Hope University and Loyola University, Chicago, will combine a two-year online course, comprising ten six-week modules, with leadership and skills workshops, an independent learning project and a supervised pastoral project. Students who do not wish to work towards the full Diploma can enrol simply for the ten modules offered by Loyola Chicago which will lead to a Certificate in Pastoral Ministry.

If you are interested in more information, there will be a Come and See information evening at the Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford St, Salford, on Tuesday 10 October 7.30pm – 9pm. Come along and hear more about this exciting opportunity. For further information, please contact Fr Paul Daly (paul.daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or Fr Chris Lough (christopher.lough@dioceseofsalford.org.uk), who are the diocesan contacts for the Diploma and Certificate.

Embrace Liverpool 2017 – CALLED: The theme this year is *CALLED* based on the Gospel of the day, Matthew 25:34, 'Come you whom my Father has blessed'. Embrace, now in its third year, is an exciting one-day conference for young Catholics in the heart of Liverpool with Praise & Worship, Mass, Adoration, great talks and fantastic workshops

This year's conference will take place on Saturday 25 November at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral between 9.30am – 6pm. It is a day to celebrate the faith of young people and is aimed at 14-25 year olds but open to all ages.

We have arranged for a coach to take a group of young people from Salford Cathedral. The coach and a Diocese of Salford Youth hooded sweatshirt will cost £15 (there may be a coach leaving from Bolton as well). If you are interested in joining the youth team on this trip email Tracey on tracey.ward@dioceseofsalford.org.uk. Visit www.embrace-liverpool.org.uk for more information.

SVP News

Destitution Project: The collection continues until the end of September. There is a list of essential food items on our notice boards that are particularly in need, for example cooking oil, tinned chick peas, and kidney beans, UHT milk, coffee tea etc There is also a particular need for toilet rolls, sanitary items and other toiletries such as soap and shower gel. Thank you for your continued support.

Mass for the 70th Anniversary of Marriage Care: Marriage Care helps couples and individuals to build and sustain strong, fulfilling healthy relationships, as well as providing counselling support in times of relationship difficulty. And they have been doing this for 70 years this year! To celebrate this anniversary there will be a Mass at Salford Cathedral, at 1pm on Sunday 1 October. All Welcome!

Theatre Lovers: Please note that I am collecting payment for our trip to see *Jane Eyre* (Saturday 27 January) throughout September. I will be in the Harbour Room after 11.15am Mass. Alternatively, please contact me at 303505. All cheques to be made payable to *The Octagon Theatre*. Thank you. *Madeleine*.

Think Vocation

The Lord rewards those who follow vocations faithfully from a point later in life with the same reward as those who began in youth. May those who do not have the courage to respond to a vocation to the priesthood or religious life be given fulfilment and peace in whatever way they live their lives.

Marriage Matters

'My thoughts are not your thoughts': God can put thoughts into our minds, but how can we ensure these make a difference to our lives? St Paul says, "Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the Gospel of Christ": for example, the need to measure what we contribute within the relationship. Our Sacrament isn't a 50/50 arrangement but a 100%/100% unconditional commitment.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for 30/1 October

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SC)	T Lees	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)	T Proctor	T Proctor, T Smith, J Proctor